

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PADM 600

POLITICS & POLICY OF PUBLIC SECTOR BUDGETING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The process of budget making in a public agency will be evaluated in light of the many political and economic factors that arise. Challenges and opportunities will be examined, as well as effective strategies for establishing a budgetary process designed to serve and protect the constituents of the public organization or agency and maintain financial solvency, accountability, and integrity.

RATIONALE

This course provides a background and foundation in the political and policy considerations that affect the budgeting process in public administration and public policy settings. As such, it plays an important role in producing well-rounded public administration and public policy students and prepares students with a nuanced understanding of the forces that shape the public budgeting process.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Analyze various practical and theoretical influences that impact public sector budgeting.
- B. Evaluate the influence of politics and policy on various aspects of public sector budgeting.

- C. Apply knowledge of the literature to the study of public sector budgeting.
- D. Synthesize a Judeo-Christian worldview with aspects of public sector budgeting.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–500 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be 250–300 words. All sources must be cited in current APA format.

- D. Limited Government and Balanced Budget Amendment Research Paper

The student will write 5–7 pages for a research-based paper in current APA format exploring ideas underlying public budget discussions and, specifically, analyzing the limited role of government and rationale behind balanced budget amendment proposals. The paper must include: at least 5 scholarly references in addition to the course textbook and assigned readings plus an appropriate incorporation of Judeo-Christian worldview/analysis and biblical principles.

- E. Tax Cuts Research Paper

The student will write 5–7 pages for a research-based paper in current APA format that analyzes the ideas underlying political and policy discussions of tax cuts. The paper must include at least 5 scholarly references in addition to the course textbook and assigned readings.

- F. Federalism Research Paper or Presentation

The student will create a paper or presentation examining the role, limits and balance of taxing and spending by federal, state and local governments and their agencies. If the student chooses to submit a paper, it must be 7–8 pages written in current APA format and must include at least 6 references in addition to the course textbook, assigned readings, and the Bible. If the student chooses to submit a presentation, he or she will create either a PowerPoint presentation with audio or a creative video. The presentation must include 9–10 minutes of student-spoken audio and incorporate at least 6 scholarly references in addition to the course textbook, assigned readings, and the Bible.

- G. Politics of Budgeting Process Exam

The Politics of Budgeting Process Exam covers the Reading & Study material for Module/Week 5. This Exam will be open-book/open-notes and contain 5 multiple-choice and 5 corresponding short-answer questions. Each short answer question will require a 50–150-word, well-reasoned explanation of the analysis

the student employed in reaching his or her multiple-choice answer. The exam will have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

H. Quizzes (2)

Each quiz will cover the Reading & Study material for the module/week in which it is assigned. The quizzes will be open-book/open-notes and contain 5 essay questions. Each question will require a 150–300-word, well-reasoned explanation and analysis. Each quiz will have a time limit of 1 hour.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 75 pts ea)	225
Limited Gov/Bal Budget Research Paper	150
Tax Cuts Research Paper	150
Federalism Research Paper or Presentation	150
Politics of Budget Process Exam	125
Quiz 1 (Module 3)	100
Quiz 2 (Module 8)	100

Total 1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

PADM 600

Textbooks: Epstein, *The Classical Liberal Constitution* (2014).
Rubin, *The Politics of Public Budgeting* (2016).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Rubin: ch. 1 (“minicases” may be skipped) 1 presentation 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 75
2	Epstein: pp. 461–480; 80–85; 147–157; 245– 266; 45–71 1 presentation 2 websites	Limited Government and Balanced Budget Amendment Research Paper	150
3	Rubin: pp. 148–175 (“minicases” may be skipped) 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Quiz 1	75 100
4	Rubin: pp. 37–48 (“minicases” may be skipped) 1 presentation 1 website	Tax Cuts Research Paper	150
5	Rubin: ch. 3 (“minicases” may be skipped) 1 presentation	Politics of Budgeting Process Exam	125
6	Rubin: ch. 7 (“minicases” may be skipped) 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	75
7	Epstein: pp. 267–284 1 presentation	Federalism Research Paper or Presentation	150
8	Rubin: ch. 9 (“minicases” may be skipped) 2 presentations	Quiz 2	100
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.