

UAPP 672-010: Nonprofit Organizations: Scope, Framework, and Dynamics Spring 2018

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Office Hours Monday 1-3 & by Appointment

This course is designed as an introduction to essential concepts and dynamics of the Nonprofit Sector (also known as the Voluntary or Independent sector) and its organizations. In terms of competencies students can expect to develop, by the end of the course students should:

- Understand the complex array of institutions that collectively comprise the nonprofit sector (e.g. nonprofit service organizations, organized philanthropy, CDC's, voluntary associations, etc.);
- Comprehend the dynamics of nonprofit organizations' relationships with other sectors and institutions in the U.S., especially the way public policies and government action impact their activities.
- Have a working awareness of and appreciation for the full scope and dimensions of the nonprofit sector's contributions to the state, the nation and beyond.
- Understand the critical pressures confronting nonprofits in the twenty-first century, and how effective nonprofit leaders are coping with those pressures.

Topics include: theoretical and historical perspectives on the growth and development of the nonprofit sector; the contemporary roles, functions and dynamics of nonprofit organizations within American society (not only as service providers but as civic and democratic actors); and the major challenges facing nonprofit managers as a consequence of emerging but durable societal changes—e.g. devolution, commercialization pressures, fiscal strain, faith-based policy initiatives, and an increased emphasis on for-profit enterprises as competitors. Special attention is given to the critical but increasingly volatile relationship between nonprofits and state and local government, and to the leadership challenges, this relationship poses for nonprofits in the areas of contracting, collaboration, performance accountability and advocacy.

The following is the required text for this course:

LeRoux, K., & Feeney, M. K (2014). *Nonprofit Organizations and Civil Society in the United States*. Routledge.

Course Requirements

It is expected that students will come to class fully familiar with the readings, and with particular questions/issues in mind that they would like to discuss. *Each student will be expected to email at least three thoughtful discussion questions about the readings assigned for each week. These are due to my email address (mcnuttig@udel.edu) by noon each Tuesday.*

Two major take home exams will be given (a midterm and a final exam). You will also be expected to complete a short 8- 10 page paper on a nonprofit topic of your choice. More will be discussed about the paper assignment in class. Values for each of these elements as part of your grade are as follows:

Test 1 25%

Test 2 25%

Class Participation 25%

Paper Assignment 25%

DUE DATES

Test 1 March 20

Test 2 May 15

Paper May 5

Class Policies

Contacting Me: My office is located in Graham Hall, Room 298D. My telephone number is 302-631-0765 and my email address is mcnuttig@udel.edu. It is always easier to contact me through e-mail.

Expectations: You are expected to have read the assigned readings and participate meaningfully in the class discussions. I also expect that you will behave in a professional manner and to demonstrate respect for your colleagues.

My plan is to run the course as an interactive seminar. This means that your involvement in making the course a success is critical and that it is vitally important for you to have read the assigned readings. I am strongly committed to instructional technology and I plan to make this as much a part of the course as is possible. I am starting from the assumption [backed up by considerable research and theory building] that many of the things that are

true today in the nonprofit sector will not be true in the near future. The challenges we faced in the past are not the challenges we will face in the future. On balance, the opportunities that will be available are also more than we expect today. This is an exciting time to be part of the nonprofit sector and one that offers considerable potential. I bring my experiences as a practitioner, consultant and scholar to this course. I expect and hope that you will contribute your experiences and ideas to making the course a success.

Attendance: While attendance is not required (eg: I don't take points off for absences) I strongly advise you not to miss any classes. It is very difficult to successfully complete this course without attending.

Illnesses: Please Stay Home if you are ill. I will be happy to help you make up the work. It is completely up to you to decide if you are sick enough to stay home.

Standards for Written Material: All material must conform to commonly accepted standards of scholarly and professional writing. Material must be types, double spaced, presented in APA format and all references must be documented. This is NOT conversational writing. Please submit any material by e-mail. The file name must be your name and the name of the course. It must be in Word. Please do not use pdf. I will not provide grades by e-mail or over the telephone.

Weather: If the university is closed we will not be having class. If you reasonably feel that it would be risky to make it to class, I encourage you to stay home. University Policy States: *Faculty and students are not expected to take unnecessary risks to meet their teaching and learning obligations due to inclement weather. When classes have not been canceled, it is a matter of personal judgment whether traveling to campus is hazardous. Faculty should notify their departmental offices when weather precludes them from meeting their teaching obligations; similarly, students should notify their professors when inclement weather precludes them from class attendance. In such cases, students should be allowed to make up missed class time and, whenever possible, canceled classes should be rescheduled.*

Cheating and Academic Dishonesty: I plan to follow the University's policy on Academic Dishonesty: *It is the official policy of the University of Delaware that all acts or attempted acts of alleged student academic dishonesty be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. At the faculty member's discretion and with the concurrence of the student or students involved, some cases, though reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs, may be resolved within the confines of the course. All others will be adjudicated within the Undergraduate Student Judicial System. See the [Student Guide to University Policies](#) for complete information concerning this referral process" (UD Faculty Handbook)*

Disability: University Policy States that: "Any student who thinks he/she may need an accommodation based on a disability should contact the Office of Disability Support Services (ODSS) office as soon as possible. The ODSS is located at 240 Academy Street, Alison Hall

Suite 130, Phone: 302-831-4643, fax: 302-831-3261, website: www.udel.edu/DSS. You may contact ODSS at dsoffice@udel.edu “(UD Faculty Handbook)

Religious Holidays: “It is the policy of the University of Delaware not to cancel classes on religious holidays. However, students and faculty are encouraged to exercise their own judgment pertaining to their attendance on these days. “ (UD Faculty Handbook)

Course Schedule

Feb 6	Introduction and Overview of the Course
13	Defining the Nonprofit Sector and Civil Society Readings: LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 1. Non Profit Works http://ccss.jhu.edu/nonprofit-works/
20-27	Historical and Legal Foundations of the Nonprofit Sector Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 2 Hall, P. D. (2013). Philanthropy, the Nonprofit Sector & the Democratic Dilemma. <i>Daedalus</i> , 142(2), 139-158
Mar 6	Theories of the Nonprofit Sector Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 3 Smith, D. H. (1997). The rest of the nonprofit sector: Grassroots associations as the dark matter ignored in prevailing "flat earth" maps of the sector. <i>Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly</i> , 26(2), 114-131.
13-20	Nonprofits and Community Building Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 4 TEST I DUE 3/20
	Spring Break
April	Community Service and Voluntary Action

3-10	<p>Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 5</p> <p>Ram Cnaan and Robert Wineburg, Faith-Based Organizations in Delaware. Report produced for United Way of Delaware, 2009</p> <p>Curtis, K., & Copeland, I. (2003). The Impact of Welfare Reform on Nonprofits and the People They Serve in Delaware. <i>Center for Community Research and Service at the University of Delaware</i>.</p> <p>Temko, E. J. (2010). Democratic governance and civic health in Newark, Delaware: A case study. <i>National Civic Review</i>, 99(4), 52-59</p>
17-24	<p>Philanthropy, Foundations, and Giving</p> <p>Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 6</p>
10	<p>The Influence of Nonprofit Organizations on the Political Environment</p> <p>Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 7</p>
May 1	<p>Nonprofit and Voluntary Activism: Social Movements and Protest Politics</p> <p>Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 8</p> <p>Video: Wael Ghonim: Let's design social media that drives real change https://www.ted.com/talks/wael_ghonim_let_s_design_social_media_that_drives_real_change</p> <p>PAPER DUE</p>
8	<p>Economic Contributions of Nonprofit Organizations</p> <p>Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 9</p> <p>Video: Melinda Gates What nonprofits can learn from Coca-Cola. https://www.ted.com/talks/melinda_french_gates_what_nonprofits_can_learn_from_coca_colalanguage=en</p>
15	<p>The Future of Nonprofits and Civil Society</p>

Readings LeRoux, & Feeney, Chapter 10

TEST II DUE

Resource Bibliography

- Anheier, H. K. (2014). *Nonprofit organizations: Theory, management, policy*. London: Routledge.
- Bies, A. L., Lee, D. G., Lindsey, C., Stoutenborough, J. W., & Vedlitz, A. (2013). Citizens, nonprofits and climate change policy. In *Nonprofit Policy Forum* 4, 1, 5-28.
- Calabrese, T. (2013). Running on empty: The operating reserves of US nonprofit organizations. *Nonprofit Management and Leadership*, 23(3), 281-302.
- Guo, C., Webb, N. J., Abzug, R., & Peck, L. R. (2013). Religious affiliation, religious attendance, and participation in social change organizations. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 42(1), 34-58.
- Harrison, Y. D., & Murray, V. (2012). Perspectives on the leadership of chairs of nonprofit organization boards of directors: A grounded theory mixed-method study. *Nonprofit Management and Leadership*, 22(4), 411-437.
- Hasenfeld, Y., & Garrow, E. E. (2012). Nonprofit human-service organizations, social rights, and advocacy in a neoliberal welfare state. *Social Service Review*, 86(2), 295-322
- Helmig, B., Ingerfurth, S., & Pinz, A. (2014). Success and failure of nonprofit organizations: Theoretical foundations, empirical evidence, and future research. *VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations*, 25(6), 1509-1538.
- Hojnacki, M., Kimball, D. C., Baumgartner, F. R., Berry, J. M., & Leech, B. L. (2012). Studying organizational advocacy and influence: Reexamining interest group research. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 15, 379-399.
- Kim, S. E., & Kim, Y. H. (2015). Measuring the Growth of the Nonprofit Sector: A Longitudinal Analysis. *Public Administration Review*, 75(2), 242-251.
- MacIndoe, H., & Whalen, R. (2013). Specialists, generalists, and policy advocacy by charitable nonprofit organizations. *J. Soc. & Soc. Welfare*, 40, 119.
- Pekkanen, R. J., Smith, S. R., & Tsujinaka, Y. (Eds.). (2014). *Nonprofits and Advocacy: Engaging Community and Government in an Era of Retrenchment*. Baltimore: JHU Press.
- Portney, K. E., & Berry, J. (2014). Civil society and sustainable cities. *Comparative Political Studies*, 47(3), 395-419.
- Salamon, L. M., Sokolowski, S. W., & Haddock, M. A. (2011). Measuring the economic value of

- volunteer work globally: Concepts, estimates, and a roadmap to the future. *Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics*, 82(3), 217-252.
- Shier, M. L., & Handy, F. (2014). From advocacy to social innovation: A typology of social change efforts by nonprofits. *VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations*, 1-23.
- Tschirhart, M., & Bielefeld, W. (2012). *Managing nonprofit organizations*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Valentinov, V. (2012). The economics of the nonprofit sector: Insights from the institutionalism of John R. Commons. *The Social Science Journal*, 49(4), 545-553.
- Willems, J., Boenigk, S., & Jegers, M. (2014). Seven trade-offs in measuring nonprofit performance and effectiveness. *Voluntas: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations*, 25(6), 1648-1670.
- Zhang, Z., & Guo, C. (2012). Advocacy by chinese nonprofit organisations: towards a responsive government?. *Australian Journal of Public Administration*, 71(2), 221-232.