**Evergreen MPA Winter 2015 Electives**

**Monday, Jan 5 is the first day of Winter Quarter 2015**.

If you have your bachelor’s degree you can get a head start on your MPA and **take** **up to 12 credits of MPA elective courses before the Fall quarter of admission:** these credits **will count toward your MPA**.

* **Register for winter 2015 electives beginning Monday, December 15.** For complete registration information, go to the MPA "Registration Info" page: <http://www.evergreen.edu/mpa/reginfo.htm>. FYI in registering for open MPA elective courses a week before the quarter begins, on a space-available basis and with instructor permission.
* **2014-2015 course information**: <http://www.evergreen.edu/catalog/2014-15/mpa/index.htm>

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**Food Policy CRN (GR) -**

2 credits

Leslie Hatfield

**MEETS** Feb 13-15, (5-9p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)

The policies that govern our food systems -- influenced by a wide range of actors representing a breadth of interests -- bring serious effects to bear on other related systems, not least health care, education, taxes and the environment. Furthermore, our relationship to food is a constant topic in the media, to the extent that many of us spend more time ingesting media about food than we do preparing -- or even eating -- food in real life. As the media landscape continues to evolve, so does the conversation between industry spin doctors, nonprofit activists, citizens and government officials, as do so many other key public policies (energy, transport, etc). This class will explore best practices in "good food" advocacy and will look at the ways federal and state agencies engage – digitally and otherwise – with activists, producers and consumers. We will explore at least one each regional and national case study. Students will work individually or in small groups to create a digital campaign around a specific piece of food policy

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**Housing Policy -- CRN (GR):**

4 credits

Stephen Buxbaum

**MEETS**: Feb 6-8, 20-22 (6-10p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)

This course explores the historical evolution of federal, state and local housing policy. Drawing from this rich history, which is deeply intertwined with the evolution of the American welfare state, students will learn about how analytical and political frameworks are used to create, evaluate and shape programs, projects and services. We will examine the continuum of subsidies and programs that are provided to everyone from high income earners and investors to people who are chronically homeless.We will examine how specific programs, such as Washington State’s Housing Trust Fund, were established and how they have served to create affordable housing. We will compare and contrast how different housing policies are used to provide shelter, stimulate the economy, protect the environment and support sustainable growth. The course is intended for MPA students. If space is available, upper division undergraduates may participate upon approval of the instructor.

**Introduction to Non-Profit Management- CRN (GR):**

4 credits

Doreen Swetkis

**MEETS:** 6-10p Mon

Interest in nonprofit (or third sector) organizations has exploded as their importance and distinctiveness receives recognition as a unique area of study and practice.  Although nonprofit organizations share some key elements with those in the public and private sectors, this course focuses on the unique characteristics and topics of the nonprofit sector.  Some of these issues arise because of the nature of the sector, such as the prominent role of and heavy reliance on volunteerism, or the tension between organizational mission and funders' demands.   Additional issues are included because of significant changes in the nonprofit sector during the last few decades.  Increased involvement in policy making, enlarged roles in implementing former public agency services, the more cohesive identity of the sector as a significant piece of the economy and administrative state, and the heightened professionalism all converge to make the daily management of nonprofit organizations in the twenty-first century a challenging task.

**Leadership: Become a Leader Others Want to Follow - CRN (GR):**

2 Credits

Greg Weeks

**MEETS:** Jan 23-25 (5-9p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)

 One doesn’t need an official title to be a leader – it is possible to effectively lead from *anywhere* in an organization.  In this course we will examine what makes leaders effective and equally important, what makes leaders fail.  This course will include a self-assessment, recognizing that we must first understand ourselves before we can effectively lead others. Using a diagnostic tool, students will learn their individual strengths and specific strategies to lead with those strengths. By looking back to historical figures and examining present day leaders, we will explore the building blocks of effective leadership:define values and set a vision; build a great team; and get results. Our class discussions will be enhanced by guest speakers, including influential and effective leaders in state government and non-profit organizations.

**Lean in the Public Sector - CRN (GR):**

2credits

Larisa Benson

**MEETS:** Feb 13-15 (5-9p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)

Larisa Benson was the front person for former Washington State Governor Gregoire's GMAP (Government Management Accountability Performance) initiative.  GMAP helped Washington State (the first in the nation to adopt these data management models) agencies measure and improve their performance. GMAP morphed to Lean;   Lean is a key element of Governor Inslee's "Results Washington."  As the Results Washington websites says, "Lean provides proven principles that help Washington state government create a culture that encourages respect, creativity and innovative problem solving, continuously improves and eliminates waste from government processes, aligns efforts across state agencies and delivers results that matter to Washingtonians."  This one weekend intensive short course will leave students saturated with Lean, and with some tools to immediately start using Lean concepts in government, tribal, and nonprofit organizations.

**Managing When Differences Matter - CRN (GR)**

**2 Credits**

Helena Myer-Knapp

**MEETS:** Feb 13-15 (5-9p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)

This intensive course takes as an assumption that real differences in interests, needs and standpoint often create tangible and important barriers to successful management and public policy. We will make constructive uses of this particular group’s talents and agendas and pay careful attention those professional practices which are hospitable in the presence of difference. We will also study a variety of dispute resolution procedures as viable strategies for working with and through conflict. American legal, constitutional and historic traditions which impact collaborative work will also receive attention. After the class weekend each student will conduct an individual case study of a particular public conflict. Readings for those projects will be chosen by students individually, in consultation faculty, and might include materials on dialogue, on culture, on violence, on peace-making and on communication as well as on the topic itself

**Organizational Resiliency - CRN (GR):**

2 Credits

John Fortugno

**MEETS**: Nov 21-23, (5-9p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)

Continuity Planning helps organizations fulfill a social responsibility to protect their patrons, community, and employees when things go awry.  We will focus on sustaining delivery of services essential to your clients, even in the worst of times.   How can your agency, non-profit, or tribal entity quickly resume functioning and deliver the services critical to your mission?   How would you respond to a major earthquake, a devastating computer virus, pandemic disease, widespread flooding, or the sudden departure of your executive director?  What can you do now to build a more resilient organization?  Emergency managers from state and local entities, non-profits, and the tribes will help us explore these issues.  Resources provided will allow participants to complete EMI certifications sought by many employers.

This course will provide an overview of fund development strategies for cultural and heritage resources.  Content will include how to research and make application to a diverse array of funding sources, including federal, state, tribal, and private funding sources.  The course will also explore key elements to building collaborative partnerships and financial accountability to funding sources.  Although course content will not be limited to work in the non-profit sector, the course will include aspects of non-profit development that can apply across a wide spectrum of public service work.

**Public Law CRN (GR):**

4 credits

Grace O’Connor

**MEETS:** 6-10p Tues

Law and policy are two sides of the same coin--you can't make one without the other.  Agency administrators interface with the law every day, be it administrative regulations, litigation impacting program mission, public records, or public service ethic law.  This course seeks to give MPA students a solid grounding in the areas of the law that relate to policy-making.  It will explore administrative rule-making, including how agencies get the authority to do what they do (i.e., constitutional law), how they make rules, the public’s role in the rule-making procedure, and how these rules are challenged.  This course will also consider the interplay between law and policy, particularly from a budgeting perspective, and touch on areas of law most salient in public administration, such as the Public Records Act and ethics laws.

**Sustainable Decision Making (GR):**

2 credits

Rhys Roth

**MEETS:** Jan 16-18 (5-9p Fri, 9a-5p Sat/Sun)