PAD 685
Culture & Public Policy – Developing Creative Communities

Professor Philip Morris

Description

From the days of being isolated in museums and concert halls, culture in America is becoming integral to community life and public policy as many communities work to embrace and attract “the creative class”. This course will use an overview of the story of cultural life in America’s local governments to examine the specific opportunities and examples of cultural influences in education, community development, economic development, downtown development, historic structures stabilization, community revitalization, nonprofit fundraising, cultural diversity and public dialogue. The class will be aimed at building the capacity for public administrators to engage with and utilize community cultural resources and individuals to build healthy communities.

Primary Principle
"A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects."
—Robert Heinlein

Expectations
Readings and arts viewings will blend with visiting speakers to help create an environment where creative conversations can blend with public policy and management concerns. Class participation will be critical and evidence of the ability to link seemingly disparate issues and opportunities will be an important measure of success.

In addition to being prepared for conversation each week, you will be expected to

1) Lead discussion for at least one of the reviews of preparatory material or guest preparations

2) Submit one 6 to 10 page paper based on professional interviews and research which will will be required by end of term looking at cultural/civic projects of substance from around the country.

3) Work with others as required/volunteered on class presenter projects

4) Take three field trips, one to Proctors, Schenectady, one to Albany Institute, one to the Capital

5) Take one field trip to an arts/policy opportunity within the region and report on same

6) Complete a final exam
Lessons

Week 1
Our first class will focus on structure of the class, planning for dates for field trips and establishing communications. There will be introductions and a conversation on current events as influenced by the arts.
We will need: snack coordinator, computer specialist, and a ride coordinator and a presentation coordinator.

Watch together: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSftXwCtpXA
and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjFhnyKd5_s&feature=related
January 23, 2012

Week 2
What is art? Who is an artist?

Please read and be prepared to talk about:
http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic980025.files/Wk%206_Oct%207th/Putnam_1995_Bowling%20Alone.pdf and
Hope, Human and Wild, two chapters in Blackboard resources

Guest, artist Richard Lovrich

Discuss Cell phone photo exhibit

Week 3
At Proctors, Schenectady. Park in Clinton Street lot behind facility and meet at Apostrophe, the new cafe toward the front of the first floor.

Discuss final paper.

Read: Olympus on Main Street, prepare for discussion after tour
February 6, 2012

Week 4
Read and be prepared to discuss: http://www.di.net/articles/archive/1964/? and Placemaking
Cell phone exhibit!
Guest, architect Arturo Vasquez
February 13, 2012

Week 5
Read Zen and the Art of Writing, prepare for discussion
February 20, 2012
Week 6
Watch: The King’s Speech and The Singing Revolution
Be prepared to discuss Marshall McLuhan

Guest: Rex Smith, managing editor, Times Union
February 27, 2012

Week 7
Read:
Prepare for discussion on perception, point of view, historiography

March 5, 2012
Week 8
Read: http://nyti.ms/pFA4pY
Also, please have gone to Capital Rep to see Black Pearl Sings, be prepared to discuss.

Images that have changed the planet....

Guest: David Brickman

I will be out of the country on March 26 and there will be no class.
March 19, 2012

Week 9
Arts in Education: a solution for our schools?


Watch: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-6idqTEH8Y

Guest: Maureen Pagano
April 2, 2012

Week 10
Visit to the Capital. Guests and tour, Jim Jamieson
Prep materials: TBA
April 16, 2012
Week 11
Read: http://escholarship.org/uc/item/2dd1v72j.pdf

Read: Comeback Cities, prepare for discussion

Skype Guest: Lorna Jordan
April 23, 2012

Week 12
Read the play, The Pitman Painters in blackboard resources, prepare for discussion
Class will meet at and tour Albany Institute
April 30, 2012

Week 13
Research and bring to class ready for discussion microbusiness, art, personal development stories and programs that work.
Guest: Mark Bobb
May 7, 2012

Week 14 Final Exam
Final Exam and Final Papers due Final exam will cover entire semester’s work.

May 14, 2012