



UMass

Dartmouth

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY

Administrative Law

POL 611

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Course Description

The course is meant to introduce students from various backgrounds to the major concepts of administrative law. Substantive topics in the course will include: **the foundations of administrative law; sources and limits of administrative power through the legislative and executive branches; agency rulemaking and adjudication; and the process of judicial review.**

The course is appropriate for graduate students from various disciplines who require some knowledge of agency processes at the local, state, and federal levels. It is envisioned the course would be attractive to students in the policy, sciences, business, management, and law disciplines.

Course Objectives

- To establish a foundational understanding of administrative principles for students in the MPP and graduate certificate programs (and related disciplines).
- To expand critical-thinking skills, using a modified Socratic method analysis of case law applicable to online teaching.
- Develop the ability to reason through legal principles related to the development, implementation, and review of administrative principles. Skills learned in this course can be applied to areas of specialization in the public administration, business, management, and legal fields.
- Apply administrative law principles to a variety of hypothetical and case study settings. This will show the student has a deep understanding of the legal issues presented, and the capacity to apply the principles to different factual settings.

- Create an original research paper, with primary citations, showing an in-depth analysis of administrative law principles applied to a current area of policy interest.

Requirements

1. **Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. Attendance is monitored by online discussion responses. Each week, a number of online questions are asked in conjunction with the reading and written lecture materials. You are required to respond to these questions (called discussion boards) by the stated deadline. In addition, you are required to interact each discussion board question. These responses are considered your attendance and will form the basis for your class participation grade.
2. **Online Access:** Necessary course materials will be housed at “MyCourses” via your “MyUMassD” login portal. The username is password is *exactly* the same as your UMass Dartmouth email username and password. All of your online courses are located at this site.
3. **Outside Readings/Personal Interests:** Students are encouraged to develop a dialogue in the online setting based on outside readings, experiences, or personal interests that are related to the subject matter. Each student undoubtedly has personal experiences/viewpoints that will add to the discussion. You are encouraged to share such viewpoints.
4. **Deliverables:** Students will be required to interact with materials online, complete discussion board interactions and written assignments. The course will culminate in the analysis of a hypothetical fact pattern, from which each student will analyze the administrative issues presented.

Required Readings

Rosenbloom, David. 2015. *Administrative Law for Public Managers*, 2nd Edition. Cambridge: Westview.

- ISBN: 978-0-8133-4881-0

Web-postings (provided by professor)

Student Workload / Behavior / Conduct / Support

UMass-Dartmouth has developed a detailed set of information highlighting expectations and academic policies that is regularly updated. This information can be found at the following link and should be reviewed by each student in this course:

www.umassd.edu/media/umassdartmouth/provost/omnibus_language_for_syllabi_-jan_11_2019.pdf

Course Outline

Week 1

Introduction: Overview, Development of Administrative Law

Introduction to Administrative Law and Principles
Reading (Rosenbloom)
Chapter 1

Hierarchy of Laws Applied to Administrative Principles: The Big Picture

Legal Frameworks
Hierarchy of Laws Concept
Hierarchy of Laws Relationship to Administrative Principles
Introduction to Statutory Delegation and Agency Discretion
Reading (Rosenbloom)
Chapter 2

Week 2

Legislative and Judicial Controls Over the Administrative Process

Legislative Controls (statutory delegation)
Judicial Controls (agency discretion, review of administrative acts, constitution)
Reading (Rosenbloom)
Chapter 6

The Internal Administrative Process

“Quasi” powers (legislate, administer, adjudicate)
Limits on powers (Delegation Boundaries, APA, Due Process Requirements)
Reading (Rosenbloom)
Chapters 3 and 4

Week 3

Putting the Concepts Together – Hypothetical Application

Written assignment where administrative law principles are identified and analyzed in relation to a fact pattern.

Written Requirements for Course

The following written requirements apply to the course and help to formulate your final grade (weighting below):

- **Class Participation:** Discussion board responses are due for each module of the course. You must submit an original response and at least one comment on another student's post in order to receive full credit for the discussion board in question. Grading for each board response is as follows:
 - A complete original response and at least one comment = 100%
 - A complete original response with no comments = 75%
 - A comment with no original response = 50%
 - No response or comment = 0%

** I reserve the right to modify these grades based on the quality of the responses given in any discussion board.*
- **Hypothetical Assignment:** In Module 3 you will choose between two hypothetical assignments, each based on facts and administrative law principles learned during the course. You will choose and answer one of the hypothetical fact patterns presented. Detailed instructions are available in the assignment link on the course site.

Evaluative Measures

<u>Grading</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Class Participation	50%
Assignments/Exercises	
Hypothetical 1 or 2	50%
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Total 100%	

Final Grade Computation

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93% or more
A-	90%-92%
B+	87%-89%
B	83%-86%
B-	80%-82%
C+	77%-79%
C	73%-76%
C-	70%-72%
D+	67%-69%
D	63%-66%
D-	60%-62%
F	0%-59%

END OF SYLLABUS.