

## ***Spring 2018 PADM 5700-5800 Seminar Course Descriptions***

### **PADM 5700.001 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – Dr. Brian Collins**

Public managers operating in the context of democratic governance must manage relationships with citizens, civic associations, nonprofit organizations, other governments and businesses. The focus of the course is on an array of techniques for civic engagement that public managers can use to serve the public. A basic premise of the course will be that democratic governance requires some degree of participation by citizens beyond electoral processes. Just how much, by whom, how often, and on what problems and issues, varies considerably from place to place and time to time. However, this course will assume that the greater the diversity of a society, the more citizens need to be engaged. With increasing diversity, representative democracy may become less effective and public management more difficult. The question, therefore, becomes how more direct participation by a heterogeneous populace can improve the delivery of public goods and services.

### **PADM 5700.002/6710.002 CAPACITY BUILDING IN NONPROFITS – Dr. Lisa Dicke**

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of one of the most important topics in nonprofit management—building organizational capacity. Subtopics include building organizational capacities, board development, human resources including volunteers, and fiscal management. The course will also provide students with opportunities to develop skills in each of these areas that can be used to help assess the need for, and build capacities necessary for effectively managing contemporary nonprofit organizations.

### **PADM 5700.003 SMART CITIES & TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS – Bob Bland & Patrick Shinkle**

This course explores the rapidly emerging applications of technology in city operations using real-time data collected from multiple sources, through proactive citizen engagement (e.g. NextDoor), social media, and from various technology and data platforms. Topics include the use of big data and internet connectivity to conserve energy, reduce carbon emissions, increase the flow of traffic and reduce congestion, improve the maintenance of city infrastructure, and improve the allocation of city resources to target greatest needs. Course topics include Legal Dimensions of Smart City Innovations (privacy, data breaches, liability issues, purchasing procedures), Financing the Smart City, Smart City Applications in Transportation, Smart City Applications in Utilities, Smart City Applications and the Environment, and Technology for the Non-technologist.

### **EMDS 5800.001/6800.001 SOCIAL VULNERABILITY & DISASTER – Dr. Nicole Dash**

In this course, we will explore the roots of the vulnerability approach to disaster. Going back to works by Ben Wisner and his colleagues in the seminal book “At Risk,” we will review the important concepts that laid the foundation of the social vulnerability perspective and the history of its development and growth as a major approach to the study of disasters. With a solid foundation of the approach and its methods, the course delves into the varying social conditions that leads to the vulnerability of different population groups such as racial and ethnic minorities, the poor, Native Americans, the disabled and the elderly, with particular attention paid to the intersectionality of these characteristics.

**PhD students enroll in the 6710 sections of the MPA 5700 topic courses.**