

GSPP 818 – Program Evaluation

University of Regina Campus		
Instructor:	Kathy McNutt, Associate Professor	
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Office Hours:	By Appointment	
Office Location:	110 - 2 Research Drive	
Term:	Winter 2011	
Room:	RIC 208	
Time:	Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-5:45 p.m.	

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Through extensive use of examples from various fields, students will be exposed to the art and science of applying evaluation methodologies and techniques to policies and programs in both the public and nonprofit sectors.

COURSE CONTENT AND APPROACH

This class will introduce students to applied approaches to program evaluation and analytical techniques used to determine the validity, effectiveness and impact of policy decisions at various strategies of the program life cycle. Students will be introduced to various types, methods and tools of evaluation including formative and summative evaluation, impact assessment, needs assessment, and logic models. In addition, students will become proficient in developing a program evaluation research design and developing various criteria to measure outcomes and program effects

REQUIRED READINGS

Carol Weiss. 1998. *Evaluation: Methods for Studying Programs and Policies*. 2nd ed. Prentice-Hall: Saddle River New Jersey.

Other Required Readings Available On UofR Courses

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late penalties will be in operation except for documented medical reasons. There are no exceptions. Please note that late proposals will be similarly penalized with the marks coming off the paper grade.

Penalties:	1 day	5 per cent
	2-4 days	15 per cent
	5-7 days	25 per cent
	After 7 days	non acceptance

EVALUATION

- Detailed description of each assignment is available on the PowerPoint from the first weeks lecture

ASSIGNMENT	GRADE	DUE DATE
Individual		
Evaluation Proposal	20%	March 8 th
Midterm	30%	February 17 th
Participation	10%	Every Week
Group Work - Course Project		
Case Studies	20%	January 27, February 10, March 17
Presentation	20%	April 5 and 7 th

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students in this course, who, because of a disability, may have a need for accommodations, are encouraged to come and discuss accommodations with the instructor and to contact the Coordinator of Special Needs Services at 585-4631.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

Ensuring that you understand and follow the principles of academic integrity and conduct as laid out in the University of Regina's Graduate Calendar and the University of Saskatchewan's Guidelines for Academic Conduct is vital to your success in graduate school. Ensuring that your work is your own and reflects both your own ideas and those of others incorporated in your work is important: ensuring that you acknowledge the ideas, words, and phrases of others that you use is a vital part of the scholarly endeavour. If you have any questions at all about academic integrity in general or about specific issues, contact your course instructor and to discuss your questions.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE *Course Introduction*

January 6 – Lecture

WEEK TWO *Introduction to Program Evaluation*

January 11 – Lecture

Required Readings

- Weiss Chapter 1 "Setting the Scene"
- Geva-May, I. and L. A. Pal. 1999. "Good Fences Make Good Neighbours: Policy Evaluation and Policy Analysis - Exploring the Differences." *Evaluation*. 5(3): 259-277.
- Goldenberg, E. 1983. "The Three Faces of Evaluation." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. 2(4): 515-525.

January 13 – Workshop Evaluate What?

WEEK THREE Purposes of Program Evaluation

January 18 - Lecture

Required Readings

- deLeon, P. 1983. "Policy Evaluation and Program Termination." *Policy Studies Review*. 2(4): 631-647.
- Sanderson, Ian. 2002. Evaluation, Policy Learning and Evidence-Based Policy Making. *Public Administration* 80(1): 1-21.

January 20 – Workshop – Policy and Politics – Yes Minister

WEEK FOUR Logic Models

January 25 Lecture

Required Readings

- McLaughlin, J. A. and Gretchen B. Jordan. 1999. "Logic models: a tool for telling our programs performance story" *Evaluation and Program Planning* 22(1): 65-72.
- Millar, A, R. S. Simeone and J.T. Carnevale. 2001. "Logic models: a systems tool for performance management" *Evaluation and Program Planning* 24(1): 73-81.
- Savaya, R. and M. Waysman. 2005. "The Logic Model A Tool for Incorporating Theory in Development and Evaluation of Programs" *Administration in Social Work* 29(2): 85-103

January 27 Case Study (5%)

WEEK FIVE Evaluation Design

February 1 Lecture

Required Readings

- Weiss Chapter 8 "Design of the Evaluation"
- Weiss Chapter 10 "Extensions of Good Design"
- Hansen, H. F. 2005. "Choosing Evaluation Models: A Discussion on Evaluation Design" *Evaluation* 11(4): 447-462.

February 3 Workshop - Creating Criteria

WEEK SIX Types of Evaluation

February 8 - Lecture

Required Readings

- Weiss Chapter 2 "Purposes of Evaluation"
- Scriven, M. 1991. "Beyond formative and summative evaluation." In G. W. McLaughlin & D. C. Phillips Eds. *Evaluation and education: At quarter century*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, pp.19-64

February 10 - Case Study (5%)

WEEK SEVEN

February 15 - Guest Lecturer

No Readings

February 17 - Midterm

WEEK EIGHT

February 22 - No Class – Spring Break

February 24 – No Class – Spring Break

WEEK NINE

March 1 Lecture Needs Assessment

Required Readings

- Gaber, J. 2000. "Meta-needs Assessment." *Evaluation and Program Planning*. 23(2): 139-147.
- Scriven, M. and J. Roth. 1990. "Needs Assessment" *American Journal of Evaluation*. 11(2): 135-140.

March 3 Workshop – Measuring Program Needs

WEEK TEN Program Data

**Evaluation Proposal Due

March 8 Lecture

Required Readings

- Weiss Chapter 6 "Developing Measures"
- Weiss Chapter 7 "Collecting Data"
- Weiss Chapter 12 "Analyzing and Interpreting the Data"

March 10 Workshop – Analyzing Program Data

WEEK TEN Network Analysis for Evaluation

March 15 Lecture

Required Readings

- Durland, Maryann and Kimberly Fredericks. 2005. "An Introduction to Social Network Analysis." *New Directions in Evaluation* 107(Fall): 5-13.
- Durland, Maryann and Kimberly Fredericks. 2005. "The Historical Evolution and Basic Concepts of Social Network Analysis." *New Directions in Evaluation* 107(Fall): 15-23.
- Durland, Maryann 2005. "Exploring and Understanding Relationships." *New Directions in Evaluation* 107(Fall):25-40.

March 17 Case Study (5%)

WEEK ELEVEN Performance Measures

March 22 – Lecture

Required Readings

- Connolly, T. and S. J. Deutsch. 1980. "Performance Measurement: Some Conceptual Issues" *Evaluation and Program Planning* 3(1): 35-43.
- Perrin, B. 1998. "Effective Use and Misuse of Performance Measurement." *American Journal of Evaluation*. 19: 367-87.
- Rivenbark, W. 2000. "The Role of Capital Cost in Performance Measurement and Benchmarking." *Public Performance & Management Review*. 24(1): 22-29.

March 24 - Group Work

WEEK TWELVE

March 29 Group Work

March 31 Class Cancelled

WEEK THIRTEEN

April 5

** Final Group Presentations

April 7

** Final Group Presentations