

Autumn 2008—MPA Program Course Descriptions: PBAF 598 and 599

Some courses or times may change as room assignments are finalized and registration is completed.

Updated: 07/07/2008

PBAF 598 A – SKILLS WORKSHOP: GRANT WRITING

Course Description: This one-credit course will strengthen students' understanding and management of the process for securing foundation, corporate, government, and other institutional funding. Through four skill-building workshops and one out-of-class assignment, students will gain practical, hands-on experience researching and evaluating opportunities, and conceptualizing, organizing, and preparing a proposal. Information and skills learned will be useful for those working or intending to work in nonprofit, philanthropic, education, or public organizations.

PBAF 598 B – SKILLS WORKSHOP: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Course Description: The UW Department of Communication is creating a four-part, one-credit workshop on professional communication for students at the Evans School of Public Affairs. Wednesdays in April, these hands-on sessions will help you think differently about audiences, sharpen your strategic messaging, and expand your skill set.

PBAF 598 D – SKILLS WORKSHOP: FROM AVOIDANCE TO AUTHENTIC DIVERSITY CONVERSATIONS

Course Description: Diversity has long been the buzz word, yet there still exists anxiety and avoidance about the topic at work/classroom. This course will address practical skills and tools for how to lean into the discomfort and have skilled and meaningful conversations when you have either been offended or have offended someone else.

PBAF 598 E – SKILLS WORKSHOP: INTRODUCTION TO OLYMPIA POLICY-MAKING

Course Description: This one credit Evans School skills course explores multiple dimensions of the Olympia policy making process, focusing on how selected ideas for policy change are advanced by proponents through executive branch review, the lengthy and complex legislative process, and enactment into law. It examines the many determinants of the success of policy ideas that are presented; and explores such issues as the role of the executive branch in influencing the policy agenda and developing ideas to improve existing programs; the interplay between the executive and legislative branches; the efforts of legislative “champions” within and outside the committee structure; and the ways in which the merits of legislative proposals are examined.

Course Dates: Introductory session—Fri., Oct. 3 (1.5 hrs, time TBD)
 Trip to Olympia—Fri., Oct. 17 (8:30 am – 5:30 pm)
 Summary session—Fri., Oct. 31 (1.5 hrs, time TBD)

PBAF 599 A – SPECIAL TOPICS: HHH SEMINAR

[PBAF 599 B – SPECIAL TOPICS: CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC POLICY](#)

**PBAF 599 C – SPECIAL TOPICS:
PRESENTING THE POLICY STORY**

**PBAF 599 D – SPECIAL TOPICS:
WASHINGTON POLICY ISSUES**

Course Description: This course will provide students with the opportunity to explore the issues that are currently of the highest level of concern to state lawmakers and government agencies. Using the debates surrounding transportation infrastructure, education and accountability, economic vitality, protection of natural resources, and public health as a lens, we will investigate how various government and non-government institutions and individuals influence the process by which our state forms policies. Students will have the chance to hear from a variety of participants in the political process and to analyze the critical path from problem to policy.

**PBAF 599 E – SPECIAL TOPICS:
DAN EVANS DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP SEMINAR**

Course Description: This one-credit course is intended to give students an opportunity to hear from several distinguished local leaders about factors for successful leadership in our changing world. The environments for government, business, and non-profit agencies are interconnected, subject to many of the same dynamics in a 21st century context. Successful leaders can provide unique insights, filters, and perspectives to find patterns and give meaning to these complex relationships. This course will NOT meet weekly; 3-4 dates for visiting lecturers to be announced.