POGO 580-02 Fall 2018

Syllabus: PUBP750-1: US Government Crisis Management

August 27-Dec 1, 2019
Tuesdays 7:30 PM-10PM
VMH (Founders) ROOM 113
Office hours: By Appointment

Instructor: OLDS, JAMES L.
Email: jolds@gmu.edu
Phone:703-993-3700
Office Location: Founders Hall Room 629

All on-line activities of the class, including study questions, virtual office hours, and discussions will take place on Blackboard.

Course Objectives: To be able to comprehend a major US government crisis and to lead a crisis team towards a positive outcome.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understanding crisis trajectories in US Government
- Media management for crises
- When to fire and who to hire?
- Stake holder management
- Root cause analysis
- To use a short ‘slide deck’ presentation to present an argument and to respond coherently to audience questions

Additional Reading Material: Assigned weekly on Blackboard

Grading:
This is a graduate seminar class. Therefore, class participation is expected and will count significantly towards the final grade. Homework will be a study question which must be answered on-line in writing each week and then followed up by discussion in class. A single point presentation of approximately 30 minutes (no more than 15 slides) to be prepared by each student without collaboration and presented to the class. The presentation will be based on the individual student’s personal research into some aspect of the on-going federal crisis involving more than $50M. The slide deck will be submitted with notes (in power point). The presentation will serve as your final exam and will be presented to the class.

Deliverables with grade value: 25% Written Homework, 25% class participation, 50% final slide deck.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
GMU is an Honor Code university; please see the University Catalog for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? Essentially this: when you are responsible for a task, you will perform that task. When you rely on someone else’s work in an aspect of the performance of that task, you will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. When in doubt (of any kind) please ask for guidance and clarification.

GMU EMAIL ACCOUNTS
Students must use their Mason email accounts to receive important University information, including messages related to this class. See http://masonlive.gmu.edu for more information.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES
If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the ODS. http://ods.gmu.edu

OTHER USEFUL CAMPUS RESOURCES:

WRITING CENTER: A114 Robinson Hall; (703) 993-1200; http://writingcenter.gmu.edu

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES “Ask a Librarian”
http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS): (703) 993-2380;
http://caps.gmu.edu

UNIVERSITY POLICIES
The University Catalog, http://catalog.gmu.edu, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.

CLASS POLICIES:

- Cell phones, pagers, and other communicative devices are allowed in this class but only for the purposes of accomplishing the learning objectives of the course. Laptops or tablets (e.g. iPads) may be permitted for the purpose of taking notes only. Engaging in activities not related to the course (e.g. gaming, email, chat, etc.) will result in a significant reduction in your participation grade.
- Regarding electronic devices (such as laptops, cell phones, etc.), please be respectful of your peers and your instructor and do not engage in activities that are unrelated to class. Such disruptions show a lack of professionalism and may affect your participation grade.
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<td>Instant analysis under fire: life as a “field general”</td>
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