

Emerging Issues in the Nonprofit Sector
The Evergreen State College
Master in Public and Nonprofit Administration
Spring 2015 2 Credits

Meeting Dates & Times: April 24 (5p-9p), 25 (9a-5p), 26 (9a-5p)
Meeting Location: TESC TACOMA CAMPUS, Room TBD
<http://evergreen.edu/tacoma/location.htm>
Faculty Member: Doreen Swetkis
Office: Lab I, Room 1015 (Olympia Camps)
Office Hours: By appointment
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Course Description This two-credit, intensive weekend course will examine issues that have impacted the nonprofit sector in the last few years including re-defining the field, changes in the environment, social media, social entrepreneurship/venture philanthropy, hybrid organizations, partnerships and mergers, etc. Written assignments will consist of two small papers, and a larger final paper.

In this course students will be given the opportunity to work through some of the emerging issues impacting nonprofit organizations, and interact with experts in many of these areas. It will examine how these emerging issues are impacting the field currently, as well as future possibilities. It is my hope that the course will help students consider possible appropriate actions in ambiguous, complex, and ever-changing situations.

Course Method This course combines substantive readings with lectures, group exercises and workshops, guest lectures, and other activities.

Learning Objectives In this course, students will gain:

1. Increased knowledge and understanding of current issues specifically relevant to nonprofit organizations;
2. Relevance of these current issues to students' perceptions and experience in the field;
3. Improved analytical and writing skills.

Expectations, Credit & Evaluation: It's only one (1) weekend, folks. Therefore, non-emergency absences will not be accepted. *Absences will result in no credit.* In addition, students must come prepared and attend every session on time, actively participate, and submit assignments on time.

All students are expected to support and contribute to a well-functioning MPA classroom learning community. Behavior that disrupts the learning community may be grounds for disciplinary action, including dismissal from the MPA program.

Your written work must be of the highest quality—clear with accurate grammar and spelling. Honor space limitations by distilling your thoughts and editing your writing rather than by reducing your font size and margins. Give yourself time to write drafts. You may benefit from consulting The Writing Center, the Graduate Writing Assistant, or partnering with a colleague to proofread your work.

Students will receive two (2) credits at the completion of the course if all expectations and course requirements have been successfully completed. Plagiarism (i.e., using other peoples work as your own without acknowledging the source), missing class, failing to complete one or more assignments, completing one or more assignments late (without having made arrangements before the due date) may be grounds for denial of credit.

Students are required to submit a self-evaluation and a faculty evaluation. You can submit these evaluations via the College's online evaluation system. .

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus.

Before Class Begins, please have the following items completed:

- ▶ Read *The Networked Nonprofit: Connecting with Social Media to Drive Change* by Beth Kanter & Allison Fine. Jossey-Bass. ISBN: 978-0470547977.
- ▶ Write a three-page seminar paper on *The Networked Nonprofit*, to be submitted the first night of class via Canvas.
- ▶ Read *Leveraging for Good* by Lester Salamon. Oxford. ISBN: 9780199376537.
- ▶ Write a three-page seminar paper on Salamon's text to be submitted the first night of class via Canvas.
- ▶ Check Canvas at least one week before class for additional course materials.

After Class Assignment

There will be a 7-9 page paper (typed, double-spaced, size 10 or 12 font) ***due via Canvas Sunday, May 11, 2015.*** Paper topic and details will be given in class.

Weekend Agenda will be handed out the first night of class.