

V221: NONPROFIT AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR

O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Indiana University-Bloomington

Fall 2020

Tuesday and Thursday 9:25am - 10:40am
Indiana Memorial Union 161 (Georgian Room)

Prof. Allison Schnable
SPEA 431
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Course Description:

This course provides a broad overview of civil society and the nonprofit sector with a focus on the United States. Topics include the sector's size and scope and its religious and historical underpinnings. We will consider why people organize, donate to, and volunteer for nonprofit organizations, and look at current challenges that the sector faces.

Course Format:

Plan to be "live" every Tuesday and Thursday during class time. Until the Thanksgiving break, most Tuesdays will be in-person, while most Thursdays will be synchronous Zoom sessions dedicated to group discussion and Q&A. In addition, there will typically be a shorter (~25 minute) video lecture that you should watch before class time on **Thursdays**. After the Thanksgiving break, we will be all online, but continue to keep our designated class times reserved for synchronous learning.

Course Objectives:

After completing the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe and evaluate the role of nonprofit organizations in our society
2. Identify specific organizations within nonprofit sub-sectors and locate information on their purpose and operation
3. Recognize the connections and differences between government and for-profit provision of public services and the nonprofit sector
4. Compare the attitudes and viewpoints that have driven giving and volunteering in the United States with their own values and experience
5. Utilize key information sources, including statistics on nonprofit organizations and charitable giving
6. Define terminology essential to understanding literature of the nonprofit sector.

Text:

These will be used throughout the course and are available for purchase at the bookstore and through Amazon. If you are on a budget, you can borrow them on 2-hour reserve at the Business/SPEA Information Commons.

- J. Steven Ott & Lisa A. Dicke (2016), *The Nature of the Nonprofit Sector (3rd Edition)*: Westview Press. ISBN-13: 978-0813349602

Online material:

All other course readings will either be posted on Canvas under the appropriate module for that week.

Office Hours:

I will hold Zoom office hours online on Mondays from 3:00-4:30 and Thursdays from 3:00-4:20. Please sign up **at least 24 hours in advance** online at <https://calendly.com/schnable>.

Remote Participation:

On the days we are scheduled to meet online—or if you are unable to attend class because of health-related issues (or are taking the class fully online by prior arrangement), please connect via Zoom at:

<https://iu.zoom.us/j/97126021255?pwd=S1pFR1o4Y01POHJxaUxpSnpKbGMrdz09>

Meeting ID: 971 2602 1255

Password: V221

In the first week of class I will send you an invitation to join a Kaltura channel called V221--Fall 2020, where all of Zoom lecture videos will be available online.

Technology:

My policy is that technology should be used where it enhances learning. You are welcome to bring your laptop or other electronic device to class, but I ask that you **leave it closed/in your bag** unless I ask you to take it out for a specific activity. Research shows that we learn better by taking notes by hand, and experience has shown all of us that it's hard to pay attention to a human speaking if there is a screen to distract us.

We will use the app TopHat app during in-person lectures. This will help us overcome the barriers to participation that are presented by masks and social distancing. Download the TopHat app and accept the email invitation you will receive to connect to this course. Your phone is the preferred device, but the app can also be used on a laptop.

Virtually all course material (except the textbook) will be accessed via our Canvas site. I will use the Announcements feature to communicate with you; make sure you have your settings to receive them immediately rather than in "digest" form. Recorded lectures will be stored on Kaltura and will be linked from

Covid-Related Policies:*Student Rights*

Any student who believes another person in a class is threatening the safety of the class by not wearing a mask or observing physical distancing requirements may leave the class without consequence.

Attendance

The student commitment form requires that you take your temperature every morning and that you refrain from attending class if you have a temperature of 100.4 or other symptoms of illness. In order to ensure that you can do this, attendance will not be a factor in the final grade. Attendance may still be taken to comply with accreditation requirements.

Assigned Seating

In order to ensure we can contact you in the event you are exposed to COVID-19, you must remain in your assigned seat for the entire semester.

Course assignments:

Detailed information on each assignment will be distributed separately during classes and posted to Canvas. Brief descriptions of course assignments and deadlines given below.

1. **Engagement in class sessions** (25% of total grade)
 - a. **A Story of You and a Nonprofit** (5%): Each student is asked to make **one short in-class presentation (1-2 minutes)** during the semester sharing an example of a nonprofit organization they have worked with, helped, or benefited from. No slides. Presentation dates will be assigned by the end of Week 1.
 - b. **Participation in live lectures** (10%): You will earn points for participating in the live (generally, Tuesday) lectures with your spoken comments and participation in TopHat activities. Students who must participate in the class live via Zoom can also use TopHat in real time.
 - c. **Small online assignments in Zoom sessions (10%)**: Many Zoom sessions will include short submissions that you will complete as a small group or individually.

If you are taking the course fully online by prior approval, we will discuss the necessary modifications to these assignments.

2. **Nonprofit Connections Reports** (25% of total): Visit or virtually take part in the programming of a minimum of **four** nonprofit organizations during the semester and write a 2-3 page Nonprofit Connection report of the experience using the template I will provide. These organizations should represent different subsectors (e.g. sports and recreation, arts, religion, environment, human services, etc.). These assignments will be submitted via file upload on Canvas.
3. **Nonprofit Connections Analysis Paper** (25% of total): This paper asks you to analyze in greater depth what you observed at one of the four nonprofit organizations. The exact prompt will be distributed in later in the semester, but will generally draw on issues raised in the Nonprofit Connections report template. Submitted via file upload on Canvas.
4. **Final Exam** (25% of total): Cumulative exam, given asynchronously online during finals week.

Key Dates:

Assignment	Date Due (by class time unless otherwise specified)
Story of You and a Nonprofit Presentation	Varies
NP Connection #1	Tues Sept 15
NP Connection #2	Tues Sept 29
NP Connection #3	Tues Oct 12
NP Connection #4	Tues Oct 26
Nonprofit Analysis Paper	Tues Nov 16

Final Exam (asynchronous)	Dec 16-17
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Grading Scales and Criteria:

Assignment and course letter grades are based on the following (this is the default Canvas grading scale):

<u>Grading Scale:</u>			
98.0-100%	A+	77.0-79.9%	C+
93.0-97.9%	A	73.0-76.9%	C
90.0-92.9%	A-	70.0-72.9%	C-
87.0-89.9%	B+	67.0-69.9%	D+
83.0-86.9%	B	63.9-66.9%	D
80.0-82.9%	B-	60.0-62.9%	D- Below 60% = Failing

Grade criteria for specific assignments will be part of Assignment Details posted on Canvas.

Incompletes: The school policy is that giving a grade of incomplete (“I”) may only be considered if most of the course work has been completed (80% at least) and a student is physically unable to complete the remainder of the assignment.

Extra Credit: Extra credit opportunities **may** be announced at the discretion of the instructor, but can add no more than 2% to final course grade.

Cheating: A Very Bad Idea

It is rare for there to be a problem of academic dishonesty in this course. On occasion, however, a student may be tempted to take a shortcut or to cheat in some way. For anyone who cheats, the policies for this course are clear.

- Exam Policy: Any student who cheats on an exam will be given a failing grade on the assignment in addition to any other sanctions imposed by the School or the University.
- Paper Policy: Any student who cheats or plagiarizes on any written assignment will be given a failing grade on the assignment in addition to any other sanctions imposed by the School or the University.

A Note on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is using another person's words, ideas, artistic creations, or other intellectual property without giving proper credit. According to the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, a student must give credit to the work of another person when he does any of the following:

- Quotes another person's actual words, either oral or written;
- Paraphrases another person's words, either oral or written;
- Uses another person's idea, opinion, or theory; or
- Borrows facts, statistics, or other illustrative material, unless the information is common knowledge.

The code of student conduct regarding plagiarism is available at <http://dsa.indiana.edu/Code> (Section III). SPEA’s own honor code is here:

http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/career_services/our_services/student-code-of-conduct/SPEA%20Student%20Honor%20Code.shtml

And there is a 10-minute online test at <http://www.education.indiana.edu/~frick/plagiarism/>

Course Schedule and Activities

Week #1: The Nonprofit Sector and Civil Society: What Do They Contribute to Society? Why Study Them?

Tuesday: First day of class, no readings.

Thursday:

- Ott: Introduction to Part I
- Ott: Chapter 6 (Smith, "The Impact of the Voluntary Sector on Society")
- *New York Times*: "Evoking History, Black Cowboys Take to the Streets"

Week #2: The Scope and Structure of Nonprofit Sector

Tuesday:

- Ott: Chapter 1 (Frumkin, "The Idea of a Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector")

Thursday:

- Salamon: Chapter 3

Week #3: Religious and Ethical Foundations

Tuesday:

- Some Thoughts on "The Golden Rule" (Canvas)
- Robert Payton: "Philanthropy and The Good Samaritan" (available at http://learningtogive.org/faithgroups/phil_in_america/philanthropy_good.asp)
- Jacob Neusner: "Righteousness, Not Charity – Judaism's View of Philanthropy" (Canvas)
- "Charity," in *The Islamic World, Past and Present*. Oxford Islamic Studies Online. Available through IU libraries online (CAS login required): <http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com/article/opr/t243/e67>

Thursday:

- Kevin C. Robbins, "The Nonprofit Sector in Historical Perspective: Traditions of Philanthropy in the West" (Canvas)

Assignment due Thursday: Nonprofit Connection Report #1

Week #4: Intellectual Foundations of U.S Nonprofit Sector

Tuesday:

****Nonprofit Connection Report #1 Due****

- Alexis de Tocqueville from *Democracy in America*
Of the Uses Which the Americans Make of Public Associations in Civil Life"
http://xroads.virginia.edu/~Hyper/DETOC/ch2_05.htm
"Relation of Civil to Political Associations"
http://xroads.virginia.edu/~Hyper/DETOC/ch2_07.htm
- Biography of Jane Addams - "First Days at Hull House"
<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/addams/hullhouse/hullhouse-05.html>
- Eliasoph, *The Politics of Volunteering*, pp. 39-49 (Canvas)

Thursday:

- Ott: Ch. 5 (Andrew Carnegie, "The Gospel of Wealth")
- Biography of Andrew Carnegie (Canvas)

Week #5: Economic and Political Theories of the Nonprofit Sector

Tuesday:

- Chapter 6, "Theoretical Approaches" of *Nonprofit Organizations: Theory, Management, and Policy*, by Helmut Anheier (Canvas), pp. 113-129
- Ott: Chapter 9 (Hansmann, "Ownership and Organizational Form")
- Ott: Chapter 10 (Salamon, "Market Failure")
- Ott: Chapter 11 (Young, "Contract Failure")
- Ott: Chapter 12 (Young, "Government Failure Theory")

Thursday:

- Chapter 6, "Theoretical Approaches" of *Nonprofit Organizations: Theory, Management, and Policy*, by Helmut Anheier (Canvas), pp. 129-138

Week #6: Sociological Theories: Mediating Structures and Social Capital

Tuesday:

****Nonprofit Connection Report #2 Due****

- Ott: Chapter 16 (Berger & Neuhaus, "To Empower People: The Role of Mediating Structures in Public Policy")
- Ott: Chapter 19 (Putnam, "Bowling Alone")

Thursday:

TBA

Week #7: The Evolution of Government-Nonprofit Relationships in the US

Tuesday:

- Ott: Part II Intro pp.45-48 ("The Nonprofit Sector's Historical Evolution...")
- Ott: Chapter 4 (Holland and Ritvo, "History and Theories of Nonprofit Organizations")
- Salamon: Chapter 5

Thursday:

- Ott: Part IX Intro ("The Blending and Blurring of the Sectors")
- Kirsten A. Grønberg (SPEA faculty!) and Lester M. Salamon, "Devolution, Marketization, and the Changing Shape of Government-Nonprofit Relations," pp .447-470 in *The State of Nonprofit America*, edited by Lester M. Salamon (Canvas)

Week #8: Fields of Activity: The Health Care, Education, and Social Services Subsectors

Tuesday:

****Nonprofit Connection Report #3 Due****

- Salamon: Chapters 6, 7, 8: You Pick Two: What topic do you know the least about? Read that chapter. What topic interests you the most? Read that chapter, too.

Thursday:

No readings. Guest lecture: Marquise Williams, Covenant House, Detroit

Week #9: Fields of Activity: The Arts, Advocacy, and Religion Subsectors

Tuesday:

Guest lecture, Dr. Kjell Wangenstein, Assistant Curator of European Art, Newfields Museum, Indianapolis.

Thursday:

- Salamon Chapters 9, 10, 11: You Pick Two: What topic do you know the least about? Read that chapter. What topic interests you the most? Read that chapter, too.

Week #10: Comparative and International Perspectives**Tuesday:******Nonprofit Connection Report #4 Due****

- Ott, Ch. 30 (Stoddard, "International Assistance")

Thursday:

- Ott, Ch. 28 (Salamon, "Government-Nonprofit Relations from an International Perspective")

Week #11: Giving**Tuesday: Theories of Giving**

- Ott: Chapters 21, 23

Thursday:

- Ott, Ch. 24

Week #12: Volunteers**Tuesday:**

- Katie Roeger et. al, pp. 118-126 of *The Nonprofit Almanac 2012* (Canvas)
- Marc A. Musick and John Wilson, excerpts from Ch. 19 of *Volunteers: A Social Profile* (pp. 420-432, 436-442, 444-452) (Canvas)

Thursday:

- Nina Eliasoph, Ch. 2 ("Volunteering and Activism") of *The Politics of Volunteering* (Canvas)

Week #13: Social Enterprise**Tuesday:******Nonprofit Analysis Paper Due****

- Julie Battilana et. al., "In Search of the Hybrid Ideal." (Canvas)

Thursday:

TBA

Week #14: Challenges and Controversies**Tuesday:**

- Kirsten A. Grønberg et al., "Indiana Nonprofits and COVID-19: Impact on Services, Finances, and Staffing" (Canvas)

Thursday:

- Ott: Part III Intro ("Tax Exemption and Tax Deduction")
- Ott: Ch. 7 ("Hoyt, Tax-Exempt Organization")
- "Should We End the Tax Deduction for Charitable Organizations" in the Wall Street Journal:
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324469304578143351470610998>
- "What Does 'Not Charitable Enough' Mean When It Comes to Tax Exemption?"
<http://nonprofitquarterly.org/2014/09/23/what-does-not-charitable-enough-mean-when-it-comes-to-tax-exemption/>
 - Letter to the Editor of Planet Princeton on tax-exemption

<http://planetprinceton.com/2015/07/13/letters-princeton-residents-should-support-lawsuit-regarding-university-property-taxes/>

Week #15: Wrap-Up

Readings TBA

Final Exam: Online, taken asynchronously (two hours in a 24 hour window between Dec. 16-17). Details to follow.