

Course Number: PAD 5356 Semester: Summer 2020

CRN: 36008

Course Title: Social Entrepreneurship and Nonprofit Management

Instructor: Dr. Eric Boyer
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Office Hours: Office Hours will be held virtually on blackboard.

To join the office hours, log onto blackboard on the time of the office hours and click “virtual office hours.” Once you log into blackboard during office hours, you can chat in the chat room, talk by audio, or talk by video in real time.

If you cannot connect to the virtual office hours through an internet connection, you can call the following number with your phone: 1-571-392-7650 (PIN: 663 929 3884).

TUESDAYS, 6-8 PM (via Blackboard Collaborate), or please email me for a time to meet.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to strategic management in nonprofit organizations and social enterprises. The course will review core topics for leading, managing and measuring effectiveness in nonprofits. The nonprofit sector is increasing in importance in the U.S. and abroad, as the primary provider for a wide range of critical social services. Entrepreneurs are also increasingly experimenting with innovative products and services to address social needs in the for-profit sector. Any major effort to address complex issues in our society requires the engagement, involvement, and leveraging of resources and perspectives from socially oriented organizations that exist outside of government. The material in this course will improve an understanding of the scope and scale of third sector roles in the U.S. economy, and their unique competitive advantages.

This course will primarily consider issues from the perspective of nonprofit and socially oriented organizations, but the content and approach will be relevant for professionals working in public or private sectors who are tasked with understanding, or working with nongovernmental organizations. Specifically, we will examine techniques in strategic stakeholder management, including the mapping of external and internal stakeholders, whose combined contributions can improve program effectiveness. A central theme of this course is administrative responsiveness, in respect to one’s interactions with clients and beneficiaries, donors, fellow employees, and executive leadership.

One aim of this class is to cultivate conditions to support peer-to-peer learning by creating greater opportunities for you to express your expertise and understanding to other members of the class. The best outcome of this class is for all of us to learn from your unique perspectives on the course material.

Your role as a leader is the central theme of this course. The aim is to empower you with concepts, case examples, and theory to analyze, critique, and advise strategic management in nonprofit organizations and social enterprises. My goal for this course is to consider management and leadership issues in third sector organizations in a more critical way, and to identify a number of practices and analytical frameworks that will lead to more informed and effective services for the public. The overarching mission of this class is to create opportunities for each of you to develop some personal insights and lessons (whether originating from readings, the instructor, your peers, your contributions to class, guest speakers, or some combination of each) that will empower you to be even more effective in your future career than you already will be.

Student Learning Objectives

The objective of this course is to empower members of this class with the abilities to:

- Recognize, analyze, and critique the strategic orientation of nonprofits and social enterprises.
- Understand the unique capabilities of nonprofit and social enterprises in addressing complex social issues;
- Develop an understanding of strategic management and SWOT analysis, as techniques for improving the planning of social programs;
- Demonstrate an understanding of core topics in leadership and management in respect to the operating constraints of nonprofit and socially oriented organizations;
- Apply an approach to strategic planning to the operations of a nonprofit organization in our community here in El Paso;
- Develop competencies in conducting research interviews and integrating qualitative research into a practical, actionable plan for leaders of nonprofit or social enterprises;
- Demonstrate mastery of course content, through class discussions, in-class presentations, and analytical writing;
- Apply the lessons from this class to analyses of real-world issues and problems;

- Draft professional memos with succinct, actionable recommendations for supervisors, clients, or other professional audiences;
- Develop and present analyses of problems and solutions in professional presentations and analytic writing.

Diversity Statement:

It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, and that the diversity that the students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, culture and political ideology. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally, or for other students or student groups.

Course Format:

Recognizing that students have different learning and working styles, this course will utilize a variety of learning and teaching formats. The class will be instructed through an online format, utilizing video-recorded presentations, weekly assignments, virtual office hours, and selected written assignments. The professor will utilize the UTEP *Blackboard* system to distribute class materials.

Students are expected to deliver their work on time. If, due to illness or personal emergency, you believe your work will be late, you are advised to discuss the matter in advance with the instructor. Late work will normally be penalized at least one-third grade (e.g., from an A- to a B+). If you submit a paper assignment with text copied from another source without appropriate attribution, you will be penalized up to 50% of the final grade on the assignment and you may be required to re-do the assignment.

Netiquette:

- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a F2F situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space. If students wish to do so, they have the ethical obligation to first request the permission of the writer(s).

Course Requirements (All assignments are due end of day, 11:59pm):

1. Reading Assignments (75%): Each person will complete reading assignments, through the assignments tab in Blackboard. Some of the reading assignments may involve presentations and writing reflection papers on the material from the class.
2. Final Project Paper (25%): Each student will submit a 6-8 page research paper at the conclusion of the class, based on 1-2 core themes from class and their application to current issues for nonprofits today. It is possible, though not required, to focus specifically on a single nonprofit's experience in your paper.

Required Reading (for purchase)

Tschirhart, Mary, and Wolfgang Bielefeld. 2012. *Managing Nonprofit Organizations*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Suggested Reading (purchase is optional):

Guo, Chao, and Wolfgang Bielefeld. 2014. *Social Entrepreneurship: An Evidence-Based Approach to Creating Social Value*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Grobman, Gary M. 2015. *The Texas Nonprofit Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Start and Run Your Texas Nonprofit Organization*. Harrisburg, PA: White Hat Communications.

Articles, book chapters, case studies and other required and recommended material not in the required reading list will be available on *Blackboard* or handed out in class.

Websites for References:

- National Center for Charitable Statistics: <http://nccs.urban.org/index.cfm>
- Texas Association of Nonprofit Organizations: <http://tano.org/nonprofit-info-page/texas-nonprofit-sector/>
- Texas Nonprofits: <http://www.txnp.org/>
- The Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies: <http://www.ccss.jhu.edu/index.php?section=content&view=20>
- Nonprofit Policy Forum: <http://www.bepress.com/npf/vol1/iss1/>
- JustMeans (about corporate social responsibility): <http://www.justmeans.com/>
- International Society for Third Sector Research: <http://www.istr.org/resources/centers.htm>
- Independent Sector: <http://www.independentsector.org/>
- National Council of Nonprofits: <http://www.councilofnonprofits.org/>
- The Foundation Center: <http://foundationcenter.org/>
- Volunteering in America: <http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/>
- International NGO Training and Research Centre: <http://www.intrac.org/>

Course Policies

1. Incompletes: A student must consult with the instructor to obtain a grade of “I” (incomplete) no later than the last day of classes in a semester. At that time, the student and instructor will both sign the contract for incompletes and submit a copy to the Program Director. Please consult the Student Handbook for the complete policy on incompletes.
2. Submission of Written Work Products Outside of the Classroom: It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that an instructor receives each written assignment, even those submitted online through SafeAssign.
3. Submission of Written Work Products after Due Date: Policy on Late Work: All work must be turned in by the assigned due date in order to receive full credit for that assignment, unless an exception is expressly made by the instructor.
4. Academic Honesty: Please consult the “policies” section of the student handbook for the university code of academic integrity. Note especially the definition of plagiarism: “intentionally representing the words, ideas, or sequence of ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise; failure to attribute any of the following: quotations, paraphrases, or borrowed information.”
3. Changing Grades After Completion of Course: No changes can be made in grades after the conclusion of the semester, other than in cases of clerical error.
4. The Syllabus: This syllabus is a guide to the course for the student. Sound educational practice requires flexibility and the instructor may therefore, at her/his discretion, change content and requirements during the semester.
5. Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: In order to receive accommodations on the basis of disability, a student must give notice and provide proper documentation to the Office of Disability Support Services at UTEP.
6. Instructor’s Policy on Grade Contestation: Students wishing to contest a grade are required to draft a brief memo explaining the reasoning behind their dispute, and to then schedule a meeting with the instructor to discuss it.

Grading Criteria

A

Excellent: Exceptional work for a graduate student. Work at this level is unusually thorough, well reasoned, creative, methodologically sophisticated, and well written. Work is of exceptional, professional quality.

B

Adequate: Competent work for a graduate student with some evident weaknesses. Demonstrates competency in the key course objectives but the understanding or application of some important issues is less than complete.

C

Deficient: Inadequate work for a graduate student; rarely meets minimal expectations for the course. Work is poorly developed or flawed by numerous errors and misunderstandings of important issues.

F

Unacceptable: Work fails to meet minimal expectations for course credit for a graduate student. Performance has consistently failed to meet minimum course requirements. Weaknesses and limitations are pervasive.