PA771
Research on Nonprofit Organizations
Spring 2018 Syllabus
G113 Tompkins
Mondays, 3-5:45pm

Instructor
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Office Hours: Mondays, 1:30-2:30pm; Tuesdays, 4–5:30 p.m. or by appointment

Course Description (from the Course Catalog)
Course provides the necessary theoretical foundation to design scholarly research on nonprofit organizations, voluntary action, and the nonprofit sector. Topics focus on the historical and philosophical roots of the nonprofit sector, the theories used to frame scholarly research and answer contemporary research questions. Students assume a leadership role in shaping the course content.

Learning Objectives
By the end of the course, successful students will:
• Understand the major theoretical foundations of the nonprofit sector
• Be conversant and capable of critiquing the competing theoretical foundations of the nonprofit sector
• Identify major research streams and emerging areas of nonprofit-related research
• Be able to identify theoretical underpinning of their nonprofit-related research interests
• Be aware of data sources for nonprofit-related research
• Have an understanding of nonprofit academic literature and pedagogy to be able to teach undergraduate and graduate courses on the nonprofit sector
• Produce a conference proposal and a paper that is the front end of a research article

Required Book and Class Materials
The Nonprofit Sector, A Research Handbook (2nd Edition), edited by Walter W. Powell & Richard Steinberg, (2006, $74.98), Yale University Press – e-book available via NC State Library. Other readings listed in this syllabus will be available on the course Moodle site.

Course Requirements and Grading

Participation	40%
Journal assessment and paper contribution	15%
Final paper	25%
Presentation	10%
ARNOVA or other conference proposal	10%

All assignments are due by 3pm on their assigned date. More information about the assignments will be available on Moodle.

Grade Scale (standard rounding practices followed):

97-100 = A+	87-89 = B+	77-79 = C+	67-69 = D+	below 60 = F
93-96 = A	83-86 = B	73-76 = C	63-66 = D	
90-92 = A-	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	60-62 = D-	

Course Format
The course is structured using assigned readings, discussion, assignments, and student presentations. The course format and class structure have been organized to facilitate an effective learning environment.

Participation and Engagement
Students are expected to be engaged learners, and the course requires a high degree of active and informed participation. Students are expected to contribute to the learning environment by coming to class prepared with required reading and ready to participate and as assigned lead class discussions. In addition to the scored components, participation will also be evaluated by referencing student facilitation and contribution to discussions, refraining from distractions (i.e. technology), and attendance. Class attendance alone is not sufficient for a satisfactory participation grade.   Students are required to individually meet with the professor – either by phone, during office hours, or by appointment – at least once during the semester.   To assist in preparation of the final paper, it is recommended this meeting occur at a minimum during the time the student is working on the paper.

Technology in the Classroom
Laptops and other similar devices may be used for note-taking only. Please turn off cellphones during class. If you need to leave your phone on during class due to an emergency, please notify the instructor prior to the start of class.

Attendance and Late Assignments
Class attendance is expected, and the instructor should be notified of any student absences in advance of the class meeting time. Excessive excused absences (i.e., more than 1) and any unexcused absences will result in a half-letter grade reduction in your final course grade. While absences can be excused, late assignments are not. Assignment deadlines are communicated on this syllabus and are firm deadlines. Failure to submit an assignment on time will affect the assignment's grade by a half letter-grade for each day beyond the assignment deadline that it is submitted.

NC State University Policies, Regulations and Rules
Students are responsible for reviewing the PRRs which pertain to their course rights and responsibilities. These include: http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-04-25-05 (Equal Opportunity and Non-discrimination Policy Statement), http://oied.ncsu.edu/home/ (Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity), http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01 (Code of Student Conduct), http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-50-03 (Grades and Grade Point Average), https://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-15 (Credit-Only Courses), https://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-04 (Audits), and https://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02- 50-03 (Incompletes).

Accommodations for Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services Office in Suite 2221, Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 919-515-7653. https://dso.dasa.ncsu.edu/. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.01) https://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-01.

Academic Integrity

Regardless of discipline, honest and rigorous scholarship is at the foundation of a Research I institution. Students are bound by the academic integrity policy as stated in NCSU Code of Student Conduct: http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01. Students are required to uphold the university pledge of honor and exercise honesty in completing every assignment. Instructors may require students to write the Honor Pledge on every exam and assignment and to sign or type their name after the pledge. ("I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment.") Violations of academic integrity will result in referral to the Office of Student Conduct with a recommendation of a failing grade for the assignment, and they will be reported to the department head.

Writing and Speaking Tutorial Services

If writing is difficult for you, please visit the Writing and Speaking Tutorial Services to review drafts of assignments before they are due. The Service offers free one-on-one consultation with experienced tutors who can help with all levels and stages of writing. There are six locations around campus that offer drop-in services. For more information go to: https://tutorial.dasa.ncsu.edu/writing-speaking/

Course Schedule and Deadlines

#	Date	Topic	Readings	Deadlines/Activities
1	1/8	Introduction	Strom Gauss Nonprofit Sector in Brief Allison et al.	
2	1/22	History of American Nonprofits	NPSRH – 2, 12, 20 Hammack Barman Smith Stewart Timeline	Planning Journal Assessment
3	1/29	Theories of the Sector	NPSRH – 4, 5, 9 Anheier Hillman et al. Roelofs Estes and Alford	
4	2/5	NP Context	DiMaggio and Anheier Young Weisbrod Milward and Provan	Book Club #1

			Bromley and Meyer Dees and Anderson Fottler	
5	2/12	Accountability	NPSRH – 11, 25 Herman and Renz Wellens and Jegers Balser and McClusky Callen et al. Cordes and Coventry	
6	2/19	Charity and Philanthropy	NPSRH – 15, 23, 24 Frumkin Bekkers and Wiepking Ashley and Faulk	
7	2/26	Leadership and Volunteers	NPSRH – 7, 26 Maier et al. Herman and Renz Stewart and Diebold Wilson Bernstein et al.	Book Club #2
	3/5	No Class	Spring Break	
8	3/12	Resources and Finance	NPSRH – 6 Tuckman and Chang Prentice Froelich Tinkelman Calabrese	
9	3/19	External Environments	NPSRH – 10 Lin and Wang Provan Guo Bielefeld	Due: ARNOVA Proposal
10	3/26	Data	Gronbjerg Lampkin and Boris Kennedy and Vargus Gordon et al. Froelich et al. Hager et al. Gronbjerg and Clerkin	
11	4/2	Pedagogy	Mirabella and Wish O'Neill McDougle et al. Paton et al. Herman and Renz Young	Book Club #3
12	4/9	Data Day	Per Data Coding Assignment	
13	4/16	Presentations		
14	4/23	Data Day	Per Data Coding Assignment	
Final	5/7	Exam Date		Due: Final Paper

Book Options:

Ben-Ner, A., & Gui, B. (1993). *The nonprofit sector in the mixed economy*. Univ of Michigan Pr.

Chait, R. P., Ryan, W. P., & Taylor, B. E. (2011). *Governance as leadership: Reframing the work of nonprofit boards*. John Wiley & Sons.

Frumkin, P. (2002). *On being nonprofit: A conceptual and policy primer*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

Grønbjerg, K. A. (1993). *Understanding nonprofit funding: Managing revenues in social services and community development organizations*. Jossey-Bass Inc Pub.

Hall, P. D. (2001). *" Inventing the Nonprofit Sector" and Other Essays on Philanthropy, Voluntarism, and Nonprofit Organizations*. JHU Press.

Lohmann, R. A. (1992). The Commons: New Perspectives on Nonprofit Organization, Voluntary Action and Philanthropy.

Rathgeb-Smith, S. and M. Lipsky (1993). *Nonprofits for hire: The welfare state in the age of contracting*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Salamon, L. M. (2005). The resilient sector: The state of nonprofit America.

Wuthnow, R. (2004). *Saving America?: Faith-based services and the future of civil society*. Princeton University Press.

Young, D. R. (Ed.). (2006). *Financing nonprofits: Putting theory into practice*. Rowman Altamira.