

PCOM 2301: Introduction to Nonprofits and Philanthropy

Spring 2021

ONLINE

Instructor Information

Instructor

Colton C. Strawser

Office Number

FAB 328

Office Telephone Number

For the Spring 2021 semester this course will be remote. If you would like to schedule a Microsoft Teams meeting or phone call, please use this scheduling link:

<https://calendly.com/coltonstrawser/office-hours>

Email Address

colton.strawser@uta.edu

Email is the fastest way to contact me and I tend to respond within 24 hours or less.

Microsoft Teams

Please feel free to send me a direct message on Microsoft Teams. This course also has a Microsoft Teams page where you can post questions, resources, and other information. Ensure that you use the tagging function @Name or @General to notify either a specific person or the entire board.

Faculty Profile

<https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/colton-strawser>

Office Hours

Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM via Microsoft Teams or phone. Use link above for scheduling an appointment. If these times do not work for you, please e-mail me with your availability.

Course Information

Section Information

PCOM 2301-001

Time and Place of Class Meetings

This is an entirely online course with no set weekly meeting times; however, there are weekly deadlines. Please refer to the course schedule for a list of deadlines.

Description of Course Content

An overview of working in the nonprofit sector and exploring the issues and values surrounding philanthropy and not-for-profit organizations. Topics include history of philanthropy, theories of the nonprofit sector, law and governance, programming, mission, volunteer recruiting, and fundraising.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completing this course, the following learning outcomes from the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council will be achieved:

1.0 Comparative Perspectives on Civil Society, Voluntary Action and Philanthropy

- 1.1 Structure – both formal and informal, individual and collective – of civil society and philanthropy across cultures and global contexts
- 1.2 How individual philanthropy, voluntary behavior and volunteerism is expressed in different cultural and global contexts
- 1.3 Role of civil society, voluntary action and nonprofit/nongovernmental organizations in social movements and social change
- 1.4 Role of various religious traditions in shaping civil society and philanthropy

2.0 Foundations of Civil Society, Voluntary Action and Philanthropy

- 2.1 History, role and functions of civil society and voluntary action organizations (nonprofit, nongovernmental, voluntary) across time and place
- 2.2 Size, impact and trends in philanthropy, nongovernmental organizations and associational development in a global context
- 2.3 Diversity of forms of philanthropic action and the diversity of fields of activity
- 2.4 Relationship and dynamics among the governmental, nonprofit, for-profit and household sectors and evolving forms of social sector forms
- 2.6 Various theoretical explanations for the nonprofit/voluntary sector such as economic, political, sociological and anthropological

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

- Ott, S., & Dicke, L. A. (2015). *The Nature of the Nonprofit Sector*. Boulder, CO: Westview. (3rd Edition – ISBN 9780813349602)
- Payton, R. & Moody, M. (2008). *Understanding Philanthropy: Its Meaning and Mission*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press. (ISBN 9780253350497)
- Additional readings, videos, and other materials will be available in Canvas

Additional readings will be assigned from provided material or Internet resources posted on Canvas as necessary.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

The course schedule outlines the point value of all assignments. The total possible points in this course is 1,000 (i.e., 1,000 points = 100% or A; 899 points = 89.9% or B). There are a limited number of extra credit opportunities throughout the course as well (up to 25 points).

900 – 1000 Points = A
800 – 899 Points = B
700 – 799 Points = C
600 – 699 Points = D
0 – 599 Points = F

Class assignments will be posted every Friday by 8 a.m. CST unless noted otherwise. Class assignments can be located on Canvas under the "Modules" tab. Each week in the course is organized in a Module.

Discussion Boards

Most weeks there will be one topic for discussion. Discussion board posts regarding the assigned reading will be required from each student, as well as providing feedback to a post of at least two peers to create a dynamic, intellectual exchange. To receive the maximum points each week, you should post an initial response to each topic no later than Wednesday at 11:59 pm. Respond to at least two classmates in each topic no later than Sunday at 11:59 pm. You are welcome to post more than the required minimum should you feel inclined, although be conscious not to post so excessively that you discourage others from participating. A full rubric for discussion posts is available in Canvas.

As a guideline:

The initial response, approximately 250 words, should be rich with information you have learned through your readings/research to share with the class. This is your time to demonstrate your learning and knowledge gained on the subject. Provide your analysis of what you found interesting and demonstrate critical thinking skills. If you cite the readings or any other resources, please ensure that you use proper APA in-text citations.

A response to another student, approximately 100-150 words, requires using research and facts to back up your comments to either support, dispute, or enhance the information presented to add to the knowledge that you are responding to. This is to assess your critical thinking skills in formulating your responses. Just posting "I agree/disagree with your comment" or "I think the same" to someone else's thoughts is not an adequate response. All posts need to demonstrate learning and analysis of information shared.

All discussion board posts will be due by 11:59 p.m. CST on the due date specified on the "Course Schedule" section of the syllabus. A rubric is available for all discussion board posts that clearly outlines the expectations of the forum.

Assignments

In conjunction with the reading assignments, students must complete the identified assignments for each module as assigned in Canvas. The materials and background information for each exercise will be located in the Modules section on Canvas, if required. Examples of assignments include video reviews, brief papers, case study responses, and short essays. All assignments must be submitted through Canvas in order to receive credit.

Please do *not* exceed page or word limits – more is not always more. Reference pages are not included in page lengths. All papers should be double-spaced, Times New Roman or Calibri font, with 1" margins on all sides. All assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Word to allow the instructor to provide comments. Assignments submitted as PDFs or as text within the submission feature may not be graded and can be considered late if students have to reupload documents past the deadline.

E-mail/Discussion Board Decorum

This is an online course; therefore, a majority of our conversations will take place through Messages within Canvas and the assignment discussion boards. Please use common sense (no slang, use correct grammar, etc.) when sending messages and posting to discussion boards. This is an upper division level course and I expect you to be on a college student level with your postings and emails. I do not expect you to be a perfectionist, but I do expect you to be courteous and respectful. I will deduct points for poor grammar, lack of punctuation and spelling.

APA Formatting and Reference Guidelines

It is considered plagiarism - academic fraud - to represent someone else's thoughts and words as your own. Therefore, students must be careful to give credit to authors by citing all resources. As standard practice, students at UT Arlington are expected to cite all resource references using only APA formatting and reference guidelines. Note that MLA and other reference styles will not be accepted by the instructor. The instructor recommends the use of The APA Publication Manual, Seventh Edition, utilizing the writing centers resources, or visiting the [Purdue OWL](#) resource. Please note that Wiki's, such as Wikipedia, are not acceptable sources for this class.

Netiquette

Netiquette (net + etiquette) is the code of proper conduct applied to virtual online spaces. This system is dictated by common sense rules (manners) and social conventions.

Source: [Educational Technology and Mobile Learning](#)

- Before posting your question on a discussion board, check if anyone has asked it already and received a reply.

- Stay on topic. Don't post irrelevant links, comments, thoughts or pictures.
- Don't type in ALL CAPS! If you do, it will look like you are screaming.
- Don't write anything that sounds angry or sarcastic even as a joke, because without hearing your tone of voice, your peers might not realize you're joking.
- Always remember to say "please" and "thank you" when soliciting help from your classmates.
- Respect the opinion of your classmates. If you feel the need to disagree, do so respectfully and acknowledge the valid points in your classmate's argument. If you reply to a question from a classmate, make sure your answer is accurate!
- If you ask questions, many people respond. Summarize all answers and post that summary to benefit your whole class.
- Be brief. If you write a long dissertation in response to a simple question, it's unlikely that anyone will spend the time to read through it all.
- Don't badmouth others or call them stupid. You may disagree with their ideas but don't mock the person.
- If you refer to something your classmate said earlier in the discussion, quote just a few key lines from their post so that others won't have to go back and figure out which post you are referring.
- Before asking a question, check the class FAQs or search the Internet to see if the answer is obvious or easy to find.
- Check the most recent comments before you reply to an older comment.
- Be forgiving. If your classmate makes a mistake, don't badger him or her for it. Just let it go.
- Run a spelling and grammar check before posting anything to the discussion board.

Technology Requirements

This course will be entirely online utilizing the Canvas platform. In addition, you will need to be able to access videos via YouTube and open PDFs from external websites. You can access tutorials on these tools by clicking on the "Get Started" Box on their Canvas Homepage.

Grading Information

Grading

Discussion board input and participation will be evaluated weekly and grades posted within seven days of the closing date of the discussion. Other assignments will be graded and returned within ten days of the deadline. Every effort will be made to provide you with effective and timely feedback in this course. Rubrics are available for most assignments; therefore, student expectations for assignments are very clear.

A Note on Writing

This course is a writing-intensive course; therefore, please work to proofread and edit your work. Visit the UTA writing center if you need assistance. I also recommend the Grammarly app in addition to a simple spell check via Microsoft Word.

Make-Up Policy/Late Work

I will not accept late work unless there is an unavoidable or extenuating circumstance. I will consider each instance individually and try to work with you the best I can. It is the instructor's decision whether to award partial-credit or half-credit for late assignments. Generally, if late assignments are accepted, there is a 10% automatic deduction in points for each day it is late, with the fifth day resulting in a failed assignment. In an effort to mirror the expectation of the real-world, late assignments are not accepted – mainly because in the nonprofit sector if you miss a deadline you could lose out on funding for an important program. Punctuality and planning are essential skills, so please plan to complete your highest level of work on time.

Course Schedule

This course is made up of 15 course modules, each running one week during the semester. The course schedule is Monday – Sunday. Below is an overview of the course module dates, themes, and points possible.

- Module 1 (1/19-1/24) – What is Philanthropy? (75 points)
- Module 2 (1/25-1/31) – Voluntary Action for the Public Good (60 points)
- Module 3 (2/1-2/7) – What is the Nonprofit Sector (60 points)
- Module 4 (2/8-2/14) – History of the Nonprofit Sector (60 points)
- Module 5 (2/15-2/21) – Theories of the Nonprofit Sector (60 points)
- Module 6 (2/22-2/28) – Concepts of Community (60 points)
- Module 7 (3/1-3/7) – Concepts of Civil Society (60 points)
- Module 8 (3/8-3/14) – Midterm (100 points)
- SPRING BREAK – 3/15 – 3/21
- Module 9 (3/22-3/28) – Social Movements (60 points)
- Module 10 (3/29-4/4) – Fundraising & Philanthropy (60 points)
- Module 11 (4/5-4/11) – Marketing & Communications (65 points)
- Module 12 (4/12-4/18) – Global Philanthropy (60 points)
- Module 13 (4/19-4/25) – Philanthropic Innovation & Future Directions (60 Points)
- Module 14 (4/26-5/2) – Final Project – Part 1 (35 Points)
- Module 15 – Final Project (125 points) – Due May 9th, 2021 at 11:59 PM

EXTRA CREDIT: 25 points available through various activities indicated in Canvas.

A full schedule of readings and assignments is available in Canvas.

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.

Institution Information

UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the [Institutional Information](https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) page (<https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php>) which includes the following policies among others:

- Drop Policy
- Disability Accommodations
- Title IX Policy
- Academic Integrity
- Student Feedback Survey
- Final Exam Schedule

Additional Information

Attendance

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will not be taking attendance since it is an online asynchronous course, yet your attendance and participation in the course is critical to pass. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a

grade of F, faculty report must the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Student Success Programs

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring by appointment](#), [drop-in tutoring](#), [etutoring](#), [supplemental instruction](#), [mentoring](#) (time management, study skills, etc.), [success coaching](#), [TRIO Student Support Services](#), and [student success workshops](#). For additional information, please email resources@uta.edu, or view the [Maverick Resources](#) website.

The IDEAS Center (<https://www.uta.edu/ideas/>) (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE** [tutoring](#) and [mentoring](#) to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in or check the schedule of available peer tutors at www.uta.edu/IDEAS, or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR)

The Writing Center offers **FREE** tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at the [Writing Center](https://uta.mywconline.com) (<https://uta.mywconline.com>). Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [Writing Center: OWL](#) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor [Academic Plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (<http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the [library's hours](#) of operation.

Librarian to Contact

Each academic unit has access to [Librarians by Academic Subject](#) that can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references as well as support with databases and course reserves.

Emergency Phone Numbers

In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

Library Information

Research or General Library Help

Ask for Help

- [Academic Plaza Consultation Services](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)
- [Ask Us](http://ask.uta.edu/) (ask.uta.edu/)
- [Research Coaches](http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach) (<http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach>)

Resources

- [Library Tutorials](http://library.uta.edu/how-to) (library.uta.edu/how-to)
- [Subject and Course Research Guides](http://libguides.uta.edu) (libguides.uta.edu)
- [Librarians by Subject](http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians) (library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
- [A to Z List of Library Databases](http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php) (libguides.uta.edu/az.php)
- [Course Reserves](https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves) (https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves)
- [Study Room Reservations](http://openroom.uta.edu/) (openroom.uta.edu/)