

Fall 2009

Public Organizations Paper Assignment 1

Write a paper discussing the difficulties that managers face in public organizations in terms of making sure workers are "doing the right things" and working toward the goals of the agency. There are three parts to the assignment.

Identify and discuss the constraints that exist on managers that keep them from being able to easily manipulate their agency's work environment.

Identify and discuss other sources of motivation that workers respond to, and other ways workers define their tasks, *besides* agency goals and directives from managers.

Finally, discuss options that managers have for trying to overcome these issues of management and task definition. What can managers do improve the performance of government agencies?

The paper should be 6-7 pages long, double-spaced with normal one-inch margins. It is due at the start of class on **October 1**, as stated in the syllabus.

Graduate Students: Your assignment remains the same, but you must base your discussions on the topics in the paper on professional/scholarly research. A good place to start is to use the Public Administration Review articles in the reading assignments.