THEORIES

1) Normative Theories of Bureaucracy
What should (public) bureaucracies do? What are the major normative goals and achievements? How are these related to academic disciplines? Are there tradeoffs, fashions and changes over time? What makes a good government (administration) good? And by the way: good government or good governance?

Required for all:

For the basics:


(‘a relatively simple introduction to the topic, some familiarity with basic concepts of microeconomics recommendable’)

Further:


See also Shafritz et al. on the Classics of Public Administration.

Play around with the efficiency calculator:

2) Economic Theories of Public Administration
What is the economic approach to public administration? What are examples of the efficiency perspective (transaction cost, principle agent relationships, asymmetric information)? How do they differ in explaining the genesis of administrative structures?

Mandatory:
Lane, J.-E. New Public Management. London/ New York: Routledge, chapters 3 & 4. (simpler, more gentle than Stiglitz)


One of the following:

Further:

3) The Political Economy of Public Administration

What is the difference between an economic efficiency perspective and a politico-economic perspective? What are examples of politico-economic perspectives (interest groups, voting models, bureaucracy models)? How do they differ in explaining the genesis of administrative structures?

Mandatory

Choose one of these cases:


Optional
Wilson, James Q. (1989), (on public administration in US)

DEVELOPMENT

4) Development and Bureaucracy
Questions: How does public administration evolve over time? Was Weber right? What does public administration contribute to the long-term evolution of the society?

Mandatory reading:

One of the following:

5) Bureaucracies in Developing Countries

How does Public Administration work in developing countries? How to reform? 

Or perhaps Ang 2016?

For all:


One of the following on (externally driven) capacity development:


Further reading:


Cf. also World Bank Site on Good Governance Indicators. Also recommended the work of James C. Scott from a critical perspective.

For case studies see contributions by Heldebrand/Grindle, Peterson or Contreras to edited volume on capacity development: Grindle, Merilee S. *Getting Good Government. Capacity
Building in the Public Sectors of Developing Countries.' Cambridge (Mass.): Harvard University Press.

See also special issues on Chinese public administration
http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-819511.html

PEOPLE

6) Recruitment, Motivation and Performance

How to recruit? How to motivate civil servants? How to evaluate their performance? Does management by numbers work? What are the implications for recruitment?

Core reading:


One of the following:


[see also their article in JPART http://jpart.oxfordjournals.org/content/20/3/577.full]


Further:


7) Corruption in Public Services
How to pay civil servants to get corruption low? What are the origins of corruption in public administration? What is corruption?

Mandatory for all:

One of the following:


C. Van Rijckeghem, and B. Beatrice Weder. "Bureaucratic Corruption and the Rate of Temptation: Do Wages in the Civil Service Affect Corruption, and by How Much?" Journal of Development Economics 65: 307-31. (’an economic study how much wages to pay for civil servants not to be corrupt’)


Further reading:


(http://www.gcgf.org/ifcext/economics.nsf/Content/ic-wbes)


**MULTI-TIER BUREAUCRACY**

8) Federalism and Multiethnic Societies

How does federalism arrive and how does it affect public administration? How to govern multi-ethnic, fragmented polities? Is federalism a solution or a problem?

Mandatory, one of the following

Stephan, Alfred. (1999): "Federalism and Democracy: Beyond the U.S. Model " Journal of Democracy 10/ 4: 19-34. ('political science on federalism') or


Further, one of the following on multiethnic societies:


Further


9.) Fiscal Federalism and (Fiscal) Decentralization
Which level should finance public goods? Which level does finance public goods? What modes of financing are there?

Mandatory


Or


One of the following:


Further:


MONEY

10) Privatization and Contracting

When should the market deliver a good? When does the market deliver goods? Why? Who wants privatization? What is the division of labour between the state and the market? When is contracting out reasonable? Who gains, who losess?

Core reading on privatization


Choose one of the following:


Schamis, Hector. (1999) "Distributional Coalitions and the Politics of Economic Reform in Latin America." World Politics 51/2: 236-68. (‘the dark side of privatization when context is adverse’)


Williamson, Oliver. (1999) "Public and Private Bureaucracies: A Transaction Cost Perspective." JLEO 15/1: 306-42. (‘when should the state and when the market be in charge?’)

Further


11.) Budget Making

How does decision making happen? What does influence these decisions? Who wins and loses in budget decisions? How much autonomy does the bureaucracy have?

Mandatory for all


Core, one of the following

Fung, Archon (2006): “Varieties of Participation in Complex Governance”. Special Issue (Dec.), 66-75. (‘not only about budgeting, but all forms of participation’)


Wampler, Brian. 2008. "When Does Participatory Democracy Deepen the Quality of Democracy?" Comparative Politics. (on participatory budgeting in Brazil)


Optional:

Rubin, Irene. (1990) "Budget Theory and Budget Practice: How Good the Fit?" Public Administration Review 50/2: 179-89. (‘overview article’)


Intros on comparative budgeting: Guess and Leloup Comparative Public Budgeting ch. 1, Lee chapter 1, Rubin chapter 1, Wildavsky chapter 1, Empirics and basics: Axelrod chapter 1, Kauppi, H, and M Widgren. (2004): "What Determines EU Decision Making? Needs, Power or Both?" ECONOMIC POLICY, 39: 221-58. (‘how the EU budget is generated II’)


12) Wrapping Up: How to make public administration smart?
To be confirmed