

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS 2160: EXPLORING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**  
**FALL 2018 SYLLABUS**  
**1 CREDIT HOUR**

**Instructor and Course Information:**

**Instructor:**

Mr. Chris Adams  
Director Student Services  
John Glenn College of Public Affairs  
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**Office Hours:** By appointment; please call 614-292-9633

**Class number:** 28364

**Location:** 010, Page Hall

**Class meetings:** Mondays, 4:10pm-5:05pm

**Course Overview:**

Public Affairs 2160 provides an overview of public affairs as a discipline, and exposes students in the John Glenn Civic Leadership Community to different career opportunities in relevant fields. The course will explore the legacy of Senator John Glenn through the following lenses: public service, public policy, civic engagement, and leadership. The course draws upon the experiences of faculty and practicing professionals, providing perspectives about public affairs in both traditional and nontraditional career paths. In addition to in-class meetings, other activities associated with the John Glenn Civic Leadership Community are incorporated into the class curriculum.

Course material is available online through the course website, [www.carmen.osu.edu](http://www.carmen.osu.edu).

**Course Objectives:**

Upon the completion of this course students should:

- Have a greater connection to the Learning Community and Glenn College
- Develop an appreciation for public service and the legacy of Senator John Glenn
- Gain an understanding of the difference between politics and policy
- Develop their potential as leaders in public service
- Be comfortable having in-depth discussions about relevant public policy topics

**The John Glenn College of Public Affairs**

The John Glenn College of Public Affairs is an academic unit at The Ohio State University that offers coursework at the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels in Public Affairs, the interconnection between policy making and the management of the organizations and networks of organizations that tackle public problems. At the undergraduate level, the College offers courses for bachelor of arts and sciences degrees, along with courses that count toward Ohio State's Leadership Studies and Nonprofit Studies, Public Policy, and Science, Engineering, and Public Policy minors.

## Required Texts and Availability

*John Glenn: a Memoir* by John Glenn with Nick Taylor. ISBN: 0-553-11074-8. Available for purchase via iBooks or Amazon.

Additional articles and reading posted to course Carmen website

As much the content of this course will be informed by the pressing policy matters of the day, it is imperative that students maintain a keen awareness of current events. Students are encouraged to follow one or more news sources on a regular basis. Examples include *The New York Times*; *The Economist*; *The Columbus Dispatch*; CNN.com; Politico; NPR, etc.

## Web Resources

[www.glenn.osu.edu](http://www.glenn.osu.edu) : John Glenn College of Public Affairs

[www.carmen.osu.edu](http://www.carmen.osu.edu) : Carmen

## Academic Honesty Policy

As members of a University community, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic honesty in all course work. Penalties for plagiarism, cheating, or other acts of academic dishonesty may include receiving a failing grade, dismissal from the University, or revocation of degree. More information can be found in *The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct*.

## ADA Statement

Students who have documented any learning disabilities with the Office of Disability Services are encouraged to meet with the course instructors to discuss arrangements for any approved accommodations. Please contact the Office of Disability Services at 292-3307 if you have any questions. Students requiring modified versions of written materials (large print, Braille, tape, etc.), class modifications (e.g. American Sign Language), or an alternate format for submission of written materials, please privately contact one of the instructors. Every effort will be made to work with you to accommodate your specific learning needs.

## Mental Health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know is suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the **Office of Student Life Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS)** by visiting [ccs.osu.edu](http://ccs.osu.edu) or calling 614-292- 5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 4th Floor of the PAES Building. 24 hour emergency help is also

available through the National 24/7 Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

## Glenn College Diversity Values

The Glenn College is committed to nurturing a diverse and inclusive environment for our students, faculty, staff, and guests that celebrates the fundamental value and dignity of everyone by recognizing differences and supporting individuality. We are dedicated to creating a safe space and promoting civil discourse that acknowledges and embraces diverse perspectives on issues and challenges that affect our community.

## Assignments

Public Affairs 2160 is graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory(S/U). In order to earn a satisfactory grade, you must earn a **minimum of 80 out of a possible 100 points**. You are expected to hand in all assignments on time.

Item	Points	Due
Class Attendance	28 (2 points per week)	Each week
JGLC Event Attendance	50 points	See JGLC Schedule and point breakdown
Current Events Memos	12 points (4 memos, 3 points each)	Due to Carmen drop box at 5:00pm the Sunday before each class meeting
Final Paper	10 points	Due to Carmen drop box on December 16 at 11:59 pm
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>	

## Brief Description of Assignments

### Class Attendance (28 points)

Class attendance is required, and consists of the following expectations:

- Attendance at each class session for the entire class meeting period.
- Completion of reading assignments prior to the class for which they are assigned.
- Contribution to class discussions, including participation in class activities.
- Refraining from disruptive behavior, including but not limited to texting, tweeting, emailing, and visiting websites not related to the course content.

### Guest Speakers

Throughout the semester we will have a number of guest speakers attend class to present on a variety of topics related to Public Affairs. These individuals include Glenn College faculty members as well as practitioners in public service, and they all are eager to impart their knowledge to you. You will be expected to attend class for each presentation, listen intently, and participate in the discussion.

### Event Participation (50 points)

The John Glenn Civic Leadership Community is based on the four pillars of Academics, Policy, Service and Community. The CLC staff strives to provide co-curricular programming based on all

four pillars, as we feel that such programming is essential part of a well-rounded college experience. We recognize that students may be particularly passionate about one or more pillars, and this course will allow you to choose a combination of activities that best fit with your individual interests. You will receive points for your participation in various Civic Leadership Community events throughout the semester. Different events will be worth a different number of points. Please see the Glenn College fall calendar for the list of programs and point values. In order to earn points, you must stay for the duration of each event. Relevant events from outside organizations may also be counted, pending instructor approval. You must earn **50** event points in order to pass this class.

### Current Event Memos (12 points)

Senator Glenn believed that the success of our democracy is dependent on citizens being informed about world events, and engaged in their communities. To this end, four class meetings will be dedicated to discussion of current events and pressing public policy issues. Three topics will be assigned in advance, and the fourth will be your choice. You will research each topic and produce a 1-2 page double-spaced memo that outlines the issue. In your memo, you should explain the issue in your own words, discuss the policy alternatives and implications, and provide your analysis. You should not simply summarize an article. You may however use many news sources you would like in your analysis, but please be sure to site them. Each memo will be due to the Carmen dropbox by 5:00pm the Sunday before the class meets.

### Final Paper (10 points)

This assignment involves an exploration of public affairs, public policy, leadership, and civic engagement. In this two-page paper, students will be asked to define their understanding of public affairs and the legacy of Senator John Glenn. In the first half of this paper, you should write about your understanding of public affairs, synthesizing what you have learned from class discussions and readings. In the second half of the paper, respond to these three questions:

- ❑ What have you learned about public affairs as a field?
- ❑ How will you link Senator Glenn's legacy to your on involvement with public service?
- ❑ What are your goals for the John Glenn Learning Community in the second half of the year?

Your paper will be evaluated based on quality of content, depth of coverage, and writing mechanics. This paper is due on **December 16 at 11:59 pm** to the Carmen drop box.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings/Guest Speaker
1	8/27/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• Course overview</li> <li>• Introduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set ground rules for class discussions</li> </ul>
	9/3/2018	Labor Day—NO CLASS	
2	9/10/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legacy of Senator John Glenn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please complete <i>John Glenn: A Memoir</i> by this date</li> <li>• Guest speaker: Trevor Brown, Dean John Glenn College of Public Affairs</li> </ul>
3	9/17/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Policy and Politics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Kraft and Furlong Chapter 1: Public Policy and Politics</i></li> </ul>
4	9/24/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guest Speaker: Dr. Don Stenta</li> </ul>

5	10/1/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careers in Public Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guest Speaker: Allie Hutchison, Glenn College Career Advisor</li> </ul>
6	10/8/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current Events Discussion</li> <li>Topic TBA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memos due by 5:00pm on 10/7</li> </ul>
7	10/15/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Benefits of Volunteerism, if the Service Is Real, New York Times</i></li> </ul>
8	10/22/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Civic Engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Komives and Wagner Chapter 5: Citizenship</i></li> </ul>
9	10/29/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Election 2018 Preview</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guest Speaker: Professor Herb Asher</li> </ul>
10	11/5/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current Events Discussion</li> <li>Topic: Election 2018</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memos due by 5:00pm on 11/4</li> <li>VOTE ON ELECTION DAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</li> </ul>
11	11/12/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Class: Veterans Day Observed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service Project at Mid-Ohio Foodbank</li> </ul>
12	11/19/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current Events Discussion</li> <li>Topic TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memos due by 5:00pm on 11/18</li> </ul>
13	11/26/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current Events Discussion</li> <li>Topic: Student Choice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memos due by 5:00pm on 11/25</li> </ul>
14	12/3/2018	Holiday Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet in Busch House</li> </ul>