

## PAF591 New Course (Course # 84671): Fall 2008



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

*Analysis for Adaptive Complex Public Enterprises.....*

# Complexity in Public Policy & Management

The objective of this seminar is to examine complexity in public enterprises. The course will cover the key properties of complexity sciences, especially those that provide insights for public policy and management. Students will have an opportunity to develop alternative perspectives that are necessary to define and critically analyze complex problems right now.

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That the world we inhabit is complex is not a new idea. The novelty is that (1) we now have a better understanding of complexity and chaos, (2) we have an enhanced ontology to name, represent and explain the underlying concepts, (3) we now also have the computational capacity and wherewithal to model these complexities and generate simulations that mimic some of the complexities that we have observed, and (4) we are beginning to acquire an ability to generate plausible futures, without necessarily being able to predict precise outcomes. This course invites you to this new adventure.

■ Class Hours  
**Thu., 5:40-8:30 pm**

■ Class Location  
**UCENT 253**  
411 N. CENTRAL AVE  
PHOENIX, AZ 85004

Instructor  
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### Schedule of Topics\*

Week 1	8/28	Introduction
Week 2	9/4	Built and Natural Systems
Week 3	9/11	Scale
Week 4	9/18	Emergence
Week 5	9/25	Complexity
Week 6	10/2	Wicked Problems <i>Nan Ellin, Associate Professor (Integral Urbanism)</i>
Week 7	10/9	Rationality
Week 8	10/16	Network <i>Edgar Ramirez, Assistant Professor (Network Analysis)</i>
Week 9	10/23	Epistemology
Week 10	10/30	Modeling <i>Erik Johnston, Assistant Professor (Agent-Based Modeling)</i>
Week 11	11/6	No Class
Week 12	11/13	Complexity and Organization <i>Rick Shangraw, Vice President (Complex Adaptive Systems)</i>
Week 13	11/20	Complexity and Management
Week 14	11/27	No Class
Week 15	12/4	Complexity and Policy Analysis
Week 16	12/11	Discussion

\* The schedule is subject to change.

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