**Course Title: Jump-starting the Wagner Classroom Experience**

All sessions will be held in Room #101 19 West 4th Street

Course Description:

This non-credit course is an opportunity for all incoming Wagner students to jump-start their academic journey relative to both the foundational content as well as the classroom experience of Wagner graduate coursework. It is required of all students who did not complete their bachelor's degree at a four-year institution in the U.S. and is open to all entering Wagner students.

The course aims to achieve four objectives:

* Create the foundation for an open, inclusive classroom experience where people can share and learn from the diverse educational and professional experiences students bring to the classroom.
* Familiarize students with the type of active learning approaches typical of the Wagner classroom, including developing critical thinking skills, active dialogue and discussion, case studies, and group projects.
* Ensure students have basic familiarity with the institutional and political dynamics at the core of the U.S. political system, understand how the U.S. system differs in significant ways from other political systems, and acquaint students with basic knowledge of the U.S. nonprofit sector.
* Expose students to some core competencies and expectations in terms of professional communication, both written and verbal.

This class will work best if you come prepared, be actively engaged in lectures, discussions, and classroom exercises, and bring questions to share with the class.

**Please pay close attention to the meeting times for each session, as the class does not mean at the same time every day.**

**DAY 1 Thursday, August 22, 2024 3:00-6:00 PM**

**DAY 2 Monday, August 26, 2024 3:30-5:30 PM**

**DAY 3 Tuesday, August 27, 2024 6:45-8:30 PM**

**DAY 4 Wednesday, August 28, 2024 6:45-8:30 PM**

**DAY 5 Thursday, August 29, 2024 3:30-5:30 PM**

**DAY 1 Thursday, August 22, 2024 3:00-6:00 PM**

**Introduction to the Wagner Way**

Cover:

3:00-4:00 Reflective Practice and Active Learning

An Introduction to the Wagner Way

Intentional, Active Learning

Bloom’s Revised Taxonomy

Academic Integrity

Top Twelve Tips to Success

Writing Overview and AI - (Thom Blaylock)

Student Panel – One Hour (facilitated discussion with several students and alumni – and open questions)

**DAY 2 Monday, August 26, 2024 3:30-5:30 PM**

**HOMEWORK: Submit questions about US Political institutions, politics and policymaking by Sunday, August 25, 8 PM**

**If you are taking Introduction to Public Policy in the Fall, try to complete at least part of the online American Government tutorial by the beginning of class**

**Read Learning Through the Case Method and the background to the Orsan Case**

**Professor Katherine O’Regan: Overcoming Math Anxiety and Waiving Core Quantitative Courses**

**Discussion: Orsan Simulation**

**Lecture and Discussion: US Political Institutions and Policy**

**DAY 3 Tuesday, August 27, 2024 6:45-8:30 PM**

**Homework: Submit any questions about the US Nonprofit sector by Tuesday, August 27 at 9 AM**

**Read: Leading Civic Engagement Case**

**Case Discussion:** Leading Civic Engagement

**Lecture and Discussion**: US Institutions and Policy and Nonprofit Organizations

* Complete U.S. Political Institutions and Policymaking
* The role of nonprofit organizations

**DAY 4 Wednesday, August 28, 2024 6:45-8:30 PM (Thom Blaylock and Carol Choi)**

Overview of Library and Date Services (Carol Choi)

Basic Communication Skills and How to Develop Them (Thom Blaylock)

* Writing (memos, op-eds)
* Presenting

**DAY 5 Thursday, August 29, 2024 3:30-5:30 PM**

**Professor Judy Pryor-Ramirez on Teams and Teamwork**

**Homework: Read Mothers of Rotterdam Case**

**Wrap-Up**