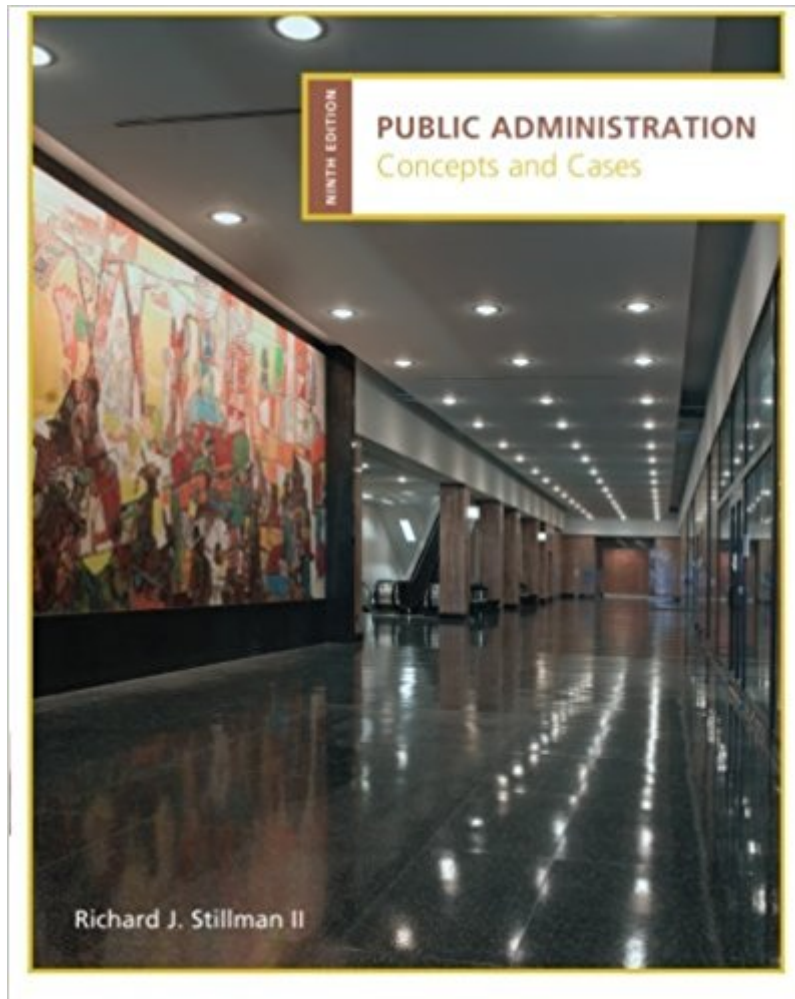


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Public Administration: Concepts And Cases



Synopsis

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: CONCEPTS AND CASES offers a unique and highly regarded framework in which conceptual readings are paired with contemporary case studies that reflect real-world examples of administrative work, as well as new thinking and developments in the field. Case studies and examples cover topics such as the Columbia space shuttle disaster, the shootings at Columbine High School, and the war in Iraq--making it easy to engage students in the readings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am still plowing through this textbook -- and often it isn't fun going. Most of this is hardly author Stillman's fault: It's the deadly disease of "scholar-ese" which infects most of the "professional" public administrator essays collected here that is to blame. After all, why go to the effort of citing an illustrative example -- or helpfully, three -- when you can craft sentences like the following?"Third, there has been an erosion of institutionalized, systemic analysis in the intergovernmental system and a concomitant increase in instrumental advocacy." By the time you figure out what the heck the essay writer meant, you barely care anymore....Stillman does have the innate good sense to always pair this scholarly mud with much more lively (and usually much better written) "cases" that help illustrate the veritable delta of silt that went before. That explains why this tome is on its 9th edition. But who on earth proofed this latest version!? Sloppy, sloppy! The book is filled with unforgivable spelling errors -- many of the kind only a human would catch, while others are errors

even a lowly Word spell checker would snag. In short, I'm only reading it because I have to. Sigh.

I've come to have a high level of confidence in ; sadly this book tarnished it a bit. Out of the 15 chapters I have to read for my course, 5 of the case studies have not had their copyright approved for the digital edition so they are missing - completely. This requires additional work on my end to find alternative copies, and at the price is charging, I expect a full book, not a partial copy. should take this off the Kindle area. I don't know what kind of partnership or screening process is in place, but only full content copies should be offered, or partial copies should be offered at a fraction of the price, based on how much of the book is missing.

I wish I'd read the previous reviews, so I wouldn't feel like an idiot everytime I had to wade through the muck of three long, non-sensical chapters for class every week. However, I didn't have a choice of text book, so I'd have to purchase it, regardless. BEWARE the Kindle edition -- most of the case studies, including one I had to present, are missing, due to copyright issues. Fortunately for me, the week I was presenting, there was a book left in the campus bookstore. But I was not wise enough to flip through my Kindle version and check how many other case studies were missing. I'd say it's about 1/2-2/3. The book store no longer has a copy of this and I'll be damned if I'm going to pay another \$90 for this POS. If you like paying \$10 more for the Kindle version, with less content, for convenience, just make sure you copy the missing case studies as needed. Also, the book can only be read on an iPad, or, (I think) a Kindle Fire. If there's anything worse than reading this book, it's reading it on a high glare screen because someone working for the publisher was an idiot and decided to restrict use.

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WARNING FOR THE ELECTRONIC VERSIONFirst off, this book is what it is. It is a book about public administration and actual case studies to show how it works in the real world. The book is hard to read, but that is kind of expected due to the topic. My real reason for giving it only 1 star is because the electronic version is missing the case study sections for chapters 5, 6, 9, 13, and 15 due to "copyright issues." So half of my assigned reading could not be completed for the semester. I rented the electronic copy, so maybe it's only an issue for renters, but it needed to state that information somewhere on the product page because I would have purchased the actual textbook.

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