



Innovative City Governance

Fall 2020 - Victoria Alsina

This is an introductory course to urban governance and current innovation trends. Urban governance comprises the various forces, institutions, and movements that guide economic, politic, social and physical development, the distribution of resources, social interactions, and other aspects of daily life in urban areas. Public-sector innovation is indispensable to solve the complex urban challenges we are facing and can bring significant improvements in the services that the government has a responsibility to provide, including those delivered by third parties. Following a Discovery-Design-Delivery approach, students will learn the complex nature of cities, different strategies to solve public problems, how urban administration works and how public policies are crafted, how we can promote urban governance innovation, why collaboration is a must and which are the best tactics to promote effective public-private partnerships and networks, how we can support public engagement at all stages of the policymaking cycle, how to promote effective communications using current technology available, ethical issues that may arise when applying analytics to policy problems, how we can connect artificial and collective intelligence, and different approaches to measuring organizational performance. This course will help students to become public entrepreneurs that know how to effectively deliver data projects into an urban environment.

- **Lecture 1.** Urban governance: understanding the complex nature of cities
- **Lecture 2.** Solving public problems
- **Lecture 3.** Understanding urban administration and urban policies
- **Lecture 4.** Urban and public sector innovation
- **Lecture 5.** Why collaboration: public-private partnerships and networks to create public value
- **Lecture 6.** Why public engagement: collective intelligence and open innovation at all stages of the policymaking cycle
- **Lecture 7.** Effective communications and technology
- **Lecture 8.** Ethical issues when applying analytics to policy problems
- **Lecture 9.** Connecting artificial intelligence with collective intelligence
- **Lecture 10.** Measuring organizational performance and social auditing
- **Lecture 11.** How to be a public entrepreneur, part I
- **Lecture 12.** How to be a public entrepreneur, part II

Before each session the student will need to do previous readings and/or watch videos and/or review web pages. The class is in a lecture/discussion format and each session includes:

- Frameworks, examining key concepts and ideas as they have evolved over time.
- Situations, reviewing real case studies.
- Reflections, analyzing how to apply all key learnings to current and future challenges.
- Solutions, framing new ideas that might help public and private organizations and professionals interested to promote blended collaborative and participatory projects, using data.

Course activities will include: master classes, guest lectures, role-playing activities, debates around hot topics, student presentations and other in-class exercises.