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Understanding And Managing Public Organizations

HAL G. RAINEY

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ORGANIZATIONS
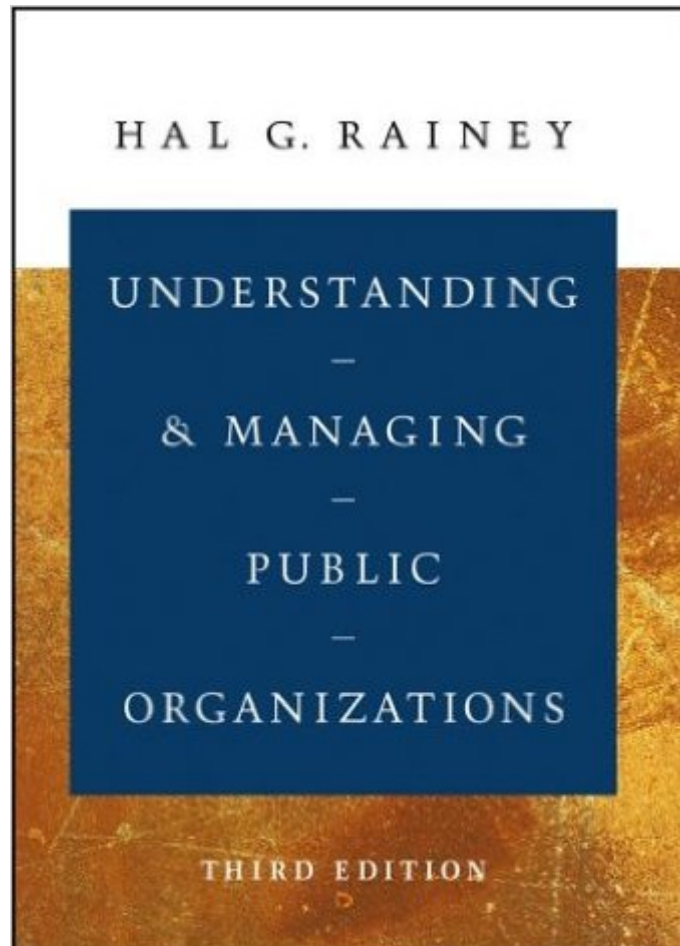
THIRD EDITION

Synopsis

In the third edition of his award-winning book, Hal G. Rainey provides a comprehensive, up-to-date analysis of research on public organizations and management. Drawing on a review of the most current research about government organizations and managersâ " and about effective and ineffective practices in governmentâ " this important resource offers specific suggestions for managing these challenges in today's public organizations. Using illustrative, real-life vignettes and examples, the book provides expert analysis of organizational design, goals, power, effectiveness, leadership, motivation and work attitudes, decisionmaking, and more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This textbook was required for my Masters of Public Administration class in Organizational Management and Change. The author did extensive research into the concepts and provides a wealth of information. He does have a tendency to preview chapters from within other chapters; this is somewhat distracting because you're never sure when you will get all the information.

Used as a textbook for MPA program. Good overview of PA theories and preconceptions. Does not address the need to deconstruct social norms to focus on desired outcomes. Theory and studies are reviewed in this textbook. The chapters are short and sufficient). However, it is not completely thorough and detailed.Will I keep it as a resource - probably.Will I use it in the future (in daily practice) - probably not.

As a PA student, I realized that this text was essential to the basic understanding of Public Administration. It gives basic theoretical knowledge and analytical skills to practice contemporary public management. Each chapter builds from the next. I used this text book as one of my FIRST resources when I began the Public Administration curriculum and I found it very helpful. It helped me comprehend how to improve the overall effectiveness of governmental operations with concepts such as "value driven management". It's a winner!

Dry and extremely difficult to follow. The most annoying aspect is that the book has no chapter "summary" sections. This was the worst textbook I've read in a long time.

Used in conjunction with Classics of Organizational Theory. The text can be a little difficult to follow at times but the material is quality.

I have purchased a number of online textbooks, and I have to admit this is a first for me. There are no page numbers, and no way to view them. The Professor assigns reading assignments by page number, so I constantly have to get with classmates to determine what I am expected to read. Very inconvenient!

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