

# **TL 786 Public Transportation - Spring Semester 2013 Online Version (3 credit hours).**

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## **Instructors and contact information**

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## **Course description**

This course focuses on public transportation issues and models used in urban and rural settings. The course is divided into seven modules: The history, governance, planning and design, service delivery, management, trends, and future of Public Transportation .Students will work on projects directly related to transit systems. Each student will be assigned an industry mentor.

## **Course objectives**

The objective of this course is to provide the student with an understanding and knowledge of the history, policy, and practices within the public transportation industry.

To provide an introduction to employment opportunities in the transit industry for those students with career interests in the area.

## **Course content - See calendar of events**

## **Evaluation procedures and criteria**

The course grade will be determined from on-line / in-class discussions and a final project / paper.

The assignments and papers will be weighted as follows

Seminar – student led discussion online	35 percent
Homework assignments	35 percent
Final paper / project / or Exam	30 percent

The following scale will be used to assign letter grades.

Numerical Score	Letter Grade
90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

**Note:** Students with disabilities or other special needs that require different accommodations are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructors as soon as possible.

Date	Topic
Week 1 January 14th	The History of Public Transportation Videos: <i>Divided Highways</i> and <i>Trolley's: The Cars that Built America</i>
Week 2 January 21 (Holiday)	Module 1 What is Public Transportation? The History of Public Transportation; and The Business of Public Transportation
Week 3 January 28	Module 2 Governance and Organizational Structure; Funding and Economics; and ADA / Civil Rights
Week 3 February 4	Module 2 Continued Social Change and Justice; and Environmental Sustainability and Livability
Week 4 February 11	Module 3 Travel Behavior and Transit Travel Demand; and Modal Characteristics and Impacts;
Week 5 February 18 (Holiday)	Module 3 Continued Network Planning; and Corridor Planning and Analysis of Alternatives <b>Seminar</b>
Week 6 February 25	Module 3 Continued Transit-Oriented Development: Coordinating Public Transportation and Land Use **Introduce Mentor Program** <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 7 March 4	Module 4 Service Planning, Operations Planning and Scheduling; Families of Service; and Operations <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 8 March 11	NDSU Spring Break

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 9 March 18	Module 4 Continued Human Service Transportation; Rural Transportation; and Marketing <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 10 March 25	Module 5 - Management: Organizational Models; Functions Performed by Transit Management; and Internal and External Stakeholders <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 11 April 1	Module 5 Continued Performance Measurement and Benchmarking; Organized Labor in a Transit Operation; and Ethical Challenges <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 12 April 8	Module 6 Public Transit Trends and New Paradigms <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 13 April 15	Module 6 - Public Transit Trends: Technology in Transit; Impacts and Responses to External Factors <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 14 April 22	Module 7 Future of Public Transit <b>Seminar -</b>
Week 15 April 29	<b>Complete Seminars</b>
Week 16 May 6	Final paper / Project / or Exam

## Required student resources

Students must have access to a computer and the internet. The instructor's lecture notes will be made available. Additional references will be identified on the web.

No textbook is required for this course - handouts will be made available.

## Academic honesty

All work in this course must be completed in a manner consistent with NDSU University Senate Policy, Section 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct at – <http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy/335.htm>.