

## Midterm Exam

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I. Concept identifications: 25 minutes (approx.), 40 points total

**DIRECTIONS:** Select 5 of the following 6 concepts. In approximately 3-4 sentences (but no more), define each concept and illustrate its significance by relating it to public administration in a specific policy area of your choosing.

- craft agency
- delegation chain
- critical tasks
- standing
- interest group agency
- police patrol oversight

### II. Essay: 50 minutes (approx.), 60 points total

**DIRECTIONS:** Respond to the following essay question. The best answers will offer developed and on-point coverage of all parts of the question; draw accurately, appropriately, and clearly on theoretical concepts from readings and lecture; and apply concrete examples frequently, accurately, appropriately, and clearly. Grammar and spelling mistakes won't hurt you unless they are so serious that they hamper my ability to understand your answer.

**QUESTION:** Consider three of the following four ideas: (1) organizational culture, (2) structure, (3) bounded rationality, (4) principal-agent relationship.

Using the three ideas you have chosen as points of comparison, write an essay in which you defend one of the following statements.

Option 1. Public administrators in *Thirteen Days* faced more difficult administrative challenges than public administrators in *The Plane Truth*.

Option 2. Public administrators in *The Plane Truth* faced more difficult administrative challenges than public administrators in *Thirteen Days*.

#### **HINTS:**

- To help you focus, feel free to restrict your answer to a specific type or set of administrators in *Thirteen Days* and *The Plane Truth*. In other words, you do not have to incorporate all of the administrators from both books into your answer.
- Be sure to actually compare the two books when you answer this question. In other words, don't just explain why administrators in one book faced difficult challenges and then ignore the administrators in the other book. The best answers will directly compare the books to one another.