

SYLLABUS FOR TES-1170

Funding Your Public Service Passion

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Working in public service is challenging—complex problems, public demands, and emotional strain can take their toll—yet public servants persist because serving others matters. This course examines money not as a necessary evil, but as a vital tool that sustains that call to serve and connects communities to public mission. Students will learn about the range of nonprofit organizations from small faith communities to large institutions, local and global, and the diverse methods used to fund them. By understanding the advantages, disadvantages, and tax implications of each approach, students will be equipped to lead effectively and secure the resources needed to make a lasting impact.

COURSE TOPICS

- What is a nonprofit?
- Why should anyone care about your passion?
- Funding nonprofits with volunteers and voluntary gifts
- Funding nonprofits with grants
- Funding nonprofits by leveraging deliverables
- Funding nonprofits through business revenue

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- CO 1** Explain what nonprofit organizations are, why they exist, and how they are organized.
- CO 2** Address the benefits of nonprofit organizations.
- CO 3** Summarize the impact of voluntary gifts and volunteer work in nonprofit programs.
- CO 4** Identify how nonprofits are funded through foundation, corporate, and government grants.
- CO 5** Describe the importance of various deliverables in funding nonprofit programs.

CO 6 Explain how nonprofits can develop business revenue to fund their programs.

CO 7 Recommend revenue generation methods that work best for a chosen nonprofit organization.

COURSE MATERIALS

There is no required textbook for this course. All necessary readings are provided in the module details documents under study materials. Some materials may be free, open source, or available from other providers. You can access free or open-source materials by clicking the links in the module details documents.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Funding Your Public Service Passion is a 1-credit, online course consisting of six modules. Modules include an overview, topics, learning objectives, study materials, and activities. Module titles are listed below.

- **Module 1: Nonprofits, Your Nonprofit, and Your Passion**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 1, CO 2
- **Module 2: Enlisting Volunteers**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 3
- **Module 3: Charitable Gift Fundraising**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 3
- **Module 4: Grant Preparedness**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 4
- **Module 5: Funding with Deliverables**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 5
- **Module 6: Business Revenue**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO 6, CO 7

ASSESSMENT METHODS

For your formal work in the course, you are required to participate in online discussion forums and complete assignments. See below for details.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.

Promoting Originality—One or more of your course activities may utilize a tool designed to promote original work and evaluate your submissions for plagiarism. More information about this tool is available in [this document](#).



Discussion Forums

You are required to complete **five** discussion forums. The discussion forums allow you to share your learning with your classmates and apply concepts. There is also one ungraded but required Introductions Forum in Module 1.

Communication with your mentor and among fellow students is a critical component of online learning. Participation in online class discussions involves two distinct activities: an initial response to a discussion question and at least two subsequent comments on classmates' responses.

All of these responses must be substantial. Meaningful participation is relevant to the content, adds value, and advances the discussion. Comments such as "I agree" and "ditto" are not considered value-adding participation. Therefore, when you agree or disagree with a classmate or your mentor, state and support your position.

You will be evaluated on the quality and quantity of your participation, including your use of relevant course information to support your point of view, and your awareness of and responses to the postings of your classmates. Remember, these are discussions: responses and comments should be properly proofread and edited, mature, and respectful.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.



Assignments

You are required to complete **five** assignments. The assignments are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules. Refer to the individual modules for details and requirements.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- **Online discussions (5)**—40%
- **Assignments (5)**—60%

All activities will receive a numerical grade of 0–100. You will receive a score of 0 for any work not submitted. Your final grade in the course will be a letter grade. Letter grade equivalents for numerical grades are as follows:

A	= 93–100	C+	= 78–79
A–	= 90–92	C	= 73–77
B+	= 88–89	C–	= 70–72
B	= 83–87	D	= 60–69
B–	= 80–82	F	= Below 60

To receive credit for the course, you must earn a letter grade of C or better (for an area of study course) or D or better (for a course not in your area of study), based on the weighted average of all assigned course work (e.g., exams, assignments, discussion postings).

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

First Steps to Success

To succeed in this course, take the following first steps:

- Read carefully the entire Syllabus, making sure that all aspects of the course are clear to you and that you have all the materials required for the course.
- Take time to read the entire Online Student Handbook. The Handbook answers many questions about how to proceed through the course, and how to get the most from your educational experience at Thomas Edison State University.
- Familiarize yourself with the learning management systems environment—how to navigate it and what the various course areas contain. If you know what to expect as you navigate the course, you can better pace yourself and complete the work on time.
- If you are not familiar with web-based learning, be sure to review the processes for posting responses online and submitting assignments before class begins.

Study Tips

Consider the following study tips for success:

- To stay on track throughout the course, begin each week by consulting the Course Calendar. The Course Calendar provides an overview of the course and indicates due dates for submitting assignments, posting discussions, and submitting the final project.
- Check Announcements regularly for new course information.

Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students

TESU's [Academic Code of Conduct](#) permits student AI use in support of their writing and research process—not as a replacement for original writing. Document AI use with an acknowledgment statement at the end of each assignment, noting the tools and prompts used. Cite any AI-generated content on the References page. Please review [Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students](#) for more detailed information.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Thomas Edison State University recognizes, values, and relies upon the diversity of our community. We strive to provide equitable, inclusive learning experiences that embrace our students' backgrounds, identities, experiences, abilities, and expertise.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Thomas Edison State University adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, 1990; ADAAA, 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) oversees requests for academic accommodations related to disabilities; a student who is pregnant, postpartum, or a student parenting a newborn who is not the birth parent [as covered under NJSA18A]; and students requesting academic accommodation for a short-term/temporary illness and/or injury. Information can be found on the [Office of Student Accessibility Services](#) web page and questions can be sent to ADA@tesu.edu.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

To ensure success in all your academic endeavors and coursework at Thomas Edison State University, familiarize yourself with all administrative and academic policies including those related to academic integrity, course late submissions, course extensions, and grading policies.

For more, see:

- [University-wide policies](#)
- [Undergraduate academic policies](#)
- [Undergraduate course policies](#)
- [Graduate academic policies](#)
- [Graduate course policies](#)
- [Nursing student policies](#)
- [Nursing graduate student policies](#)

- [International student policies](#)
- [Academic code of conduct](#)