



The 21st Century Public Manager

Zeger van der Wal

Macmillan Education UK

Ebook	9781137507440	£24.99 / \$47.99
Hardcover	9781137507433	£75.00 / \$120.00
Paperback	9781137507426	£29.99 / \$47.99

Truly global in scope and ambition, the *21st Century Public Manager* addresses key trends, challenges, and opportunities facing public managers across contexts and regimes. This accessible textbook aims to inspire public managers in rethinking their roles, skills, and values as they enter a VUCA world—one characterized by volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity. It is written for aspiring and current public managers in graduate schools and executive education programs.

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'van der Wal has delivered the book that many of us who work with public managers, both in the classroom and the boardroom, have been waiting for. He speaks directly to students of public management in this accessible, readable and dare we say it, inspirational book; a book that will become *the* text for those of us who strive to help public managers make sense of their world, and make a difference in it.' **Janine O'Flynn**, *University of Melbourne, Australia*

'*The 21st Century Public Management* provides an excellent overview of contemporary research and theory in public management and is more forward looking than any recent book on the topic. The author blends public management theory with theories from other relevant fields, in a manner that is not only intellectually satisfying but also accessible and relevant for the strategic public manager. This book should be in the collection of any serious public management scholar and will also be of great value to public management students and practitioners.' **Barry Bozeman**, *Arizona State University, USA*

'*The 21st Century Public Manager* arms students of public management with the insights to deal with the government of the future. It thoughtfully makes sense of the challenges of an interconnected world, like big data, and global crises. The result is a thoroughly modern and engaging reframing of the job for the public manager ready to serve a more knowledgeable and demanding public.' – **Donald P. Moynihan**, *La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA*