

Political Science W3208: State Politics
Spring 2013
Tuesday and Thursday, 10:10 – 11:25 am
Room TBA

Professor Justin Phillips
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733 International Affairs Building
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:30-4 pm
& by appointment

Course Requirements: In addition to regularly attending class, students are required to complete the following:

Midterm: The midterm exam will be given in class on Thursday, March 7th. The exam will consist of short answer and essay questions. Questions on the midterm will be drawn in equal parts from the lecture and reading materials. The midterm will count as 35% of the course grade.

Research paper: Each student must complete a 10 to 15 page research paper. I will provide a list of paper topics from which you may choose or you may supply a topic of your own (providing that this topic is *pre-approved* by either myself or a TA). Students are required to turn in a one-page proposal for their paper on Thursday, March 14th. This summary should include a thesis statement, outline of the paper, and preliminary list of sources. The final paper is due at the beginning of class on Thursday, May 2nd. The paper proposal will count as 5% of the overall grade for the class and the final paper will count as 25%. I strongly encourage students to use Strunk and White's *Elements of Style* as a guide for their writing.

Final: The final exam will be given on the day and time assigned by the University's final exam schedule. The exam will consist of short answer and essay questions. Questions on the final will be drawn in equal parts from the lecture and reading materials. The final exam will count as 35% of the overall grade for the class.

Note: Make-up examinations are given *only* for University-approved absences.

Teaching assistants: There will be no discussion sections in this course. However, we have two teaching assistants who will be available to answer your questions. They will hold office hours prior to exams and prior to the due dates for all written assignments.

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Readings

Course Packet: (available at the Village Copier on the corner of Amsterdam & 118th)

Books:

Political Parties and Elections in American States by Malcolm E. Jewell and Sarah M. Morehouse. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press. (available at Book Culture, 536 West 112th Street)

The Power of American Governors: Winning on Budgets and Losing on Policy by Thad Kousser and Justin Phillips. New York: Cambridge University Press. (available at Book Culture, 536 West 112th Street)

CourseWorks: Many of the readings for this course will only be available online through Courseworks (<https://courseworks.columbia.edu/>). These readings are posted under “Class Files.”

COURSE OUTLINE

I. AMERICAN FEDERALISM

January 22nd: Overview (no assignments)

January 24th: Why Federalism?

- (1) The Federalist Papers, #6, 9, 15, 32, 33, 39, 44, 45, 46, 51, 78 (CourseWorks)
- (2) Alexis de Tocqueville, “What Distinguishes the Federal Constitution of the United States of America from Other Federal Constitutions.” (Course packet)
- (3) Alexis de Tocqueville, “Advantages of the Federal System in General and its Special Usefulness in America.” (Course packet)

January 29th: The State-Federal Relationship I

- (1) Walker, David B. 2000. *The Rebirth of Federalism*. New York: Chatham House Publishers. Chapters 3, 4, & 5. (Course packet)

January 31st: The State-Federal Relationship II

- (1) Derthick, Martha. 2000. “Ways of Achieving Federal Objectives,” in *American Intergovernmental Relations: Foundations, Perspectives, and Issues*. Laurence J. O’Toole, Jr. Ed. Washington, D.C.: C Press. (Course packet)
- (2) Perlman, Ellen. 2000. “The Gorilla That Swallows State Laws,” in *American Intergovernmental Relations: Foundations, Perspectives, and Issues*. Laurence J. O’Toole, Jr. Ed. Washington, D.C.: C Press. (Course packet)

- (3) Gamkhar, Shama and J. Mitchell Pickerill. 2012. "The State of American Federalism 2011-12: A Fend for Yourself and Activist Form of Bottom Up Federalism," *Publius* 42(3):357-86. (CourseWorks)

February 5th: Interstate Relations I: Competition

- (1) Shannon, John. 1991. "Federalism's 'Invisible Regulator' – Interjurisdictional Competition." In Kenyon, Daphne A. and John Kincaid, eds. *Competition among States and Local Governments: Efficiency and Equity in American Federalism*. Washington, D.C: The Urban Institute Press. (Course packet)
- (2) Mintrom, Michael. 2008. "Competitive Federalism and Governance of Controversial Science," *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 39(4): 606-31. (CourseWorks)
- (3) Story, Louise. 2012. "As Companies Seek Tax Deals, Governments Pay High Price," *New York Times*. December 1st. http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/02/us/how-local-taxpayers-bankroll-corporations.html?hp&_r=2&

February 7th: Interstate Relations II: Cooperation

- (1) Doig, James W. 2001. *Empire on the Hudson: Entrepreneurial Vision and Political Power at the Port of New York Authority*. New York: Columbia University Press. Chapters 2, 3, & Appendix. (Course packet)

February 12th: State-Local Relations

- (1) Sokolow, Alvin D. 1998. "The Changing Property Tax and State-Local Relations," *Publius* 28(1):165-87. (CourseWorks)
- (2) Berman, David R. 1995. "Takeovers of Local Governments: An Overview and Evaluation of State Policies," *Publius* 25(3):55-70. (CourseWorks)

February 14th: States and Native Americans: Conflicting Dependent Sovereigns

- (1) Mason, Dale W. 2000. *Indian Gaming: Tribal Sovereignty and American Politics*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. Chapters 3, 4, & Epilogue. (Course packet)

II. STATE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

February 19th: The Creation and Evolution of State Constitutions

- (1) Cain, Bruce E. and Roger G. Noll. 1995. "Principles of State Constitutional Design." In Bruce E. Cain and Roger G. Noll, eds. *Constitutional Reform in California*. Berkeley: Institute of Governmental Studies Press. (Course packet)
- (2) Brennan, William J. 1977. "State Constitutions and the Protection of Individual Rights," *Harvard Law Review* 90(3): 489-504. (CourseWorks)

February 21st: State Legislatures: Institutions & Procedures I

- (1) Rosenthal, Alan. 1998. *The Decline of Representative Democracy*. Washington D.C.: CQ Press. Chapters 2 & 4. (Course packet)

February 26th: State Legislatures: Institutions & Procedures II

- (1) Carey, John M., Richard G. Niemi, and Lynda W. Powell. 2000. *Term Limits in State Legislatures*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. Chapters 1, 2, & 4. (Course packet)

February 28th: The Governorship

- (1) Kousser, Thad and Justin Phillips. 2012. *The Power of American Governors: Winning on Budgets and Losing on Policy*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 2 & 3

March 5th: Executive-Legislative Bargaining: Who Wins and Why?

- (1) Kousser, Thad and Justin Phillips. 2012. *The Power of American Governors: Winning on Budgets and Losing on Policy*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 4, 6, & 8

March 7th: **Midterm**

March 12th: The State Judiciary

- (1) Olszewski, Peter Paul. 2004. "Who's Judging Whom? Why Popular Elections are Preferable to Merit Selection Systems," *Penn State Law Review* 109(1): 1-17. (CourseWorks).
- (2) Crompton, J. Andrew. 2002. "Pennsylvanians Should Adopt a Merit Selection System for State Appellate Court Judges," *Dickinson Law Review* 106(4):755. (CourseWorks).
- (3) *Money in Judicial Elections, 2009-2010*. National Institute on Money in State Politics (CourseWorks)

III. ELECTIONS & PARTICIPATION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

March 14th: State Elections

- (1) Jewell, Malcolm E. and Sarah M. Morehouse. 2001. *Political Parties and Elections in American States*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press. Chapter 5, 6, & 7

- (2) **Paper Proposal Due**

March 19th: Spring break (no class)

March 21st: Spring break (no class)

March 26th: Redistricting

- (1) Cain, Bruce. E. 1984. *The Reapportionment Puzzle*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Chapter 9. (Course packet)
- (2) Altman, Micah, Karin Mac Donald, and Michael McDonald. 2006. "Pushbutton Gerrymanders? Has Computing Changed Redistricting" in *Party Lines: Competition, Partisanship, and Congressional Redistricting*, Thomas E. Mann and Bruce E. Cain, eds. Washington D.C.: Brookings Institute. Chapter 3. (Course packet)

March 28th: Direct Democracy I

- (1) Smith, Daniel A. and Caroline J. Tolbert. 2004. *Educated by Initiative: The Effects of Direct Democracy on Citizens and Political Organizations*, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. Chapter 1. (Course packet)
- (2) Cronin, Thomas E. 1989. *Direct Democracy: The Politics of Initiative, Referendum, and Recall*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chapter 4. (Course packet)

April 2nd: Direct Democracy II

- (1) Gamble, Barbara S. 1997. "Putting Civil Rights to a Popular Vote," *American Journal of Political Science* 41(1): 245-269. (CourseWorks)
- (2) Arceneaux, Kevin. 2002. "Direct Democracy and the Link between Public Opinion and State Abortion Policy," *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 2(4): 372-88. (CourseWorks)

April 4th: State Political Parties

- (1) Jewell, Malcolm E. and Sarah M. Morehouse. 2001. *Political Parties and Elections in American States*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press. Chapter 2, 3, & 9

April 9th: Public Opinion

- (1) Erikson, Robert, Gerald Wright, and John McIver. 1993. *Statehouse Democracy: Public Opinion and Policy in the American States*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 2 & 4. (Course packet)

April 11th: No Lecture (Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association)

IV. PUBLIC POLICY IN THE STATES

April 16th: Budgeting

- (1) *States Continue to Feel Recession's Impact*, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CourseWorks)
- (2) *Reducing Federal Deficits Without a Significant Revenue Increase Would Shift Substantial Costs to States*, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CourseWorks)
- (3) Klarner, Carl and Justin Phillips. 2012. "Overcoming Fiscal Gridlock: Institutions and Budget Bargaining." *The Journal of Politics* 74(4): 992-1009. (CourseWorks)

April 18th: Welfare & Health Policy

- (1) Volden, Craig. 1997. "Entrusting the States with Welfare Reform," in *The New Federalism: Can the States be Trusted?* John Ferejohn and Barry R. Weingast, eds. Stanford: Hoover Institution Press. (Course packet)
- (2) Rigby, Elizabeth. 2012. "State Resistance to ObamaCare." *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics*, 10(2). (CourseWorks)

April 23rd: Education

- (1) McGuinn, Patrick J. 2005. "The National Schoolmarm: No Child Left Behind and the New Education Federalism," *Publius* 35(1): 41-68. (CourseWorks)
- (2) Manna, Paul and Laura L. Ryan. 2011. "Competitive Grants and Educational Federalism: President Obama's Race to the Top Program in Theory and Practice." *Publius* 41(3): 522-46 (CourseWorks)

April 25th: Same-Sex Marriage & Gay Rights

- (1) *Goodridge v. Dep't of Public Health* (Mass. 2003). Only read the majority opinion – first 18 pages of the document. (CourseWorks)
- (2) Lax, Jeff and Justin Phillips. 2009. "Gay Rights in the States: Public Opinion and Policy Responsiveness." *American Political Science Review* 103(3): 367-85. (CourseWorks)

April 30th: Environmental Policy

- (1) Rabe, Barry C. 2011. "Contested Federalism and American Climate Change Policy," *Publius* 41(3):494-521. (CourseWorks)

May 2nd: Do State Governments Have Foreign Policies?

- (1) Stumberg, Robert and Matthew C. Porterfield. 2001. "Who Preempted the Massachusetts Burma Law? Federalism and Political Accountability under Global Trade Rules," *Publius* 31(3): 173-204. (CourseWorks)

(2) Reich, Gary and Jay Barth. 2012. "Immigration Restriction in the States: Contesting the Boundaries of Federalism?" *Publius* 42(3): 422-48. (CourseWorks)

(3) **Research Papers Due**