

Political Science 4015
American State Politics and Policy Making
Spring 2015

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138 Lockett TTH 10:30-11:50
Office Hours Mon. 9:00-11:00 or by appt

Course Description

This course introduces students to governmental institutions, political behavior, and policy issues at the state level. The goal is to understand how different institutions and political conditions interact and play a role in the public policy process. A comparative approach is used.

Participation

Classroom Rules

Please be respectful to those around you who are trying to listen, take notes, and participate in the class. Please make every effort to be on time to class. Be seated and ready to begin and leave early only for emergencies. Turn cell phones and pagers to silent. Most importantly, do not talk during class. Disruptive students will be asked to leave immediately.

Absolutely no audio or video recording devices are allowed to be used in class without permission. Please do not take photographs of the overheads. Photography or videography of any kind is forbidden. This rule is strictly enforced during exams and during review of exam materials. All violators of this policy will be asked to leave the classroom immediately and the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students. These restrictions are in place to ensure the integrity of the

- March 24 Interest Group Influence
 xReading #9 2] \P\ -RVKXD ' \$VVHVVLQJ WKH ,PSDFW RI /HJLVODW
 ,QIOXHQFH LQ 8 6 State Politics and Policy Overview
 *** Policy Presentations: Set #1 ***
- March 26 News Media in State Politics
 xReading #9: 3 HZ 5 H V H D U F K & America's Shifting Statehouse Press Can New Players Cater to
 Legacy Reporters July 10, 2014.
 *** Policy Presentations: Set #2 ***
- March 31 Direct Democracy
 xText Gray, Hanson, and Kousser, Chapter 5.
 xReading #1 1 L F K R O V R Q 6 W H S K H Q 3 ' 7 K H 3 R O L W L F D O A (n c i a n U R Q P
 Journal of Political Science 110.
 xReading #2: / H Z L V ' D Q L H O & '% \ S D V V L Q J W K H 5 H S U H V H Q W D W L R Q
 ' H P R F U D F \ , Q V W L W X State Politics and Policy Overview
 xReadings #3 6 W H L Q K D X H U - H Q Q L I H , V % H L Q J ' 7 D N H Q R W Y o n D n e s h u e y 2 O O R V

Making and Evaluating Public Policies

- April 2 Elements of the Public Policy Process
 xText Gray, Hanson, and Kousser, Chapter 14 and 15.
 ***** Policy Papers Due at the Beginning of Class *****
- April 7 Spring Break
- April 9 Spring Break
- April 14 Social Regulation
 xText Gray, Hanson, and Kousser, Chapter 9.
 xReading #4 6 P L W K . H Y @ ë @ . P 0 0 D O & C y e o - ñ & p À H F 9 p 0 À r D D ' ä , c — P