

MICHIGAN POLITICS AND POLICY
PPS 475/750 - FALL TERM 2018

Instructor: Dr. Debra Horner

Office: Weill Hall, Room 5309

Email: dhorner@umich.edu

Class Meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-4pm, 1230 Weill Hall

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1-2pm, and by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

In this course we have two main objectives: 1) develop an understanding of the Michigan system of state and local governments and 2) get an introduction to the use and analysis of original survey data.

This course is designed to familiarize you with the Michigan political system and investigate current policy issues at play both statewide and in local communities. We'll have an overview of Michigan government and political institutions, an examination of the responsibilities of and relationships between state and local units of government in Michigan, and discussion about specific issues and challenges currently facing Michigan policymakers.

On top of that, this course includes an introduction to and hands-on use of survey research data provided by one of the Ford School's core research centers—the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP). Through CLOSUP's Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS) program, Michigan local government leaders have the opportunity to provide insights about a wide variety of public policy issues facing their jurisdictions—large and small—all across the state. We'll use the data collected on those surveys to supplement our discussions of the topics we cover each week, and you'll also be analyzing it in your final papers. There is no prior knowledge of survey research, its methodology, or statistical software required.

Written assignments

During the semester you'll have four types of assignments:

- 1) **In class free-writing**: at the beginning of each class period, everyone will spend ~5 minutes getting your analytical juices flowing by writing on a question relevant to that week's readings or other issues in Michigan current events. These are not quizzes, but a chance to practice your writing skills and to gather your thoughts prior to class discussion. They're turned in during class with no make-ups accepted, but I will drop/waive two of these, so if you must miss class a few times, it should not affect your overall grade on this assignment.
- 2) **Local media op-ed**: this assignment will have you choose a region of Michigan and write a brief 800-word media opinion piece about a local issue, using MPPS data as evidence (optionally, I'll be encouraging you to submit these to local news outlets across the state, so they're the real deal). It's a chance to stick your toe in to the topic you might use for your final paper.
- 3) **Questionnaire battery construction**: you'll develop a set of 7-10 new survey questions relevant to your policy area that could be asked on a future survey of Michigan elected officials.
- 4) **MPPS policy paper**: this is a 12-15 page paper (excluding figures or tables) that makes use of MPPS survey data in exploring a particular policy area in Michigan politics. You'll be required to define the policy issue and briefly provide a history and description of stakeholders in the outcome of the issue. You'll then use MPPS data to explore Michigan local government officials' views on the topic, as well as bring in outside data (from citizen surveys, national-level surveys of officials, etc.) to confirm or contrast with the MPPS findings. For this assignment, you will provide a one-page topic proposal, your own figures displaying data, an initial draft for workshopping in class, and a final draft.

Course Grading

	% of course grade	due date(s)
In-class free writing*	10%	Most class sessions
Midterm exam	25%	10/24
MPPS policy analysis		
- local media op-ed (1-2 pages)	10%	10/8
- final paper topic overview (1 page)	5%	10/22
- questionnaire battery assignment	5%	11/5
- draft graphic display of data	5%	11/19
- draft paper commentary and workshop	5%	11/28 & 12/3
- final paper submission (12-15 pages)	25%	12/10
Class participation**	10%	Each class session

* Free writing assignments will be graded on a 0-5 scale, with zeros when they are not turned in and fives for demonstrating some kind of critical thinking, analysis, making reference to relevant texts or prior course discussions, or just generally being engaged in the topic. We'll discuss the metrics for all assignments at more length during class.

** Participation grades are based on your active contributions during lecture and in Q&A when guest speakers join us. In addition, prior to guest speaker sessions, you'll be asked to submit 1-2 tentative questions via Canvas, which also factor into your participation grade.

Readings and Resources

We will read most or all of:

John Klemanski and David Dulio, eds. *Michigan Government, Politics, and Policy (2017)*.

Additional readings noted in the syllabus will be posted or linked to on Canvas.

Also, here's a link to the Ford School's Writing Center, where you should make appointments to have your writing reviewed during the course of the term: <https://fordschool.umich.edu/intranet/writing-center>

An initial schedule of weekly reading assignments for the course is listed below. However, it's your responsibility to keep track of any revisions to it that may be made. The pace of the class may vary from the anticipated schedule or I may discover new articles or websites we'll want to discuss. Any changes will be announced in class and on Canvas, so keep an eye out.

Class Expectations

Engaging in collaborative learning: To be successful in this class, students should attend regularly and come prepared to discuss the class content, not simply listen to lecture. Similarly, I commit to coming prepared and ready to exchange ideas. Also, if you come across material (readings or lectures) that you find unclear, please email or come see me. I am happy to sit down with you on an individual basis and help you with any problems you may be encountering with the class.

Requiring academic integrity: As University of Michigan students, you are expected to adhere to high standards of academic conduct. This includes submitting only your own ideas, writing, or research, and otherwise attributing credit where it is due. Any breach of academic integrity—including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of data, or any other form of cheating—will result in a zero for the assignment or test.

Accommodating disability: If you believe you need an accommodation for a disability, please let me know. Some aspects of this course may be modified to facilitate your participation and progress. As soon as you make me aware of your needs, we can work with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (<https://ssd.umich.edu>) to help us determine appropriate accommodations. I will treat any information you provide as private and confidential.

Supporting mental health: The University of Michigan is committed to advancing the mental health and wellbeing of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, or in need of support, contact Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at (734) 764-8312 and <https://caps.umich.edu/> during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or through its counselors physically located in schools on both North and Central Campus. You may also consult University Health Service (UHS) at (734) 764-8320 and <https://www.uhs.umich.edu/mentalhealthsvcs>, or for alcohol or drug concerns, see www.uhs.umich.edu/aodresources.

Valuing respect and diversity: Political topics can inspire strong feelings, but we can disagree without disrespect. We will all learn much more if each class member feels free to express a particular perspective, regardless of how different it might be from others in the room.

Members of the Ford School community represent a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. We are committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity.

While working together to build this community we ask all members to:

- share their unique experiences, values, and beliefs
- be open to the views of others
- honor the uniqueness of their colleagues
- appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other in this community
- value one another's opinions and communicate in a respectful manner
- keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature
- use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in Ford classes and across the UM community

Here's a link to the Ford School's Academic expectations, which mirrors and expands on these policies:
<http://fordschool.umich.edu/academics/expectations>

SECTION ONE: MICHIGAN POLITICAL CULTURE AND INSTITUTIONS

September 5 (W): Course Introduction

The first day we'll discuss the class as a whole and what it will cover, as well as classroom expectations, assignments, grading, etc. We'll also take an initial look at the data we'll be using throughout the semester on our way to your final projects: the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS).

September 10 (M): Michigan vs. Everybody

What are some of the defining characteristics of Michigan? How does it compare to other states in the nation in terms of its population? economy? taxation? educational system? environment? partisanship? How are these issues reflected in some of the topics that have been covered on MPPS survey questionnaires?

- Michigan historical timeline from: *Michigan in Brief*, Chapter 1, pp.1-5
http://www.publicsectorconsultants.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Chapter_1_About_Michigan.pdf
- Michigan current demographics: the summary section of Citizens Research Council "Exploring Michigan's Urban/Rural Divide" (April 2018), pp. v-x
https://www.crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2010s/2018/rpt400_Exploring_Michigans_Urban-Rural_Divide.pdf
- Introduction to the Flint Water Crisis, the timeline: "Flint Water Advisory Task Force Final Report" (March 2016), pp.15-21
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/FWATF_FINAL_REPORT_21March2016_517805_7.pdf
- › **survey module:** a review of topic areas on previous MPPS surveys, browse
<http://closup.umich.edu/michigan-public-policy-survey/mpps-questionnaires.php>

September 12 (W): The State Constitution and the Structure of Michigan State Government

How is Michigan's political system organized? What does the state constitution actually do? We'll take a look at constitutional politics through the lens of Michigan Proposal 4-2 of 2004 that made it unconstitutional for the state to recognize or perform same-sex marriages or civil unions as well as the upcoming 2018 ballot proposal to revise the state's approach to redistricting.

- Klemanski and Dulio, Chapter 2, pp.29-49 and Chapter 11, pp.246-268
- On Proposal 2 of 2004:
"The Faithful Divide Over Wedding Vows: A Profile of Michigan's 2004 Battle Over Marriage Equality" (May 2009) pp.1-11
https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/issues/2009/06/pdf/michigan_glbtt.pdf
"Federal Judge Strikes Down Michigan's Ban on Same-Sex Marriage" (2014, March 21)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/22/us/michigan-ban-on-same-sex-marriage-is-struck-down.html>
- On Proposal 2 of 2018:
"Michigan Supreme Court votes 4-3 to keep redistricting proposal on ballot" (2018, July 31)
<https://www.bridgemi.com/public-sector/michigan-supreme-court-votes-4-3-keep-redistricting-proposal-ballot>
- CRC "A Reminder to Clean Up the Michigan Constitution" (July 2015)
https://crcmich.org/reminder_clean_michigan_constitution-2015/

September 17 (M): The Michigan Legislature – Composition

We'll start with a look at the formal structure of the state legislature, and then examine several specific institutional issues such as the effects of having a full-time legislature and legislators' term-limits.

- Klemanski and Dulio, Ch 7, pp.148-169
- excerpts from Sarbaugh-Thompson et al. *The Political and Institutional Effects of Term Limits*, Chapters 4-5

- › **survey module:** an overview of survey research design, Ch. 2, pp. 5-18, "Background on the Survey Process" in Shonlau et al *Conducting Research Surveys via E-mail and the Web*:
http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monograph_reports/MR1480/MR1480.ch2.pdf

September 19 (W): The Michigan Legislature – Powers and Process

Sausage making at the state level: what kinds of informal relationships and processes go into lawmaking in Lansing?

- excerpts from Sarbaugh-Thompson et al. *The Political and Institutional Effects of Term Limits*, Chapters 7-9
- Bridge Magazine. "A Republican governor. A Republican legislature. Each ignoring the other." (2017, June 21)
<https://www.bridgemi.com/business-bridge/republican-governor-republican-legislature-each-ignoring-other>

September 24 (M): Political Parties and Interest Groups in Michigan – Who are the players?

Republicans and Democrats, Green and Tea Party, elections and campaign finance, citizen activism and professional lobbying. Who are the actors and organizations that have key roles in Michigan politics and how does that compare with other states?

- Klemanski and Dulio, Chapter 9, pp.197-220
- "Political Geography of Michigan":
<http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/02/27/political-geography-michigan/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/elections/2012/results/states/michigan.html>
<https://www.nytimes.com/elections/results/michigan-president-clinton-trump>

- › **survey module:** survey research design, continued, Ch. 5, pp. 41-53, "Guidelines for Designing and Implementing Internet Surveys" in Shonlau et al *Conducting Research Surveys via E-mail and the Web*:
http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monograph_reports/MR1480/MR1480.ch5.pdf

September 26 (W): Political Parties and Interest Groups in Michigan – How do they play?

What is the state of play among Michigan's political parties and other interest groups, how has that changed in recent years, and how is it impacting the upcoming state elections?

Guest Speaker: Craig Fahle, host of "The Craig Fahle Show" and former Detroit Land Bank spokesperson

- readings TBD

October 1 (M): Here Comes the Governor

What kind of political power does the executive wield in Michigan politics? What are his or her formal and informal powers? What kind of governor has Rick Snyder been in comparison with his predecessors? What impact will/should the Flint Water Crisis have on his legacy? What will the next Governor of Michigan face?

- Klemanski and Dulio, Ch 6, pp.123-147
- “Highlights from Gov. Rick Snyder's final State of the State address”
<https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2018/01/23/rick-snyder-state-state-address-highlights/1058701001/>
- “How much trouble is Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder in over Flint?” (2016, Jan 20) *Washington Post*,
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/01/20/>
- [Reading on the November gubernatorial election tbd]

➤ **survey module:** in-class tutorial on how to download MPPS data from the web

October 3 (W): Beyond Snyder: State Agencies and Other Executive Officials

The executive branch is more than just the Governor. What do state agencies do to influence and implement policy across the state? How did we end up with Flint? What's up with the Emergency Manager law anyway?

- Sarbaugh-Thompson et al. *The Political and Institutional Effects of Term Limits*, Chapter 10
- Michigan Radio. “Seven things to know about Michigan's emergency manager law” (2011, Dec 6)
<http://michiganradio.org/post/7-things-know-about-michigans-emergency-manager-law#stream/0>
- CLOSUP 2012 report on local government officials' opinions on the EM law, pp. 1-5:
<http://closup.umich.edu/files/MPPS-Spring-2012-EmergencyManager.pdf>
- Findings from the Flint Water Crisis on culpability: “Flint Water Advisory Task Force Final Report” (pp.5-14)
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/FWATF_FINAL_REPORT_21March2016_517805_7.pdf

➤ **survey module:** the anatomy of an MPPS dataset in Stata and SPSS

October 8 (M): Michigan Local Governments - Introduction

What are the various types of local governments in Michigan—counties, cities, villages, townships, and special purpose districts—and how do they function? What services do they provide and what barriers to they face in sustaining their service provision?

- Klemanski and Dulio, Chapters 4 and 5, pp.78-122
- excerpt from *Politics and Government in Michigan*, p. 20 on Michigan Tribal Governments
- CLOSUP 2017 report on local government officials' opinions on state preemption and how to share policy authority: <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-policy-authority-2016.pdf>
- “The Democrats’ Filthy Flint Water” (2016, Jan 21) *Front Page Magazine*,
<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/429803/flint-water-scandal-democratic-pattern>

➤ **survey module:** evaluating a questionnaire, read Ch 4 pp. 65-106 “The Basics of Crafting Good Questions” in Dillman et al, *Internet, Mail and Mixed-Mode Surveys* (2008)

Your local media op-ed assignment is due today, submitted before class via Canvas.

October 10 (W): The Courts and Judicial Politics in Michigan

Guest Speaker: Judge Hala Jarbou, Oakland County Circuit Court

How is the state legal system structured, organized, and funded? What are the implications for judicial independence to have judges run for office in elections? Are Supreme Court elections in Michigan truly nonpartisan or not?

- Klemanski and Dulio, Ch 8
- Michigan Judicial Campaigns Ethics Pocket Guide, pp.1-9
<http://www.michbar.org/file/opinions/ethics/judicial-campaign-ethics-FAQ.pdf>
- [reading on 2018 State supreme court election tbd]
- Flint and the courts:
 - * “U.S. Supreme Court allows Flint water contamination lawsuits”
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-court-water/u-s-supreme-court-allows-flint-water-contamination-lawsuits-idUSKBN1GV1RB>
 - * “COA: Flint residents can sue the state over water crisis”
<http://www.michiganradio.org/post/coa-flint-residents-can-sue-state-over-water-crisis>

October 15 (M): Fall Break

October 17 (W): Michigan Local Governments - Fiscal Health

Where do local governments in Michigan get their revenue and how has that changed over time? What is the fiscal relationship between the state and local governments? What is the Headlee Amendment and how did that affect local property taxation in Michigan? How did the Great Recession of 2009-2011 impact local governments in Michigan?

- Klemanski and Dulio, 2nd part of Ch 3 on state-local relations, pp. 61-75
- CLOSUP 2018 annual fiscal health report (forthcoming)
- Sapotichne, Josh, et al. (2015). “Beyond State Takeovers: Reconsidering the Role of State Government in Local Financial Distress, with Important Lessons for Michigan and its Embattled Cities.” pp. 1-24:
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/beyond_state_takeovers
- Detroit goes into Bankruptcy (2013, Aug 6) PBS NewsHour (Youtube video ~8 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DouzOq00A4A>

October 22 (M): Submit paper topic, exam review, guest speaker

Guest Speaker: State Representative Yousef Rabhi

One-page topic proposal for the policy papers is due today, submitted before class via Canvas. In class, you'll give an informal, 1-2 minute overview of what you are proposing to look at for your policy paper.

October 24 (W): Midterm exam

SECTION TWO: MICHIGAN POLITICAL ISSUES AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

October 29 (M): Detroit Past and Present

Detroit is a lodestone of Michigan politics. How did the city weather an unprecedented bankruptcy and what are the challenges that face it today?

- [Excerpts from “Mapping Detroit: Land, Community, and Shaping a City”, Edited by June Manning Thomas and Henco Bekkering tbd]
- Detroit Journalism Cooperative, “A brief history of poverty and jobs in Detroit”
<https://www.detroitjournalism.org/2016/06/15/a-brief-history-of-poverty-and-jobs-in-detroit/>
- Nathan Bomey, Ch.2 (pp.18-29) “Deal of the Year” and Ch. 9 (pp.129-161) “You Can’t Eat Principles” in *Detroit Resurrected* (2017)
- [Excerpts from Mayor Mike Duggan 2018 State of the City address tbd]

October 31 (W): Detroit Future

How are Detroit’s City Government, community groups, and citizens working together to forge a Detroit Renaissance?

Guest speaker: Chase Cantrell, Director of Detroit Community Capital and Founder of Building Community Value

- [readings tbd]

November 5 (M): The Future of Michigan Economic Development

Although Michigan’s economy has seen slow and steady growth since the Great Recession, Michigan’s failed bid to attract Amazon HQ2 to the Metro region highlighted some of the continuing concerns about the economic future of the region and the state. What forces are propelling change and where does Michigan’s economy go from here?

- Klemanski and Dulio, Chapter 14, pp.316-342
 - Michigan Business Leaders “Building a New Michigan”
<https://businessleadersformichigan.com/building-a-new-michigan/the-plan/>
 - Bridge Magazine. “Rural Michigan begs for workers. A few companies are getting creative.” (2018, August 23). <https://www.bridgemi.com/talent-education/rural-michigan-begs-workers-few-companies-are-getting-creative>
 - CLOSUP 2013 report on “Placemaking” (pp.1-12): <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-spring-2013-placemaking.pdf>
- › **survey module:** Sources of survey data and how to evaluate them

Your questionnaire battery assignment is due today, submitted before class via Canvas.

November 7 (W): Poverty and Human Services

What are some of the policies that the state and local governments in Michigan use to address poverty? How did Michigan react to the passage of the Affordable Care Act (aka "Obamacare") and the requirements for states and employers mandated by it?

- CLOSUP report on poverty (forthcoming)
 - 2018 Kids Count in Michigan Data Book, pp.1-7, https://mlpp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/68582-mlpp_2018-kids-count_proof_v7_km.pdf
 - Detroit Free Press (June 15, 2018), "4 things to know about Michigan's Medicaid work requirements" <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2018/06/14/michigan-medicaid-work-requirements/699643002/>
 - Mackinac Center (April 24, 2015), "Michigan's Obamacare Medicaid Expansion Exceeds Projections by 22 Percent," <https://www.mackinac.org/21234>
 - MLIVE (2017, March 12), "New homeless count shows 12% drop in greater Ann Arbor area" https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2017/03/2017_homeless_count.html
- › **survey module:** how to report your survey data (optional reading: Ch 8 pp. 154-177 "Elementary Quantitative Data Analysis" in Chambliss and Schutt, *Making Sense of the Social World* [http://www.sagepub.com/sites/default/files/upm-binaries/46056_Pages_from_Chamblyss_\(4e\)_Chapter_8.pdf](http://www.sagepub.com/sites/default/files/upm-binaries/46056_Pages_from_Chamblyss_(4e)_Chapter_8.pdf))

November 12 (M): Michigan Criminal Justice and Corrections

Guest speaker: attorney Deborah LaBelle

Today, the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) is the largest program that state government operates directly, accounting for nearly 20% (\$2 billion) of the current General Purpose budget and employing nearly one-third of the classified workforce. How does this compare to other nearby states? Should Michigan be heeding various national-level calls to transform the way we incarcerate people in the U.S.?

- Citizens Research Council of Michigan (2008), pp. 1-37, "Growth in Michigan's Corrections System: Historical and Comparative Perspectives" http://crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2000s/2008/growth_corrections_system_historical_comparative_perspective-2008.pdf
 - Bridge Magazine (2018, February 16), "Snyder's Michigan: Fewer prisoners, less prison spending" <https://www.bridgemi.com/public-sector/snyders-michigan-fewer-prisoners-less-prison-spending>
 - Mackinac Center (2018, August 3), "Three Important Criminal Justice Reform Opportunities for 2018" <https://www.mackinac.org/three-important-criminal-justice-reform-opportunities-for-2018>
 - Michigan Corrections Organization (2018, March 16) "How privatizing the inmate food supply led to missteps in Michigan" <https://www.correctionsone.com/facility-design-and-operation/articles/472379187-How-privatizing-the-inmate-food-supply-led-to-missteps-in-Michigan/>
- › **survey module:** presenting survey data analysis graphically

November 14 (W): K-12 Education Policies

Is there a governing vision for K-12 policy in the state of Michigan? How are schools financed and are those monies distributed fairly or sufficiently? What role do players such as teachers' unions, charter school advocates, parent groups, and local school boards play in shaping Michigan schools? How will the financial stress and even bankruptcy of a number of school districts, most notably Detroit's, affect education policy and funding going forward?

- Klemanski and Dulio, Chapter 12, pp.269-292
- [reading on Michigan Charter Schools regulation TBD]

November 19 (M): Transportation Policies

Road funding has been a political football in Michigan in recent years, but roads are not the only transit issues at play. Who wants to expand transit alternatives and what monies are available?

- CLOSUP report on Roads, pp.1-8: <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-fall-2014-michigan-roads.pdf>
- CLOSUP report on Transit, pp.1-8: <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-fall-2014-transit.pdf>
- "Busing. A love story." (2016, May 10) *Bridge Magazine*. <http://bridgemi.com/2016/05/people-need-jobs-factories-need-workers-busing-a-love-story/>
- [reading on regional light rail/SEMCOG Commuter rail/Q-Line tbd]

Your draft versions of figures to include in your final paper due today, submitted before class via Canvas.

November 21 (W): Discussion Day

November 26 (M): Employee Unions and "Right To Work"

Michigan is the historic home of the American labor movement and unions have played a significant role in shaping Michigan's economy and workforce. However, in 2012, Michigan passed a "Right To Work" law that allows public and private employees to opt out of formerly mandatory union fees, effectively dealing a blow to unions' resources and their ability to bargain. What is the future of Michigan unions in the wake of Right To Work?

- Bridge Magazine (November 21, 2015), "Michigan held down by low income, education" <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/report-michigan-held-down-by-low-income-education/>
- CLOSUP report on Right To Work, pp.1-8: <http://closup.umich.edu/michigan-public-policy-survey/29/views-on-right-to-work-legislation-among-michigans-local-government-leaders/>
- "The Sky Isn't Falling," (Aug 25, 2016) Inside Higher Ed, <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/08/25/u-michigan-has-one-countrys-oldest-graduate-student-unions-and-hasnt-held-it-back>

November 28 (W): Environmental Policies

Guest speaker Sarah Mills, CLOSUP

Water management and protection is obviously an important policy issue in the 'The Great Lakes State.' But there are also significant ongoing policy debates in Michigan surrounding energy issues such as fracking, wind turbines, and sustainability. How are different regions and communities affected differently by these issues and what motivates Michigan policymakers to advance or resist change in environmental policies?

- CLOSUP report on Wind Power, pp.1-17: <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-fall-2013-wind-power.pdf>
- CLOSUP report on Fracking, pp.1-12: <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-fall-2013-fracking.pdf>
- [readings on PFAS and/or water conservation policy & Nestle/Enbridge pipeline, etc. TBD]

Your initial draft of your final paper is due today. You'll submit it to me via Canvas and email it to two classmates.

December 3 (M): Workshopping paper drafts

Today we'll break into groups to workshop your paper drafts.

Feedback on assigned workshopped papers due today. You'll submit five bullet-point comments for each paper it to me via Canvas and bring that (plus any additional feedback) to class to share with classmates.

December 5 (W): The Michigan Public

What role do average citizens play in shaping policy in the state?

- Michigan Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/publications/openmtgsfreedom.pdf>
- CLOSUP report on Citizen Engagement, pp.1-13: <http://closup.umich.edu/files/mpps-fall-2012-citizen-engagement.pdf>
- [reading on Flint residents' attempts to alert authorities to problems with water]

December 10 (M): The Future of Michigan Politics

What lies ahead for Michigan? What policies do you predict will most influence the future of the state?

- CRC Report on Michigan's Fiscal Future (May 2008), Sections on Economic, Population, and Revenue Projections, pp. 5-19, <http://www.crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2000s/2008/rpt349.pdf>
- [reading on newly-elected governor and legislature tbd]

Your final paper is due today, submitted before class via Canvas.