

Pub Pol 682: Leadership and Communications in State-level Policy Making

Fall 2016 Calendar

Craig Ruff

Telephone: (517) 881-6972 (10 AM to 9 PM)

E-mail: craigruff@aol.com

Mailing: 1849 Cimarron Drive

Okemos, MI 48864

Office hours by arrangement

Room: 1230 Weill Hall
Thursdays, 6:00-9:00 PM.

Books to purchase

Malcolm Gladwell. *The Tipping Point*

Dale Carnegie. *How to Win Friends and Influence People*

Big picture of the class

This seminar is about coaching

- Leadership qualities
- Impactful communications
- How to make the most of a state-level policy making process

Must reads

Michigan news on-line

- www.thecenterformichigan.net
- www.domemagazine.com
- www.mlive.com
- www.freep.com
- www.detnews.com
- www.bridgemi.com
- <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/publications/citizensguide.pdf>
- Electablog.com
- Capitolconfidential.com
- Gongwer news service through U of M library: gongwer.com; user: gldocs
Password: quail

Please select three among books recommended at end of the syllabus. If you select a very lengthy work, for example, *The Power Broker*, it may count as two or even three books. You may choose a book that you've always wanted to read.

Roles

Depending on class size, we will form a mock Michigan State Senate or another state policy making set of leaders.

Exams and Writing Assignments

There are no exams. There may be a couple of one-page writing assignments and an op ed. I may assign additional writing assignments to students needing help.

Expectations

Participants will participate. They will voice opinions; present facts; research policy options; against their better nature, argue for policies with which they disagree; be superb team members; and be irreverent. Attendance weekly is a big deal. Missing even one class harms the group. Due to poor health, conflicting opportunities, or emergencies, you may request an excused absence. A couple of or more absences may influence your final grade, not in a good way.

What is essential is that students attend the second class. We are building a mock state legislative body. Seats, partisanship, and policy leaders' roles must be assigned on the second week of class. By all means, shop and drop; but please make that decision no later than September 10.

Forewarning

This course has a non-linear flow. It is fluid, replete with changes in assignments. If you are highly structured and purely analytical, this is probably not your cup of tea. Neither is the class a shout-out to individualists, as much work is done in teams. The emphasis on career skills, including networking, self-marketing, media training, and entrepreneurship, may discomfort. You may find this course the most anti-theoretical class that you've taken.

Too, there will be intense role-playing, with constituents' interests and party discipline at the forefront. In a state legislature, most policy is developed and refined in closed-door partisan caucuses, which will be central to our study of state policy.

Web Site:

<https://sites.google.com/site/pubpl682fall2010/>

Students with Disabilities

If you believe that you need an accommodation for a disability, please let me know at your earliest convenience. Some aspects of this course may be modified to facilitate your participation and progress. As soon as you make me aware of your needs, I will work with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities to help determine appropriate accommodations. I will treat any information that you provide as confidential.

Date	Topic and Assignments
Sept 8	<p>Introduction and goals of seminar; simulation guidelines; differentiation among federal, state, and local policymaking and politics; and customization. Leadership qualities. Class assistance on classroom technology and Google site.</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Read pp 1–25 of <i>Michigan In Brief</i> (Chapters 1 and 2). www.michiganinbrief.org (2) Read the Michigan Constitution.
Sept 15	<p>The role of the legislator. Guest: TBD</p> <p>Discuss pragmatism and idealism in policy making. State public policy processes; history; political dimensions; separation of powers; legislative/executive structures and annual schedule of policy making; dynamics of term limits; partisan caucuses; and public plebiscites. Assign roles as legislators and policy leaders.</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Read <i>A New Agenda for a New Michigan</i> http://michiganfuture.org/Reports/NewAgendaFinalReportComplete.pdf (2) Read <i>How to Win Friends and Influence People</i> (Carneige) (3) Create personalized “business” cards. (4) Select three books from optional reading. (5) What’s in the state news?
Sept 22	<p>Discuss what’s in the state/local news? Discuss what matters at the state and local levels. Overview of economic development. Caucus: Elect leader. Caucus party teams.</p> <p>What are you own takeaways from <i>How to Win Friends and Influence People</i>? How do you act on them?</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Read one book from optional reading. (2) What’s in the state/local news? (3) Read commentaries by Phil Power on www.thecenterformichigan.net (4) Read http://www.pscinc.com/Portals/0/Publications/uic/2003_UIC_Final_Report.pdf
Sept 29	<p>Guest: Phil Power. Policies and strategies for Michigan.</p> <p>Discuss what’s in the state/local news. What and who influences state policy? Discuss Caucus on education policy initiatives.</p>

	<p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) What's in the state/local news? (2) Research and read analyses of business taxation in Michigan. (3) Research factors that impact business location decisions.
Oct 6	<p>Caucus on economic development initiatives. Full senate debate on economic development.</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Research educational policy initiatives. (2) Read <i>Michigan In Brief</i> (Higher Education Funding—pp 152–155; K–12 Funding, Quality and Testing, and Schooling Alternatives—pp 168–189; Special Education—pp 212–215; Children's Early Education and Care (pp79-82) and review http://www.pscinc.com/Portals/0/Publications/rts/1999_summit/executive/Michigan4C.pdf (3) Read Governor Snyder's Special Message on Education (2011) <p>Discussion of state's role in education.</p> <p>Key takeaways from first optional book.</p> <p>Next week's assignment: Read Value of Arts: http://www.wallacefoundation.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/WF/Knowledge%20Center/Attachments/PDF/CreatingPublicValue</p> <p>Pages 108-118 are key. You may skim the balance of the document. Apply to a different policy topic. Be prepared to present your case in PowerPoint next week.</p>
Oct 13	<p>Guest: Education Policy (TBD)</p> <p>Presentations on value grid. Caucus on education initiatives.</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Read <i>Michigan In Brief</i> (Land Use and Sustainability—pp 181–183.) (2) Read: http://www.michiganlanduse.org/MLULC_FINAL_REPORT_0803.pdf. (1) Read: http://www.pscinc.com/Documents/WMSA/2005/index.htm <p>Next week's assignment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) What's in the state/local news? (2) Read excerpts of Coming to Public Judgment: http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/fortune_archive/1992/10/05/76926/index.htm

	<p><u>m</u> (3) Read second optional book.</p>
Oct 20	<p>Caucus on education initiatives. Full senate debate on education.</p> <p>Discuss state policy on environment/natural resources. Caucus on environment/natural resources initiatives.</p> <p>Discuss what's in state and local news. Values, attitudes, and opinions/Yankelovich</p> <p>Discuss health care.</p> <p>Next week's assignments: (1) Read second optional book. (2) What's in the state/local news?</p>
Oct 27	<p>Guest: Marianne Udow</p> <p>What's in state/local news? Caucus on environment/natural resources. Present key takeaways from second optional book. Senate debate on environment/natural resources</p> <p>Discuss political reform at the state level. Caucus on political reform issues. Mid-term class evaluation.</p> <p>Discuss state taxation and fiscal management.</p>
Nov 3	<p>Caucus on political reform. Senate debate on political reform. Caucus on tax initiatives. Caucus on data/IT/immigration.</p> <p>What's in state/local news?</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p>

Nov 10	Afternoon/evening in Lansing. Plan on leaving A2 at noon and return at about 10:00 PM.
--------	--

Nov 17	<p>Guest lecturer: TBD (Topics include: Community development; transportation; public assistance; and urban affairs).</p>
--------	---

	<p>Caucus on tax initiatives. Senate debate on taxes/finance. Caucus on another topic.</p> <p>What's in state/local news?</p> <p>Next week's assignment: Read "The Tipping Point"</p>
Nov 24	<p>Caucus on the other topic with Senate debate to follow.</p> <p>Caucus on transportation, urban issues, and public assistance. Senate debate on transportation, urban issues, and public assistance.</p> <p>What's in state/local news?</p> <p>Discuss "The Tipping Point"</p> <p>Next week's assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Read TV tips. (2) Read How to Write an Op Ed. (3) Write an op ed (400 word maximum) on a state policy proposal of choice. (4) What's in the state/local news? (5) Read third optional book. (6) Read http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/31/opinion/sunday/friedman-need-a-job-invent-it.html

Dec 1	Thanksgiving Break—no class.
Dec 8	<p>Media training exercise.</p> <p>An entrepreneurial career. Guest: Alyssa Martina</p>

Optional Readings: Select three books from the following list, each from a separate topic.

Education	<p><i>Art, Mind and Brain; or Multiple Intelligences; or Frames of Mind</i> (Howard Gardner) <i>No Excuses</i> (Abigail and Stephen Thernstrom) <i>Ghosts from the Nursery</i> (Robin Karr-Morse) <i>Left Back</i> (Dianne Ravitch)</p>
Health Care	<p><i>The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History</i> (John Barry) <i>The Social Transformation of American Medicine</i> (Paul Starr) <i>Demanding Medical Excellence</i> (Michael Millenson)</p>
Environment	<p><i>Silent Spring</i> (Rachel Carson) <i>Cadillac Desert</i> (Marc Reisner) <i>Ruin to Recovery</i> (Dave Dempsey) <i>Cradle to Cradle</i> (William McDonough) <i>Sustainability by Design</i> (John Ehrenfeld)</p>
Society/culture	<p><i>Culture of Narcissism</i> (Christopher Lasch) <i>The Great Disruption</i> (Francis Fukayama) <i>The New Realities</i> (Peter Drucker) <i>Guns, Germs and Steel</i> (Jared Dimond) <i>Invisible Man</i> (Ralph Ellison) <i>The Great Gatsby</i> (F. Scott Fitzgerald) <i>Confederacy of Dunces</i> (John Kennedy Toole) <i>Full House: The Spread of Excellence from Plato to Darwin</i> (Stephen Jay Gould) <i>Democracy in America</i> (Alexis de Tocqueville) <i>Bonfire of the Vanities</i> (Tom Wolfe) <i>Ragtime</i> (E. L. Doctorow) <i>The Road to Serfdom</i> (F.A. Hayek)</p>
American politics	<p><i>Plunkitt of Tammany Hall</i> (William Riordon) <i>Hardball</i> (Chris Matthews) <i>Parliament of Whores</i> (P.J. O'Rourke) The Federalist Papers <i>All the King's Men</i> (Robert Penn Warren) <i>Primary Colors</i> (Joe Klein) <i>Thank You for Smoking</i> (Christopher Buckley)</p>
Leadership	<p><i>Raving Fans</i> (Ken Blanchard) <i>The Power Broker</i> (Robert Caro) <i>The Prince</i> (Machiavelli) <i>LBJ: Master of the Senate</i> (Robert Caro) <i>Leadership</i> (James McGregor Burns) <i>Breakfast with Socrates</i> (Robert Smith) <i>The Seven Habits of Highly Successful People</i> (Stephen Covey)</p>

Community life	<i>Made In Detroit</i> (Paul Clemens) <i>Rise of the Creative Class</i> (Richard Florida) <i>Reflections on Regionalism</i> (Bruce Katz) <i>Empire Falls</i> or <i>Nobody's Fool</i> (Richard Russo) The Albany Cycle (e.g., <i>Billy Phelan's Greatest Game</i>) (William Kennedy) <i>The City in History</i> (Lewis Mumford) <i>Devil's Night and Other True Tales of Detroit</i> (Ze'ev Chafets)
----------------	--

Science	<i>How the Mind Works</i> (Stephen Pinker) <i>Consilience</i> (Edward O. Wilson) <i>Against the Gods: The Remarkable Story of Risk</i> (Peter Bernstein) <i>River Out of Eden</i> (Richard Dawkins) <i>A Short History of Nearly Everything</i> (Bill Bryson) <i>Chaos: Making a New Science</i> (James Gleick)
---------	--