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PSC 364.01: State and Local Government

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State Government Syllabus

PSc 364 Summer 2002 (July 1 - August 2)

M-F 10:50 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. / Location: LA 106

TEXTS

Primary: *State and Local Government* 5th Edition (Ann Bowman and Richard Kearney)

Supplement: *The State of The States* 3rd Edition (Charles Van Horn)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

State Government is one of the most exciting areas in political science. This course examines the evolution and development that has taken place in the states since the founding period. It focuses on the basic institutions as well as a broad spectrum of public policy issues that affect governing in the states. The theme of this course is built on one primary question: *Has there been a resurgence of the states? That is, have states increased their capacity to govern, manage change, and innovate in various areas of public policy?*

The primary objective of the course is to acquaint students with the complexities of state government and state politics. Local government is not covered in the summer version of the class. Upon successful completion of the course students should acquire considerable knowledge about comparative state government and politics in the states. Assessment is based on students' performance on two exams. *Additional learning objectives are provided on the online version of the syllabus.*

GRADE WEIGHTS

Midterm Exam50%

Final Exam50%

PROFESSOR: Jeffrey D. Greene

OFFICE: LA 356 **Telephone:** 243-6181 **E-mail:** jeffrey@selway.umt.edu

OFFICE HOURS: 10:15 -10:45 a.m. (Monday, Tuesday)

REQUIREMENTS: All exams will be given in class. Students are expected to take the exams during the scheduled time. The exams for the summer session will be subjective (terms and essays). No paper is required in the summer version of the course.

ATTENDANCE: Students are encouraged to attend class. Poor attendance may affect one's final grade.

WEB PAGE: Students can visit the Political Science Department Web Page at:
<http://www.umt.edu/polsci>

COURSE OUTLINE and READINGS

Introduction

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 1

Van Horn: Chapter 1, "The Quiet Revolution."

Political Culture

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 1

Federalism

Bowman and Kearney: Chapters 2

Van Horn: Chapter 2, "The Role of the States in American Federalism," by R. Nathan.

State Constitutions

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 3

Participation in the States

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 4

Political Parties in the States

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 5

Van Horn: Chapter 4, "The Transformation of State Electoral Politics," by Salmore and Salmore.

State Legislatures

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 6

Van Horn: Chapter 6, "The Legislature," by Alan Rosenthal.

Governors

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 7

Van Horn: Chapter 5, "Being Governor," by Thad Beyle.

Midterm Exam – July 19 (Friday)

The Bureaucracy

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 8

Van Horn, Chapter 8, "Accountability Battles in State Administration," by William Gormley.

The Judiciary

Bowman and Kearney: Chapter 9

Van Horn: Chapter 7, "Supreme Courts in the Policy Process," by Lawrence Baum.

State-Local Relations

Bowman and Kearney: Chapters 12, 13

Van Horn: Chapter 3, "State Budgeting Problems, Choices, and Money," by Henry Raimondo.

Public Policy in the States *(The class will cover as many policy topics as time permits)*

Education, Economic Development, Criminal Justice, The Environment

Bowman and Kearney: Chapters 14,15,16,17,18

Van Horn: Chapters 9,10, "State Education Policy," by M. Goertz; "State Welfare Policy," by I. Lurie.

Federal-State Relations in the New Century

Van Horn: Chapter 11, "Power to the States," by Van Horn

Final Exam – August 1 (Thursday) *Exams will be returned on Friday, August 2*

Class Materials and Transparencies are available on the online version of the syllabus