

POLS 413: Intergovernmental Relations
Spring 2009

Professor: Keith Snavely
Office: 3130 Faner
Office Hours: T. 10-12; W. 1-4; Th. 11-12
Phone: 453-3179 E-mail: ksnavely@siu.edu

I. Course Synopsis

This course examines the dynamic relationships among federal, state and local governments and between the three levels of government and the private sector (for-profit and nonprofit organizations). These relationships are ever evolving and ever changing. They are complex patterns of behavior that determine how public policies are defined, put into practice and transformed—policies and programs ranging from art experiences for inner city children to zoological parks. The government to government and government to private sector relationships shape the form and substance of your education here at SIUC.

*Stated briefly, this course is about **governance**, the multiple government and private sector actors involved in attempting to solve public problems and administer their solutions and the tools used by those actors.*

The course will be divided into three broad topic areas: (1) **Federalism** distinguishes the legal and political context of federal-state relations. Readings grounded in politics and political philosophy, congressional exertion of federal authority, and federal court decisions will help us understand original and contemporary meanings of federalism. (2) **Intergovernmental Relations** (IGR) focuses on the vibrant fiscal, political and public policy interactions among the federal, state and local governments; between the states and their local governments; and horizontal relations among states and local governments. IGR draws us more directly into the everyday life of governance in the United States. (3) **Intersectoral Relations** (ISR) draws our attention to the organizational networks, partnerships and collaborations through which much of the work of government is accomplished. Increasingly, government agencies are less involved in the direct delivery of public services. Instead, the actual work is being accomplished through private nonprofit and for-profit organizations and through dense networks of these organizations in partnership with government. ISR focuses on the relations among the three economic sectors—public, private for-profit and private nonprofit.

II. Course Requirements and Grading

In addition to the graded assignments listed below, you are expected to attend class and take an active role in class exercises and discussions. Assignments are given the following weights:

Mid-term exam	30%
Final exam	30%
Essay	20%
Team Presentation	<u>20%</u>
	100%

III. Required Readings

Lawrence O'Toole, *American Intergovernmental Relations*, 4rd edition

Timothy Conlan & Paul Posner, *Intergovernmental Management for the 21st Century*

Robert Agranoff & Michael McGuire, "Managing in Network Settings", *Policy Studies Review*, 16 (1), 1999, pp. 16-41. [This article can be obtained electronically through JSTOR or EBSCO on the library's web site.)

IV. Essay Assignment

Chapters in the Conlan and Posner text by Shelley Metzenbaum (Chapter 10) and Beryl Radin (Chapter 11) address the important issue of productivity in public programs implemented through the United States' large-scale intergovernmental system. This is an issue receiving great attention by the new Obama administration due to the severe fiscal problems the country is experiencing.

On April 9 you will be given an essay assignment that will be due April 14 based on your reading and analysis of the two chapters. You will write one essay of five pages in length. The essay topic will be give to you on April 9. Think of this as an out-of-class exam, one in which you will have time to reflect in order to prepare a polished analytical essay.

Further essay instructions will be given at the time of the assignment.

V. Team Class presentation

Chapters 5-9 in the Conlan and Posner text focus on specific public policies. They discuss policy histories, challenges to implementation in an intergovernmental system and current issues.

The class will be divided into five teams, each of which will be responsible for teaching an assigned policy chapter. Teams will take over an entire class session and lead the class in learning about and discussing a public policy. Each team will need to inform the class of:

1. the policy being examined, its background and purpose;
2. the intergovernmental setting for developing and implementing the policy;
3. any innovation strategies used for implementation;
4. the key policy challenges for the states and federal government;
5. any other pertinent information for fully understanding the policy as presented in the chapter.

Be creative. Teams may wish to use overheads, handouts or other materials in their presentation. Use discussion questions or other approaches to engage the class in discussion. Feel free to utilize material from other sources as a supplement, such as those from the chapter reference list.

Each team is required to meet with Dr. Snavely to discuss their presentation plans.

Topic and Reading Assignments

January 13 & 15 Introduction: Federalism, Intergovernmental and Intersectoral Relations
O'Toole: Overview, pp. 1-32, # 25; C-P: #1

A. Federalism

- Jan. 20-Feb 5**
1. Defining Federalism
O'Toole: #1, 2,3, 4, 7
 2. Historical Development
C-P: #2 & 3
 3. Courts and Federalism
O'Toole: # 11
 4. Mandates, Preemptions
O'Toole: # 22, 23; C-P: #13
 5. Federal Systems in Other Nations
O'Toole, #12

B. Intergovernmental Relations

- Feb. 10-March 19**
1. Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations
O'Toole: # 15, 16, 18; C-P: # 4, 12
 2. Intergovernmental Lobbying
O'Toole:#9; C-P: #14
 3. Inter-State Relations
O'Toole #10
 4. Inter-Local Relations

March 5 Mid-Term Exam

March 10 & 12 Spring Break

March 24-April 7 5. Public Policies in the Intergovernmental System
C-P: #5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Group Presentations

April 9-14 6. Managing Intergovernmental Performance
C-P: # 10, 11
(Essay assignment given Ap. 9; due Ap. 14)

C. Intersectoral Relations

April 16-28 Networks, Partnership and Collaborations
Agranoff & McGuire article

April 30 Wrapping-up
O'Toole, #28; C-P, 315

Plagiarism Warning:

Plagiarism is the use of another person's ideas or language without proper acknowledgement. Southern Illinois University-Carbondale's Student Conduct Code (Section II, Article A) explicitly states that plagiarism is an act of academic dishonesty in violation of the Code. According to university policy, students caught plagiarizing on an assignment may be punished by such measures as failing the assignment, failing the course, and/or suspension from the university. The Department of Political Science considers plagiarism a very serious offense. It is the student's responsibility not to plagiarize on an assignment, and ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism will not be considered a valid excuse for this behavior