

Y307 Indiana State Government and Politics
Fall Semester 2004
12:00-1:15 p.m. – Tuesday and Thursday
CM 112
Instructor: A. Downs

Office Hours

8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Monday
11:00 to 11:50 a.m. Tuesday
11:00 to 11:50 a.m. Thursday
By Appointment

Contact Information

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Texts:

Here Is Your Indiana Government, Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Readings for Indiana State Politics, IPFW Political Science Department

Requirements:

Examinations: Two are scheduled: October 21 and December 14. These will count for 50% of the final grade.

In-Class Essay: One in-class essay, worth 20% of the final grade, will be written during the regular class on September 28.

Semester Project: An outside project, negotiated by the student and the instructor, will constitute 20% of the final grade. It will be due on December 2.

Statewide Election Project: Each student will select a statewide election in Indiana to follow. On October 28, 2004, students will submit a description of the election they have been following based on news accounts, web sites, and other sources. Students also will submit a prediction of the outcome of the race based on the same information and information from the class. On November 11, 2004, students will submit an analysis of their prediction. The grade on this will count for 10% of the final grade.

If you have or acquire a disability and would like to find out what special services and accommodations may be available to you, contact Services for Students with Disabilities in WU 113 (481-6657, voice/TTY).

General Education

Y307 Indiana State Politics is eligible for Advanced Study Credit in IPFW's General Education Program. This Program, which applies to students entering the University after July 1995, requires that approved courses be taken in six different areas; one of these is Advanced Study. Approved Advance Study courses must be interdisciplinary and create opportunities for students to use linguistic and or numerical skills. Below you will find descriptions of this course related to General Education-Advanced Study.

I. Course Description

The politics of Indiana are remarkable in the degree that they vary from those of other states generally and from those in the Midwest specifically. This course studies the constitutions of Indiana; the legislative, executive and judicial branches of its government; its major categories of public policy; and the character and organization of the major political parties and institutions and processes of local government. The uniqueness of Indiana is emphasized. The characteristics of the culture that produced and sustains this uniqueness--Indiana's history, literature, geography, and economy--are also considered. Students will have several writing assignments.

II. General Education Criteria

- This course will study Indiana state politics according to a methodology that enables students to relate specific institutional characteristics to more general circumstances. As a technique for learning, this inductive process will be useful in a variety of settings after students leave the university.
- Because Indiana politics and government will be related to the general culture of the state and this treatment will include consideration of historical development, literature, political economy and geography, the course will be interdisciplinary to a degree and will develop the ability to make connections across disciplinary boundaries, to see and explain cause and effect relationships.
- Students in Y307 will learn about the Indiana Constitution, the legislative, executive and judicial branches of its government, the major political parties, public policies and local government. Political scientists use different methodologies to study each. A project is required and students will combine one of these methodologies with what they have discovered in their research to develop a study of their own on an aspect of Indiana politics.
- Extensive writing requirements in this course will foster the development of linguistic capabilities; some project topics depend upon statistics and demographic data and will relate to the numerical foundations component of general education.
- In Y307 Indiana State Politics students study their own politics and culture, but Indiana's variance from the rest of the United States and even the rest of the Midwest is so notable that comparisons with the moralistic political cultures and modern political institutions, policies and processes of other states are an important part of the course. Students will certainly be aware of the degree and origin of Indiana's special character.
- Indiana politics is the product of cultural values and attitudes, individual and group interests and opportunity and, in a circular process, that politics, its laws and public policies have an impact on

society. For instance, students will realize that attitudes toward taxes affect tax policy which affects tax revenue which affects individual opportunity--educational and occupational.

- Students will know Indiana more fully and, in comparing it to the rest of the United States, will become aware of the range of American diversity and their place in it. The beginning of a sympathetic understanding of others as different is the discovery that oneself is different, not like everyone else.

Schedule and Assignments

Date	Topic	Readings
8/24 and 8/26	Introduction; Federalism; Relations with the federal government and other states	
8/31, 9/2, 9/7, 9/9	Indiana's Political Setting and History	Text 1-38 and Readings: Mencken, p. 1; Wilson, p. 6; Martin, p. 12
9/14, 9/16, 9/21, 9/23	Indiana's Constitutions	Text 319-352 and Readings: Gass; Shepherd, p. 20; Pickrell, p. 32; Comer, p. 35
9/28	IN-CLASS ESSAY	
9/30, 10/5, 10/7	The General Assembly, The Governor, and the Plural Executive	Text 39-109; 115-151; 156-166; 353-358 and Readings: Madison, p. 39; Vandermeer, p. 45; Martin, p. 68; McCall, p. 73
10/12	NO CLASS	
10/14, 10/19	The General Assembly, The Governor, and the Plural Executive	
10/21	FIRST EXAM (History and state level government)	
10/26	The Upcoming Legislative Session	TBA
10/28	PART 1 OF STATEWIDE ELECTION PROJECT DUE; Gubernatorial election	TBA
11/2	NO CLASS	
11/4, 11/9	Political Parties and Elections	Text 303-318 and Readings: Von Hoffman, p. 82; Phillips, p. 104
11/11	PART 2 OF STATEWIDE ELECTION PROJECT DUE; Election Reform	TBA
11/16, 11/18	Local Government	Text 175-231; 237-296 and Readings: Lynd and Lynd, p. 89
11/23	The Courts	
11/25	NO CLASS	
11/30	The Courts	Text 167-174; 231-236
12/2	SEMESTER PROJECTS DUE; Taxing and Other Public Policies	Text 109-114; 152-157 and Readings: Herschell; Riley, p. 101
12/7, 12/9	Taxing and Other Public Policies	
12/14	SECOND EXAM 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Local government, elections, taxation, and other public policies)	

