

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Social Sciences
Reubin O'D. Askew School of Public Administration and Policy
Spring 2016
PAD 6300
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION IN FLORIDA

Wednesdays 5:30-8:15 PM
Room 0030 Bellamy Building

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Lance deHaven-Smith
OFFICE: Bellamy Building, Room 652
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00 PM or by appointment at other times
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Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course studies and analyzes Florida government, including its history, constitutions, politics, policies, and intergovernmental relations. The course examines the role of public administrators in the relationships in Florida between federal, state, and local systems with emphasis on administration and policy.

As background, the initial section of the course will focus briefly upon intergovernmental relations, and there we will look at a variety of topics including the evolution of the American federal system.

In the main part of the course, we will turn our attention to developing an understanding of state and local governmental administration in Florida, including state government as an operating institution within the federal system, and the origins and development of Florida within the state system. In so doing, we will look at the three levels of government in Florida (state, regional, and local) and how each functions in relation to the others.

The final part of the course will be devoted to several areas of public policy that have been central to Florida state and local government over the past several decades. The policy areas to be examined include budgeting and taxation, growth management, and election administration.

COURSE WEBSITE

All students are required to have FSU email accounts so that they can log onto the FSU website and access course materials and library resources. This course has a website on Blackboard. To access this site, go to <https://campus.fsu.edu/> and login with your FSU username and password. From there, you should see PAD 5700 in the list of your courses. Click on the course. Most posted readings and other posted materials will be in the folder named "Course Library."

REQUIRED TEXTS

Government and Politics in Florida, Third Edition by J. Edwin Benton (Paperback, 2008).

A Short History of Florida, by Michael Gannon (2003).

Reubin O'D. Askew and the Golden Age of Florida Politics, by Martin Dyckman (2011).

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Florida's Megatrends, Second Edition, by David Colburn and Lance deHaven-Smith

OTHER ASSIGNED TEXTS

The list of reading assignments in the Course Outline (below) does not include all of the materials to be covered during the course. Other course materials will be posted to the class website on Blackboard during the semester. These include PowerPoint presentations, historical documents, and a variety of government reports.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Course goals and objectives are to provide students with a basic understanding of the structure, organization and administration of state and local government in Florida. By the end of the course, students should be knowledgeable about the historical development of Florida's complex system of state and local government, its response to major challenges in the past, and the main issues confronting the state-local system now and for the foreseeable future.

THE FSU HONOR CODE

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code published in the Florida State University Bulletin and the Student Handbook. The Academic Honor Code of The Florida State University requires students to (1) uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in their own work, (2) refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the university community, and (3) foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility.

Violations of the Academic Honor Code are delineated in Chapter 8 of the Faculty Handbook (8.22.1 (b)). Students in PAD 6300 should pay special attention to paragraph 2.

2. *Regarding academic assignments, violations of the Academic Honor Code shall include representing another's work or any part thereof, be it published or unpublished, as one's own. It shall also include presenting or submitting any academic work in a manner that impairs the instructor's ability to assess the student's academic performance. For example, plagiarism includes failure to use quotation marks or other conventional markings around material quoted from any source.*

Plagiarism on any assignment in this course will result in a failing grade for the assignment and may result in a failing grade for the course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course assignments include four short essays, a term paper, a final examination, and class attendance and participation. Class participation includes a presentation to the class based on your term paper.

Final Exam: The Final Exam will be 50 multiple choice questions. The exam will be taken online and students will be allowed 3 hours to complete it. Practice questions will be provided toward the end of the semester to help students become familiar with the question format. Exam scores will be curved by increasing all scores by the number of points required to raise the highest score to 100.

The essays should be 1-2 pages in length and should report student observations of assigned government meetings. The meetings can be viewed in person or via video archives:

Essay #1: A meeting of the Governor and Cabinet. Videos of recent meetings as well as meetings since 1978 are available at <http://www.myflorida.com/myflorida/cabinet/>.

Essay #2: An oral argument before the Florida Supreme Court. Videos of oral arguments are available at <http://wfsu.org/gavel2gavel/>.

Essay #3: One meeting of the Senate and one meeting of the House committees on redistricting. Videos are available at <http://thefloridachannel.org/programs/redistricting/>

Essay #4: A meeting of a county commission or county legislative delegation. For example, the latter for Leon County is available at <http://leoncountybocc.pegcentral.com/player.php?video=dc07ae4e864bef9b9263cb7419ff3b1e>

Term paper assignment: Describe and analyze the evolution of Florida's intergovernmental system. This should include discussion of the state's six constitutions, the modernization of Florida's state and local governments in the late 1960s and 1970s, the role played by Governor Askew and others of his generation in successfully addressing civil rights, environmental protection, tax reform, judicial reform, growth managements and other challenges. What are the defined roles, responsibilities, and powers of the state, regional, and local governments today? Identify and discuss any points of intergovernmental conflict within and between each level of government. Conclude by proposing reforms to resolve or mitigate the intergovernmental

tensions or imbalances you identify. The Term Paper should be 7-15 pages, double spaced, with a bibliography and in-text citations using APA style.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS

(1) Hardcopy submissions. All assignments must be submitted in hardcopy. Please do not send them by email.

(2) Penalty for late assignments. Assignments are due on the appointed date. Essays count 5 points each toward finals grades. If properly completed and submitted on time, essays will earn the full 5 points. Each day an essay is late reduces the grade for that essay by 1 point. Grades for late Term Papers will be reduced 2 points for each day they are late.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all classes. The class meets only once each week, so missing one class is the equivalent of missing a week of coursework. Absences will be excused only for medical reasons or travel required for work. One unexcused absence will lower your grade for class participation by one step (e.g., if you were to receive an "A-" for class participation, your final grade for class participation would be a "B+" instead.) Each additional absence will incur a further one-step reduction in your participation grade.

GRADE CALCULATION

The four essays will count 5% each, for a total of 20% of your final grade; the term paper will count 30%; the final exam will count 30%; and class attendance will count 20%. The numerical standards converted into final letter grades for the course are: A, 93-100; A-, 90-92; B+, 87-89; B, 83-86; B-, 80-82. The breakdown within the letter grades below B is the same as B.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

(1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center;
and

(2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type.

This should be done during the first week of class. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Course Overview 1/6

2. Overview of Florida's Political History 1/13

Population growth; state government formation; local government formation.

Read: Benton, Introduction

Gannon, entire book

Dyckman, entire book to be completed in 3 weeks

3. Florida in the Federal System 1/20

Read: Benton Chapter 11

U. S. Constitution

The Gettysburg Address

Essay #1 due.

4. Florida's Constitutional development 1/27

Read: Florida Constitutions of 1838, 1861, 1865, 1868, 1885, and 1968

Florida Ordinance of Secession

Essay #2 due.

5. Local Government in Florida 2/3

County government; city government; school districts; water management districts; regional planning councils; other multi-county special districts.

Read: Benton, Chapter 10

Essay #3 due.

5. Constitutional Issues in Florida's Political History 2/10

The Constitutions of 1865 and 1868; Florida's financial debt from the Civil War; the disputed presidential election of 1876; racial apartheid in the "Progressive" Era; public indebtedness for development in the 1920s; Malapportionment in the 1950s and 1960s; the reform agenda since 1968; the Constitution Revision Process; the 1998 Constitutional revisions; the disputed 2000 presidential election.

Read: Benton, Chapter 9

Interposition Resolution at <http://www.floridamemory.com/FloridaHighlights/collins/>
Florida election laws of 1845, 2000, 2001, 2002
New York Times articles on the election (posted)

Essay # 4 due.

6. Florida's Electoral Politics 2/17

Voter registration trends; electoral patterns, 1948-1996; electoral patterns, 2000-present; Florida's primary system and its effects; major voting blocks and how they are being courted.

Read: Benton, Chapters 2-6.

7. Growth Management 2/24

Florida's natural environment; "growth management" as a policy concept; components of Florida's growth management system; performance of the system, 1975-1985; the reforms of 1985-86 (concurrency and consistency); failure of the "services tax"; performance of the concurrency management system; the ELMS III reforms and their failure; the most recent reforms.

Read: Benton, Chapter 16

Posted excerpts from deHaven-Smith, Environmental Concern in Florida and the Nation
The ELMS III Report

8. Taxation and Budgeting 3/2

The three types of taxes; Florida's effort to shift taxes to tourists; the resulting, built-in fiscal crisis; growth management as a budgeting system; unfunded mandates; other state intrusions into the tax base of local governments.

Read: Benton, Chapter 12

TBRC Report of 1991

TBRC Report of 2008

9. Spring Break

10. Intergovernmental Conflict at the Local Level 3/16

Read: Posted papers on annexation and water supply management

10. Student Presentations and Discussion 3/23

11. Student Presentations and Discussion 3/30

12. Student Presentations and Discussion 4/6

Term paper due.

13. Florida's Policy Agenda for the Future 4/13

14. Review for Final Exam 4/20

14. Online Final Exam 4/27