INDIANA GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

This is a political science course on Indiana politics. It examines the governmental organization, politics, and policies of the state of Indiana. Our emphasis is on the Hoosier state, but we will cast our analysis of Indiana in comparative terms. Throughout the course, we will attempt to point out how Indiana differs from, follows, and occasionally leads other states. There may be a temptation for some students to believe that this course will be “easier” than other political science courses since it focuses on a world with which they are quite familiar. Substantive knowledge, however, is only part of the equation of a political science course. As a discipline, political science rests upon theoretical perspectives and empirical, quantifiable observations. It is an analytical approach to the study of politics; this is what separates political science from political commentary.

Learning Objectives:

• Upon completion of this course, students will be able to identify and describe the political institutions of the state of Indiana.
• Students will be able to examine and report on the unique properties of Indiana political institutions and behavior.
• Students will be able to analyze and explain the forces affecting the nature and behavior of Indiana political institutions and actors.

Supplies:

• Smith & Greenblatt. Governing States and Localities: The Essentials. (Hereafter SG).
• Here Is You Indiana Government. (Hereafter HIYIG)
• 2015 Legislative Directory.
• Additional readings, marked with an asterisk, will be placed on reserve at Hicks Undergraduate Library
• iClicker
• 3 X 5 notecards

Grades: The semester grad is based on the following distribution:

• iClicker 5%
• Readings Quizzes 15%
• Muddiest/Most Important Point; Why 15%
• Gradient Paper 1 5%
• Gradient Paper 2 20%
• Assignments 10%
• Exam 1 15%
• Exam 2 15%

Course Policies: (1) In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines
and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. (2) I will accept late assignments only in the most extraordinary circumstances and when prior arrangements, if at all possible, are made. Late assignments will be docked ½ letter grade for each day late. I will accept NO assignments more than five days after their due dates. (3) There will be NO opportunity to make-up any assignments graded during the class period. (4) Both exams and the final paper must be completed in order to receive a passing grade in this course. (5) Plagiarism is academic dishonesty. If plagiarism is detected, I will fail your submission. I reserve the option to check your final papers for plagiarism using plagiarism-checking software available to the Purdue academic community. If you have any questions concerning plagiarism, refer to the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) at https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/. (6) Students are responsible for all information and announcements made in class or through electronic announcements from Mr. Waltenburg.

You should come to class prepared each day. Be current with the readings. Bring your notes, your textbook, iClicker, and notecards.

Signals:
This class uses Course Signals, a warning system to help you understand your academic standing in this class. When a signal is calculated, you will be sent an email with specific information about how you can maintain or enhance your grade. You will also see a signal icon in Blackboard, and clicking on it will show your current signal as well as the current email message. For more information on Course Signals, see the website (www.purdue.edu/signals) or watch the video (http://tinyurl.com/CourseSignals2014).

Statement on Classroom Civility:
Purdue University is committed to fostering diversity and inclusion and welcomes individuals of all ages, religions, sex, sexual orientations, races, nationalities, languages, military experience, disabilities, family statuses, gender identities and expressions, political views, and socioeconomic statuses. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by everyone in this course. Behaviors that threaten, harass, discriminate or that are disrespectful of others will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behaviors will be addressed with disciplinary action, which may include being referred to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Please visit Purdue’s Nondiscrimination policy for more information:
http://www.purdue.edu/purdue/ea_eou_statement.html
Schedule

Listed below is the order in which the subjects will be taken up over the course of the semester, along with the accompanying reading assignments. It is your responsibility to be current with the readings. That means you should have the appropriate material read before you come to class. If you are not certain what you should have read prior to class session, ask. There is a fair amount of required reading. Do not fall behind.

I. The “Political Science” of State Politics
   a. SG 1
   b. *Brace & Jewett

II. American Federalism
   a. National
      SG 2
   b. Indiana
      *Eisenstein 1

III. State Constitutions & Political Culture
   a. National
      SG 3
      *Elazar
   b. Indiana
      HIYIG “Constitution of Indiana, 1851”
      *Eisenstein 3
      *Peirce & Keefe, “Indiana”

IV. Mass Behavior: Parties, Interest Groups, Elections, & Attitudes
   1. Parties & Interest Groups
      a. National
         SG 6
      b. Indiana
         HIYIG 9
         *Eisenstein 12, 13
         *Shelly & Archer
         *Browning & Shaffer
         *Hadley

   2. Elections & Attitudes
      a. National
         SG 5
      b. Indiana
         *Eisenstein 14-16
**EXAM I**

V. Institutions – *Loftus
   1. Legislature
      a. National
         SG 7
      b. Indiana
         HIYIG pp. 30-39; 10
         *Eisenstein 6
         *Hadley
   2. Governors
      a. National
         SG 8
      b. Indiana
         HIYIG pp. 17-29; 2
         *Eisenstein 4
   3. Judiciary
      a. National
         SG 9
      b. Indiana
         HIYIG 8
         *Eisenstein 7-8

V. Local Politics
   a. National
      SG 10
   b. Indiana
      HIYIG 3
      *Eisenstein 10-11

**EXAM II**