WARNING!! Do not rely on a printed copy of this syllabus. Only the online version is authoritative. I may modify the readings for a future lecture, and you will not know about the change unless you are using the online syllabus. WARNING!!

Professor Adam Brown
Email: brown@byu.edu
Office phone: (801) 422-2182
Course website: http://adambrown.info/p/courses/2011/fall/311
Last syllabus update: August 25th, 2011

Office location: 772 SWKT
Office hours: 8:30am-10:00am MWF, or stop by whenever

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What's this course about?

- Why do state and local governments matter?
- How do state and local politics compare to national politics?
- Which states govern best? Do states produce better (or worse) governance than Washington does? Why?
- How do political institutions and policies vary from state to state? Does it matter?

To summarize one major theme underlying these questions: What changes might we make to our federal Constitution given the lessons we can learn from the states, the "laboratories of democracy?"

This course looks at all 50 states, not just Utah. Nevertheless, I draw disproportionately on Utah for examples because that is where you all live right now. Whether you intend to spend your future years in Utah or not, I will expect you to follow Utah politics this semester so that we can all discuss the same current events.
Broader learning outcomes

The political science department has established specific learning outcomes to ensure that all our graduates grow spiritually and intellectually. Memorizing facts and theories is only one of the twelve learning outcomes. In this class, we will also work on these goals:

- "Possess a factual and theoretical knowledge of ... political processes." Yes, you will memorize facts and theories.
- "Be able to articulate principles of faith in political analysis." We will discuss religion and politics in several lectures.
- "Participate effectively in political processes." You will attend city council meetings and learn how to influence your local governments.
- "Write professional grade research papers on political science questions," "think critically, analytically, and synthetically," and "use appropriate methods of analysis and research." Yes, there is a paper in this class. Surely you aren't surprised. Writing it contributes to these three learning objectives.
- "Want to serve the communities ... to which they [students] belong." I encourage you to volunteer for a local political campaign of your choice or apply for an internship.

Grades and assignments

I use a variety of assessment methods to keep final grades as fair as possible. Expect a mix of closed-form exam questions (e.g. multiple choice, true/false), open-ended exam questions, and take-home papers.

15% City council analysis (3-part assignment; instructions)
25% Midterm #1
25% Midterm #2
35% Final exam (testing center)

Where to turn assignments in: If a written assignment is due on a day that we meet, then it is due in class. Otherwise (or if it is late), put it in the drop box near the elevators on the 7th floor SWKT. Do NOT email assignments or slide them under my door.

Late assignments: Unless some other time is specified below, all assignments are due at the beginning of class before the bell rings. Any paper turned in on the due date (before 4:50pm) but after the designated time gets a 5% penalty. One weekday late is a 10% penalty; two weekdays late is a 25% penalty; later is unacceptable. Late papers must be turned in hard copy to the drop box, not by email or under my door.

Missed exams: No makeups unless you (1) arrange it in advance for a valid reason or (2) have a genuine emergency and contact me as soon as possible to work things out. Note that the final exam cannot be rescheduled.

Attendance: You will do poorly on the exams if you do not attend every lecture. If you must miss a lecture, get notes from another student. After reviewing those notes, all assigned readings, and my lecture slides, you should visit me in my office to go over any questions you have.

City council meetings: You are required to attend two public meetings of any local city council. You will write about these meetings. Most councils and boards meet only once or twice a month, so you will need to plan ahead to attend if you wish to avoid late penalties on your papers. Assignment instructions.

Final exam mercy rule: If you do better on the final than on one (or both) of the midterms, then whichever midterm you perform worst on will have its weight reduced by 5 percentage points and the final will have its
weight increased by 5 percentage points.

This is a plan, not a contract, and anything you read in this syllabus is subject to change at my discretion.

What books do we need to buy?


- BYU bookstore: $100+ (gasp!). Amazon: $103 new, $60ish used. If you buy it used, make sure you buy the second edition.
- This is the 2nd edition, heavily revised from the 1st. It should look like the image above. If it looks different, then you probably have the wrong edition. Also, the 2nd edition came out in 2010; if you buy a book published in 2009, it is the 1st edition.
- Can we use the 1st edition? You can probably get by with a 1st edition, but you do so at your own risk. There may be questions on exams that refer to material that is only in the newest edition. If that's your choice, the 1st edition is cheap on Amazon. To help you figure out which pages in the 1st edition correspond to the assigned readings below (from the 2nd edition), here's the table of contents from the 2nd edition.

Required: The news. Stay abreast of developments in Utah politics. Whether you intend to settle in Utah or not, we will use Utah news as a running case study in our discussions of state-level politics. Questions about current events WILL appear on your exams.

- The easiest way to remain current with Utah political news is to sign up for "Political Cornflakes," a daily news digest published by the Salt Lake Tribune. You will receive a daily email with links to the main stories about Utah politics. Sign up here; be sure to check the "Political cornflakes" box before hitting "sign up."

Policies

Workload. As the BYU catalog states, "The expectation for undergraduate courses is three hours of work per week per credit hour for the average student who is appropriately prepared; much more time may be required to achieve excellence." Elsewhere, The catalog defines an A as "excellent," a B as "good," and a C as "satisfactory." If you want a B or C, plan to spend 9 hours each week on this class. If you want to "achieve excellence" (an A), remember that "much more time may be required."

Plagiarism: While all students sign the honor code, there are still specific skills most students need to master over time in order to correctly cite sources, especially in this new age of the internet, as well as deal with the stress and strain of college life without resorting to cheating. Please know that as your professor I will notice instances of cheating on exams or plagiarizing on papers. General information about the honor code can be found at http://honorcode.byu.edu. Details about Academic Honesty are found in the university catalog.

Writing submitted for credit at BYU must consist of the student's own ideas presented in sentences and paragraphs of his or her own construction. The work of other writers or speakers may be included when appropriate (as in a research paper or book review), but such material must support the student's own work (not substitute for it) and must be clearly identified by appropriate introduction and punctuation and by footnoting or other standard referencing.

The substitution of another person's work for the student's own or the inclusion of another person's work without adequate acknowledgment (whether done intentionally or not) is known as plagiarism. It is a violation
of academic, ethical, and legal standards and can result in a failing grade not only for the paper but also for
the course in which the paper is written. In extreme cases, it can justify expulsion from the University.
Because of the seriousness of the possible consequences, students who wonder if their papers are within these
guidelines should visit the Writing Lab or consult a faculty member who specializes in the teaching of writing
or who specializes in the subject discussed in the paper. Useful books to consult on the topic include the
current Harbrace College Handbook, the MLA Handbook, and James D. Lester's Writing Research Papers.

**Discrimination:** Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any
participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate
sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and
student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU=s policy against sexual harassment extends not only to
employees of the university but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender
based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Opportunities Office at
422-5895 or 367-5689 (24-hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 422-2847.

**Disabilities:** Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which
reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair
your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center
(422-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified
documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the UAC office. If you
need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you
may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal
Employment Opportunity Office at 422-5895, D-282 ASB

**Reading schedule**

Dates and deadlines are subject to change. "Terms" will appear on the exams; there are also terms listed at the
end of each chapter in your textbook. "Readings" are required; please tell me if a link is broken. "Resources"
are not required, but I may draw on them during class.

You can also view the reading schedule in calendar format.

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**Unit 1:** Why study state and local politics?

**Mon, Aug 29th, 2011.** Course overview. Why study state politics? What questions can we answer? What do state and local
governments do?
- Terms: input; machine; John Curtis; Don Jarvis; Dean Sanpei
- Readings (17 pages):
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (pp 1-12) [12 pages]
  - Start readings for next time
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

**Wed, Aug 31st, 2011.** Different inputs. How do the "inputs" vary from state to state? Do states have different political cultures? Does
Utah Republican = California Republican? Is there an LDS political culture?
- Terms: political culture (or subculture); partisan cleavage; traditionalist; moralist; individualist; LDS political culture
- Readings (72 pages):
  - Kimball (1992), "Political Culture." In *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*, pp. 1106-7 (Note: This is a 13 page download, but
only read the 2 pages on political culture.) [2 pages]
  - Pew Forum (2009), "A Portrait of Mormons in the U.S." (three parts) (or as PDF) [26 pages]
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 1); spread this out until next time if needed [39 pages]

- Terms: laboratories of democracy; innovation; diffusion
- Readings (40 pages):
  - Kurtz (2008), "No Modern Experiments with a Parliamentary System in the States" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Morehouse and Jewell (2004), "States as Laboratories: A Reprise" [29 pages]
  - Read the summary of Volden, Ting, and Carpenter's article, "A Formal Model of Learning and Policy Diffusion," at abstractpolitics.com. It's short but very dense; read it twice if necessary. The original article (not required) is here [4 pages]
  - Finish ch 1 in the textbook if you didn't last time

Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

Unit 2: America's federal system

Mon, Sep 12th, 2011. Federalism, part I. A history of American federalism from 1776 to 2009. Just how "federal" is this country, anyway?

- Terms: state; unitary; confederal; federal; Shays' rebellion; dual federalism; shared (cooperative) federalism; centralization; Supremacy Clause; Necessary and Proper Clause (i.e. Elastic Clause); Commerce Clause; McCulloch v. Maryland; Ogden v. Gibbons
- Readings (56 pages):
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 2) [35 pages]
  - LaVarr Webb (2008), "State vs. Local: Do Federalism Principles Apply?" In the June 18th, 2008, Utah Policy Daily email newsletter. Look on page 2 of the PDF [2 pages]
  - Kettl (2008), "Department of yesterday" [2 pages]
  - McCulloch v. Maryland (1819), read syllabus only [4 pages]
  - Gibbons v. Ogden (1824), read syllabus only [2 pages]
  - Lohmer (2009), "An issue of sovereignty" [4 pages]
  - NYT Times (2009), "In some states, a push to ban mandate on insurance" (or as PDF) [2 pages]

Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Wed, Sep 14th, 2011. Federalism, part II. Does it matter? Should states have rights?

- Terms: Madison's dilemma
- Readings (33 pages):
  - Madison (1787), The Federalist, #10 and #51 [5 pages]
  - Kettl (2006), "It's Broke – Fix It: The problem in New Orleans isn't FEMA but federalism" [2 pages]
  - Oaks (1992), "Our divinely inspired Constitution" [8 pages]
  - Pound (2006), "Strong states, strong nation" [2 pages]
  - Politico (2009), "States say to feds: Get off our turf" [2 pages]
  - Waddoups and Clark (2010), "A modest proposal to the federal government: Let Utah do it" [2 pages]
  - Associated Press (2009), "Concealed guns law rejected in close Senate vote" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - NY Times (2010), "States' rights is rallying cry for lawmakers" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
  - Daily Herald (2009), "Crazy quilt gay agenda in SLC" (or as PDF) [1 page]
  - Salt Lake Tribune (2009), "Provo Newspaper Blasts Becker's 'Crazy Quilt Gay Agenda'" [1 page]

Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

Unit 3: Who gets to govern? Elections and parties in the states

- **Terms:** calculus of voting; responsiveness; substantive representation; descriptive representation; policy liberalism; opinion liberalism; underresponsiveness; overresponsiveness

- **Readings (60 pages):**
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 3, also 165-168, also 252-263) [48 pages]
  - Brown (2011), "Losing to Nobody? The Case of Nevada's "None of these Candidates" Ballot Reform" (or as PDF) [7 pages]
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

- **Resources:** Show resources

**Wed, Sep 21st, 2011.** One-party states. The South (once upon a time) ... and Utah? Can one-party states be democratic? Why has Utah become so Republican?

- **Terms:** faction; cleavage; colonial vs semi-autochthonous

- **Readings (55 pages):**
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (pp 151-152, 154box, 175-186) [14 pages]
  - Key (1949), *Southern politics in state and nation, ch 14* [14 pages]
  - Salt Lake Tribune (1998), "GOP dominance troubles [Mormon] Church" [4 pages]
  - Salt Lake Tribune (1998), *Complete transcript of Marlin Jensen interview* [8 pages]
  - Deseret News (2006), "Letter by LDS leaders cheers Utah Democrats" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (2008), "Hear latest on Demos in county?" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (2010), *Poll: Utah state delegates out of step with most Utahns* (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (2010), "Some Utah County Republicans Switching Sides" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

- **Resources:** Show resources

**Mon, Sep 26th, 2011.** Minor parties. Why are there only two (major) parties in America? Why are there only the same two parties in most states?

- **Terms:** fusion; runoff; minor/third party; M+1 rule; ENP; Duverger's law; Duverger's hypothesis; linkage; multimember district (MMD); district magnitude (M); single member district (SMD)

- **Readings (35 pages):**
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (153-165) [12 pages]
  - Cox (1999), "Electoral rules and electoral coordination" [18 pages]
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

- **Resources:** Show resources

**Wed, Sep 28th, 2011.** Woohoo! (No class)

- **DUE:** Midterm #1. Take it in the testing center on Wednesday or Thursday.

- **Readings (5 pages):**
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

- **FYI:** Go to a city council meeting soon if you haven't already. Most city councils meet every other Tuesday. Check the schedules and decide when you will attend. Part 1 of the city council assignment is due soon (when?); read the assignment instructions. Before attending, read about your city in my handout, "Forms of Local Government in Utah"

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**Unit 4: Legislatures and legislation**


- **Terms:** incumbency advantage; challenger quality; rolloff; calculus of voting; redistricting; partisan gerrymander; bipartisan gerrymander; one man, one vote; contiguity; compactness

- **Readings (86 pages):**
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (226-263) [37 pages]
  - Moncrief, Squire, and Jewell (2001), *Who runs for the legislature?, ch 1* [17 pages]
  - Stateline (2010), "Republicans win most legislative seats in generations" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
Stuff about redistricting

- Ehrenhalt (2007), "Party lines" [4 pages]
- Play the redistricting game. No, really. We're going to discuss it. At a minimum, try the "basic" version of missions 1, 2, 3, and 4. Mission 5 is optional. To help you budget your time, let's count this as [20 pages]
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources


- Terms: Speaker; Rules Committee; median voter theorem; agenda control; citizen legislature; professional legislature; shrimp hour; Artie Samish; Samish's Gestapo; the three s's of professionalism (salary, staff, session length); transformative; responsive; term limits
- Readings (37 pages):
  - Rosenthal (2001), "The legislature as sausage factory: It's about time we examine this metaphor." [4 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "GOP powered Utah's 2009 session" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (pp 263-283) [20 pages]
  - Kolman (2007), "Brain drain: Many legislative staffers are due to retire soon—taking with them a ton of experience" [3 pages]
  - The Economist (2006), "Term limits and democracy: Out with the old [2 pages]
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

FYI: Go to a city council meeting soon if you haven't already. Most city councils meet every other Tuesday. Check the schedules and decide when you will attend. Part 1 of the city council assignment is due soon (when?); read the assignment instructions. Before attending, read about your city in my handout, "Forms of Local Government in Utah"

Mon, Oct 10th, 2011. Direct democracy, part 1. Why do some states have direct democracy but not others? What are the types of direct democracy? Why do some states have more initiatives than others?

- Terms: progressivism; initiative (direct vs indirect, statute vs amendment); referendum (legislative vs popular); recall; qualification difficulty (signature requirement, dispersion, circulation period); legislative insulation
- Readings (46 pages):
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 4) [39 pages]
  - Smith and Fridkin (2008), "Delegating direct democracy: Interparty legislative competition and the adoption of the initiative in the American states" (Read summary here) [2 pages]
  - Start working on readings for next time
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

Wed, Oct 12th, 2011. City council makeup time (No class)

- Readings (5 pages):
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]
- FYI:
  - I am requiring you to attend two city council meetings this semester. These meetings typically last 3 or more hours, so I will cancel two classes to free up enough time for you to attend two meetings without falling behind in your other classes. Go to a city council meeting soon if you haven't already. Most city councils meet every other Tuesday. Check the schedules and decide when you will attend. Part 1 of the city council assignment is due soon (when?); read the assignment instructions.
  - Before attending, read about your city in my handout, "Forms of Local Government in Utah"


- DUE: City council part 1 (instructions)
- Terms: first and second "law" of initiative qualification; 2003 California recall; gun behind the door; information shortcut
- Readings (67 pages):
  - Bowler and Cain (2004), "Recalling the Recall: Reflections on California's Recent Political Adventure" [3 pages]
  - Lupia and Matsusaka (2004), "Direct democracy: New approaches to old questions" [22 pages]
  - skim Gerber (1996), "Legislative response to the threat of popular initiatives" (look for the point; don't get too caught up in the complicated game theory proofs) [27 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "Latest Utah initiative: Ethics in government" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "GOP will oppose citizen initiatives" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "Ethics reform taking shape" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (March 2011), "Utah lawmakers repeal controversial open records law" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources
**Unit 5: Governors**

**Wed, Oct 19th, 2011.** Gubernatorial approval and elections. Are governors blamed for state problems, or only for their party's national performance? Who runs for governor? Who wins? Can rich candidates "buy" the election?

- **Terms:** gubernatorial; functional responsibility; divided federalism; strategic entry calculus; strategic donor; challenger quality; incumbency advantage; direct and indirect effects of spending; self finance; external finance
- **Readings (80 pages):**
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (pp 284-312) [28 pages]
- **Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]
- **Resources:** Show resources

**FYI:**
- Yes, that's a lot of pages to read, but the long one is double spaced.
- Go to a second city council meeting soon if you haven't already. Most city councils meet every other Tuesday. Check the schedules and decide when you will attend. Part 2 of the city council assignment is due soon (when?). Read the assignment instructions. Before attending, read about your city in my handout, *"Forms of Local Government in Utah"*

**Mon, Oct 24th, 2011.** Gubernatorial powers. What are the governor's three main jobs? What can governors do (formal/informal)? When do vetoes matter?

- **Terms:** Chief executive; chief policy maker; head of state; veto; item veto; reduction veto; amendatory veto; "Vanna White" veto; plural executive; appointment power; tenure potential; control over budget; agenda-setting power; persuasive power
- **Readings (28 pages):**
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (pp 312-333) [21 pages]
  - NY Times (2010), *Jokes and Secret Hopes for Lieutenant Governors* (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- **Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]
- **Resources:** Show resources

**Wed, Oct 26th, 2011.** City council makeup time (No class)

- **Readings (5 pages):**
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

**FYI:**
- I am requiring you to attend two city council meetings this semester. These meetings typically last 3 or more hours, so I will cancel two classes to free up enough time for you to attend two meetings without falling behind in your other classes. Go to a second city council meeting soon if you haven't already. Most city councils meet every other Tuesday. Check the schedules and decide when you will attend. Part 2 of the city council assignment is due soon (when?); read the assignment instructions. Before attending, read about your city in my handout, *"Forms of Local Government in Utah"*

**Mon, Oct 31st, 2011.** Catch up and review

- **DUE:** City council part 2 (instructions)
- **Readings (5 pages):**
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

**FYI:** I always fall behind when covering legislatures and governors, but it's never predictable in advance which topic will strike our fancy enough to cause the problem. Today, we'll catch up on everything. If there is time at the end, I'll take midterm review questions.

**Wed, Nov 2nd, 2011.** Yay! (No class)

- **DUE:** Midterm #2. Go to the testing center on Wednesday or Thursday.
- **Readings (5 pages):**
Unit 6: Local governments

Mon, Nov 7th, 2011. Street Fight (DVD in library, not class)
- Terms: Cory Booker; Sharpe James; party machine
- Readings (15 pages):
  - Watch Street Fight (see instructions below)
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (168-170) [3 pages]
  - Riordon (1905), Plunkitt of Tammany Hall (excerpts) [7 pages]
  - Start readings for next time; catch up on previous readings if necessary
  - Work on your final city council paper (instructions; see part 3)
- Resources: Show resources
- FYI:
  - Go to the library's Media Center and ask for Street Fight, a fabulous documentary about a mayoral race in Newark. It's just a little too long to show in class, so watch it in the Media Center or get it from Netflix. As you watch, ask yourself how today's readings might be relevant.
  - You can go anytime that the Media Center is open.
  - This film is part of our next unit (local governments), so it will not be on midterm #2. Please watch it and do the readings before our next meeting.

Wed, Nov 9th, 2011. The strange structure of local government. What are the various types of local governance structures in Utah? Are school districts different from special districts?
- Terms: county; municipality; special district; school district; mayor-council; council-manager; party machine (see book); property tax; sales tax; Proposition 13 (California); sales tax canyon; metropolitan fragmentation; zoning; eminent domain
- Readings (61 pages):
  - A Veteran's Day thought: A Soldier's Refrain: Going Home. Follow the link, then click "Listen to the story." [3:45]
  - General background
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 11) [37 pages]
  - Daily Herald (Jan 2011), "Time for a second look at countywide library system?" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
  - Special districts
  - Manolatos (2008), Fire agencies [in San Diego] at brink of historic unification (Note that there are two files—the article and the graphic.) [3 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "County OKs law enforcement fees" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "UTA annexes Santatuan" [1 page]
  - Forms of city government
  - Deseret News (Feb 2007), "Suit wants Syracuse government to revert" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (Oct 2007), "Syracuse to vote on mayor's role" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (2008), "Smithfield considers strong-mayor system" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
  - Deseret News (Jan 2009), "West Jordan mulling a full-time mayor" (or as PDF) [1 page]
  - Deseret News (June 2009), [West Jordan] Mayor's job still part time" (or as PDF) [1 page]
  - Salt Lake Tribune (Feb 2011), "Lehi group petitions to assign council seats to neighborhoods" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]
- Resources: Show resources
- FYI: Have you noticed that many lectures have a "show resources" link below the readings? There's a handout in today's resources that may be helpful to understanding forms of city government. It's not a required reading, but I encourage you to flip through it.

- Readings (53 pages):
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 12) [37 pages]
  - Ehrenhalt (2007), "Breaking the density deadlock" [4 pages]
  - Burnett (2007), "Capping the burden" [3 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "Utah property-tax burden creeps up" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
Unit 7: Judges and justice

Wed, Nov 16th, 2011. State judicial systems. What is the state court's role? Can elected judges be independent?
- Terms: merit plan; nonpartisan election; partisan election; legislative appointment; gubernatorial appointment; drafting judges; trial court; intermediate court of appeal; supreme court; specialized court; criminal law; civil law
- Readings (79 pages):
  - Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 9) [51 pages]
  - skim Streb (2008), *Rethinking American electoral democracy, ch 3* [18 pages]
  - Hamilton (1787), *The Federalist*, #78 [3 pages]
  - NYTimes (2009), "Justices Tell Judges Not to Rule on Major Backers" [2 pages] (as PDF)
- Resources: Show resources
- FYI: You should probably have made an appointment with the FHSS writing center by now (city council instructions; see part 3).

Mon, Nov 21st, 2011. Crime and punishment. What are the goals of criminal justice policy? How is justice policy made? Do "tough on crime" laws work?
- **DUE:** Draft to FHSS writing center (instructions; see part 3). Please make an appointment in advance. If you drop in shortly before they close you might get turned away, resulting in a penalty on your paper.
- Terms: deterrence; retribution/punishment; incapacitation; rehabilitation; truth-in-sentencing; three strikes; sex offender registry; mandatory sentencing guidelines; parole; probation; legislation by anecdote; crime news script; hug-a-thug; Ronnie Lee Gardner; blood atonement; death penalty; firing squad
- Readings (70 pages):
  - Levitt and Dubner (2005), *Freakonomics*, ch 4, "Where have all the criminals gone?" [30 pages]
  - Read this packet of newspaper articles about the June 18, 2010, execution of Ronnie Lee Gardner here in Utah [16 pages]
  - Faust (2007), *The Healing Power of Forgiveness* [3 pages]
  - Deseret News (2009), "Panel of their peers: Youth Court in action" [2 pages]
  - Read this packet of newspaper articles about Utah's drug court system [6 pages]
  - Deseret News (2008), "Expanded offender registry too broad?" (August 7, Deseret News) [2 pages]
  - Mosiah 28:1-7 (especially verse 3), *Alma 24* (especially verses 10-11) [2 pages]
  - Alma 48: 21-24 [1 page]
  - 3 Nephi 5:4-6 [1 page]
  - Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]
- Resources: Show resources
- FYI: Yes, that's a lot of readings today, but they are perhaps the most worthwhile readings I will assign all semester. The reason is simple: These topics have more to do with the atonement of Christ than just about any other policy area. Please read these items carefully.
  - If you find the packet about Ronnie Lee Gardner interesting, here's an optional follow-up piece: "LDS bishop recounts Ronnie Lee Gardner's final days". In this article published a year after Gardner's execution, his LDS bishop reflects on Gardner's final days.

Unit 8: Public policy debates in the states—and in Utah

Mon, Nov 28th, 2011. Fiscal policy. Where should states get their revenue? What criteria might you use to evaluate a state's tax policy? How does "fiscal federalism" influence state fiscal policies? How can tax policies be subtly regressive?
DUE: City council paper (instructions; see part 3). Turn it in to the drop box near the 7th floor SWKT elevators no later than 4:00pm. Early submissions are very welcome.

Terms: sales tax (general vs selective); sin tax; property tax; estate tax; income tax; severance tax; user fees; lotteries; progressive vs regressive taxation; fiscal federalism; matching grant; block grant; flat tax

Readings (65 pages):
- Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 10) [41 pages]
- Nicholson-Crotty (2008), "Fiscal Federalism and Tax Effort in the U.S. States" [15 pages]
- NY Times (2009), "What's next, sidewalk tolls?" (or as PDF) [4 pages]
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

Wed, Nov 30th, 2011. Church and state. What has been the Church's role in Utah politics (past and present)? When might the establishment and free exercise clauses conflict?

Terms: Toleration Act; establishment clause; free exercise clause; theocracy; de jure establishment; de facto establishment; Utah War; Reed Smoot; Main Street Plaza; easement

Readings (39 pages):
- Utah Constitution (I.1, I.4, III.1, III.4, IV.1, X.1, X.12, X.13, XIII.3) [5 pages]
- Utah History Encyclopedia (1994), "Utah War" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- NY Times (1902), "Oppose Mormon Candidate" [1 page]
- NY Times (1906), Senators Vote 7 to 5 Against Reed Smoot [1 page]
- Deseret News (Nov 2009), "Mormon church supports Salt Lake City's protections for gay rights" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "Mormon Church seeks to be 'more proactive' in green-building efforts with City Creek" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Deseret News (2010), "Mormon Church unveils solar powered meetinghouse" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "LDS on illegal immigration: Don't split families" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

Mon, Dec 5th, 2011. Religious, racial, and ethnic diversity in Utah. What's it like for non-white, non-Mormons? How might the definition of "minority" change in Utah in the next 20-30 years?

Terms: Descriptive representation; Genesis Group; Darius Gray; 1978 Revelation; Utah Compact

Readings (66 pages):
- Shipps (2005), "The need for greater kindness" [4 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "Two Ualhns who spent childhood in internment camps say history must not repeat" (or as PDF) [5 pages]
- Blacks and Mormons
- Blacks and Mormons (oldest to newest)
- Deseret News (2008), "The New Majority: Hispanics, others set to eclipse whites" [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "As immigration summit convenes, Utah probes more workers" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "LDS Church repeats call for 'civil discourse' on immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Deseret News (2010), "Governor calls for thoughtful approach to reform at immigration summit" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
- New York Times (2010), "Mormon-owned paper stands with immigrants" (or as PDF) [4 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "Sandstrom has no answer about driving privilege card" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "LDS on illegal immigration: Don't split families" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- LDS news release (2010), "Church Supports Principles of Utah Compact on Immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Latinos and illegal immigration
- Latinos and illegal immigration (oldest to newest)
- Deseret News (2008), "The New Majority: Hispanics, others set to eclipse whites" [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "As immigration summit convenes, Utah probes more workers" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "LDS Church repeats call for 'civil discourse' on immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Deseret News (2010), "Governor calls for thoughtful approach to reform at immigration summit" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
- New York Times (2010), "Mormon-owned paper stands with immigrants" (or as PDF) [4 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "Sandstrom has no answer about driving privilege card" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "LDS on illegal immigration: Don't split families" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- LDS news release (2010), "Church Supports Principles of Utah Compact on Immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Muslims in Utah
- Muslims in Utah
- Muslims in Utah (oldest to newest)
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

Wed, Dec 7th, 2011. Morality and gay marriage. What is "morality" policy? How does morality policy get made? What does the church say about homosexuality?

Terms: full faith and credit clause; Proposition 22 (California, 2000); Proposition 8 (California, 2009)

Readings (69 pages):
- Shipps (2005), "The need for greater kindness" [4 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "Two Ualhns who spent childhood in internment camps say history must not repeat" (or as PDF) [5 pages]
- Blacks and Mormons
- Blacks and Mormons (oldest to newest)
- Deseret News (2008), "The New Majority: Hispanics, others set to eclipse whites" [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "As immigration summit convenes, Utah probes more workers" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "LDS Church repeats call for 'civil discourse' on immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Deseret News (2010), "Governor calls for thoughtful approach to reform at immigration summit" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
- New York Times (2010), "Mormon-owned paper stands with immigrants" (or as PDF) [4 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "Sandstrom has no answer about driving privilege card" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "LDS on illegal immigration: Don't split families" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- LDS news release (2010), "Church Supports Principles of Utah Compact on Immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Latinos and illegal immigration
- Latinos and illegal immigration (oldest to newest)
- Deseret News (2008), "The New Majority: Hispanics, others set to eclipse whites" [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "As immigration summit convenes, Utah probes more workers" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Deseret News (2010), "LDS Church repeats call for 'civil discourse' on immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Deseret News (2010), "Governor calls for thoughtful approach to reform at immigration summit" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
- New York Times (2010), "Mormon-owned paper stands with immigrants" (or as PDF) [4 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "Sandstrom has no answer about driving privilege card" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- Salt Lake Tribune (2010), "LDS on illegal immigration: Don't split families" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
- LDS news release (2010), "Church Supports Principles of Utah Compact on Immigration" (or as PDF) [1 page]
- Muslims in Utah
- Muslims in Utah
- Muslims in Utah (oldest to newest)
- Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]

Resources: Show resources

关闭
• Donovan, Mooney, and Smith (ch 13) [45 pages]
• Salt Lake Tribune (Nov 2008), "Push for Utah gay rights laws gets its first test today" [2 pages]
• Deseret News (Oct 2009), "Freedom of religion under attack, LDS leader says" (or as PDF) [3 pages]
• Deseret News (Nov 2009), "Mormon church supports Salt Lake City's protections for gay rights" (or as PDF) [2 pages]
• Skim interview with LDS leaders about "same-gender attraction" (or as PDF) [12 pages]
• Follow Utah political news (DN, SLT, DH) [5 pages]
• Resources: Show resources

**Final exam**: The final exam will be in the testing center throughout finals week.

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