

PSCI/MPIA/GIA/UAP 5164 Collaborative Governance and Civil Society

<http://Scholar.vt.edu>

Jeremy Hunsinger

jhuns@vt.edu

AIM buridan1

office hours Noon until 2 Monday, Tuesday

526 major williams hall 0130

Theoretical foundations of collaborative policy and governance approaches are examined. Strategies and methods for forming and sustaining collaborative coalitions are discussed. Case studies are used to illustrate the effectiveness of collaborative approaches in different policy domains. I

The course goals are:

1. To gain a solid understanding of the problems of collaborative governance;
2. To develop a critical interpretation of the relationship between networked mediations and governance at the local, national, and transnational levels;
3. To understand some of the basic governing policies, governing groups, constituent groups, and interested parties;
4. To critically evaluate scholarship in the field;
5. To develop collaborative skills in relation to collaborative governance.

Collaborative governance is the process of engaging constituents comprised interested parties in the process of governance. Civil society is defined as the totality of the social organizations and their non-state institutions. This course seeks to develop the students understanding of these concepts in order to aid their practices of engaging civil society using collaborative governance. To that end, the class is comprised of readings, collaborative work toward case studies and class discussion.

Grades:

Participation: 20

Reading Reviews: 20

Case study 1: 20

Case Study 2: 30

Final Exam: 10

Total 100 points possible

Graded assignments:

Participation:

Participation is graded holistically. It is comprised of your class discussion, your group participation, and your discussion leader performance. As discussion leader, you are responsible for introducing questions, issues, and related matters from the text each week. As a member of the class, you are expected to freely contribute to those discussions. In your group, you should contribute to the discussion of your case study.

Reading Review:

Four reading reviews are due this semester. We will be reading 8 or more books. Reading reviews will be graded on whether you demonstrate you have read the book, whether you have engaged the book on a scholarly level, and mechanics (spelling, grammar, logic, structure, etc). Each reading review is worth 5 points. It should be 2-4 pages long. It should have a short introduction and conclusion. It should not be evaluative as much as critical and constructive, and specifically inclusive of your own personal viewpoint. It should be posted to scholar by 8pm on Monday. Please post them online in the scholar forums.

Case studies:

You will have two case studies. A case study is a collaborative group project where you work to deliver weekly deliverables that aid your group in resolving an issue you develop in the particular case using collaborative governance. Deliverables will vary depending on the project the group is performing, but will culminate into a larger work which is due the last week of the case study. The first case study will be started in week 5 and culminate in week 8, the second will begin in week 9 and proceed to week 12.

Final exam:

In the final exam, you will answer five questions out of ten possible. Each question will be worth 2 points, and each answer should be approximately one or two pages. The exam will be distributed in week 13 and returned by 5pm the day of the final exam.

Books

Deliberative Policy Analysis

Democratic Governance

Exploit

Managing Within Networks

Marketing of Rebellion

NGOs and Transnational Networks

Politics of The Governed
Triple Helix

Optional
Democracy incorporated
Wiki Government
Democracy Incorporated

On Disabilities:

I cannot act on any issue that you may have that differentiates you from the rest of the populace unless you have that difference documented by the university and the university tells me how to manage the difference. Without university documentation, I must treat everyone the same, which is a standard of fairness.

On Leeway and Emergencies:

If you need more time for something, ask before it is due. If you have an emergency, take care of your emergency and contact me at your convenience afterwards. This course is not more important than the welfare of humans or animals within your care or yourself. I always will try to treat every situation fairly. I may ask for documentation of some situations. However, most reasonable things are... by definition reasonable, so do what is reasonable.

On Incompletes:

I do not give incompletes. I will give you the final grade that you earn in the class when the class is complete. If there are extenuating circumstances, then we will come to an arrangement, and after the arrangement is completed, I will change your grade to reflect that arrangement.

On Illness:

Please do not come to class with a contagious illness, one example is the flu. If you are ill, please care for yourself as appropriate.

On Missing class:

I do not have an attendance policy, but I expect you to use your judgment. You are responsible for all work in the class and it is due the day it is due.

On the books and reading:

The books in this class should not be thought of as textbooks. They are better thought of as; things to think with, to argue with, and things that are very likely wrong. That said, the books do have some facts, they do provide interesting positions, and they are worth reading in full. There is quite a bit of reading in this course. The way I read a non-fiction book is this: first, I read the conclusion first, then I read the front matter, then I will read the chapters, and if i do not have time to read the chapters, then i will read most of the chapters, and use the index to find out if the book deals specifically with my topics, and then i will look up those passages that deal with my topics. You should strive to read all of the texts. You should also read them critically, patiently, and hopefully with pleasure.

Schedule:

Week 1 Aug 24. Introduction, Syllabus
Reading Review

Week 2 Aug. 31
Deliberative Policy Analysis
Reading Review

Week 3 Sept. 7
NGO and Transnational Networks or Politics of the Governed
Reading Review

Week 4 Sept. 14
NGO and Transnational Networks or Politics of the Governed
Reading Review

Week 5 Sept. 21
Managing within networks
Case Study 1 part 1 due Friday

Week 6 Sept. 28
Managing within networks
Case Study 1 part 2 due Friday

Week 7 Oct. 5

Democracy Incorporated (optional)
Case Study 1 part 3 due Thursday

Week 8 Oct. 12
Case Study 1 Complete due Friday

Week 9 Oct 19.
Case Study 2 part 1 due Friday

Week 10 Oct 25.
Case Study 2 part 2 due Friday

Week 11 Nov. 1
Case Study 2 part 3 due Friday

Week 12 Nov. 8
Case Study 2 Complete due Friday

Week 13 Nov. 15
Marketing of Rebellion
Reading review

Thanksgiving!

Week 14 Nov. 29
Triple Helix
Reading Review

Week 15 Dec. 6
The Exploit
Reading Review

Final exam due:
December 16, 2010 by 5pm.