PUBLIC CHOICE (POL S/ECON 470)

Textbooks:


Books on Reserve:


**Assignments and Topics**

**On the Readings:** Much of what we do is covered in the two textbooks and a couple books on reserve. To cover the course content in a logical order, we will have to skip around in these books. Other books and articles are listed either to expand on the material in these books or to provide the interested student with additional literature if he/she wants to pursue a topic further. Tests cover material in the lectures and in the assignments preceded by an asterisk.

I do not attempt to cover everything in the reading assignments in class; instead I organize lectures to present techniques, clarify difficult concepts, identify essential insights, and give an overview. It is essential that you read the assignments prior to class.

*indicates required readings

I. **Background Tools, Techniques, Concepts and Theory** (1.5-2 weeks)


   2. Lloyd, *Microeconomic Analysis*, Chapter 1


   4. Holcombe, *Public Finance*, Chapter 1


II. **Theory of Markets and Market Failures** (1 week)


III. **Introduction to Game Theory and Global Challenges** (1 week)


IV. Collective Action (1 week)


V. Supranational Structures (1 week)


VI. Alliances, NATO (1 week)


VII. Public Choice in a Direct Democracy (2 weeks)


VIII. Public Choice in a Representative Democracy (1 week)


IX. Environmental Challenges (1 week)

   *1. Sandler, *Global Challenges*, Chapter 4 (pp. 84-129), Chapter 3.

X. Terrorism (1 week)


XI. Other Issues: Dynamic Interdependencies (1 week)

*1. Sandler, *Collective Action*, pp. 79-89 in Chapter 3

*2. Sandler, *Global Challenges*, Chapters 6, 8.


XII. Axiomatic Social Choice (1 week)


XIII. Clubs (.5 week)


XIV. Economics of Defense (if time permits)


Grading:

Your grade will be based on the following scheme:

1. First Exam 20%
2. Second Exam 20%
3. Third Exam 20%
4. Final Exam 40%

The Final Exam will be cumulative. If you miss one of the first three exams due to illness, circumstances or choice, then your grade will be determined as:

1. Two Exams 25% apiece
2. Final Exam 50%

If you miss two in-class exams due to illness, circumstances, or choice, then your grade
will be determined as:

1. In-class Exam 25%
2. Final 75%

If you miss all three of the in-class exams due to illness, circumstances, or choice, then your grade will be determined as:

1. Final Exam 100%

If you miss the Final, you fail. The final MUST be taken.