
Instructor: Dr. Jamie Smith
Class Time: 5:30-9:10
Class Location: 221 Learning Center

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Course Description

Covers the origins, development, and operational aspects of federalism in the U.S. Intergovernmental relations as the dynamics of federalism are studied as they impact on decision-making, administrative and fiscal patterns. Decentralization and reorganization are analyzed as they affect the administration of national programs.

This course will examine the American system of intergovernmental relations. Power and authority in this system is fragmented and dispersed between institutions at different levels in the political environment. We will first seek to understand the importance of federalism by examining its constitutional foundations and evolution through time.

Various theories of federalism then will be used to explore the role of the national, state, and local governments. Attention will be paid to how the interaction of governments in our federal system influences policy decisions and the ability of government to meet the demands and needs of citizens. Finally, we will investigate how federalism is being shaped by diverse factors including tribal sovereignty, globalization, environmentalism, and terrorism.

Learning Objectives

1. Discussing the history and role of federalism in the American political system;
2. Identifying the different IGR actors and the principles underlying their relationships;
3. Analyzing IGR issues and problems in particular areas of American public policy, as well as their impacts on public administration values such as equity, citizen participation, diversity, and social justice;
4. Identifying successful collaboration and networking challenges of public managers in intergovernmental management;

5. Conducting presentations using the appropriate technology (powerpoint, discussion boards, etc.) and leading discussions on key issues in class; and
6. Conducting research using interviews, government documents and other printed and electronic materials (online academic journals, databases, and/or governmental websites), and writing up the research report in a manner fit for a professional audience.

Required Texts and Course Materials

There is one required text for the course:

1. O'Toole, Jr., Lawrence J., and Robert K. Christensen, American Intergovernmental Relations: Foundations, Perspectives, & Issues, 5th Edition, Sage/CQ Press, 2013, ISBN 978-1-4522-2629-3

Additional required reading material(s) may be indicated in the Course Schedule (below). All required reading material (with the exception of textbook material) is available through the library website, Google Scholar, or (when indicated) on D2L.

Assignments

Individual Participation

Active participation is one of the best and most reliable ways to demonstrate your understanding of ideas and concepts discussed in the readings and presented in class. My role (as the instructor for this course) is to provide you with a conceptual framework and to facilitate your learning. My role is not merely to deliver factual material to passive learners. The exercises and discussions in this course are intended to provide you with an opportunity to test your knowledge, formulate ideas and strategies, respond to strategic management dilemmas, and get feedback from peers. Therefore, weekly class attendance is necessary, but not sufficient for an excellent class participation grade.

Reflection Paper

Before each class, submit a 3 page (single space) reflection on the readings to be discussed that weekend. These papers should contain summary of the assigned readings and themes, a brief evaluative response to the material discussed or read, and a concise account of the relationship between the material under consideration and concepts presented in readings, lectures, and discussion.

Group Paper

The final project will evaluate the issues related to intergovernmental relations relative to one of three topics: tribal relations, the national heroin epidemic, common core. The direction of these papers within these topics is largely up to the group. The final project should provide an in-depth background of the issue, how (to date) the various levels of government have tried to deal with sovereignty, and the issues caused by overlapping areas of government.

The final document should be no more than 15 pages of single-spaced text—not including references, and appendices if applicable—and, no smaller than one-inch margins and 12-point, non-condensed font. Aside from these basic requirements on structure, the group has a lot of freedom with the final appearance of the report—though the final report should have a polished and professional look.

In addition to the quality of your work and the conciseness of your document, you will also be evaluated on the thoroughness of your research. Not only will the course material(s) provide you with a wealth of resources regarding strategic planning, but also in the Internet age you have access to a wide variety of sources of information. If you cannot find specific program information online, you may additionally request any information of me that you feel is necessary for completion of the report. These requests should be submitted a week in advance. Due to the wealth of information available to you, expectations are high that you will not simply rely on three or four information sources in developing this report. Please remember to cite all sources and to be consistent in the citation style that you choose to use (e.g. footnotes, endnotes, APA, MLA style). Each group will have ample time during the final class session to present the major components of their model and the instructor and other recruited audience members.

Group project—topics: tribal relations, heroin epidemic, national security and the Real ID law

Summary of Graded Assignments*

Outcome/Deliverable	Type	Description	Value
Participation	Individual		10%
Reflection Papers	Individual	A reflection on each week's readings	45% (at 15% each)
Group Presentation	Group**	A presentation of the analysis contained in the final paper	15%
Group Paper	Group**	A complete written analysis of chosen movement	30%

*The instructor reserves the right to add, remove, or reorder these assignments at her discretion and in accordance with university policy

**As a substantial part of the final grade for this course relies on group work, students will be given the opportunity to individual evaluate each group member's contribution to the final product after each assignment.

Information and Reminders

Accommodation Policy

The University of Oklahoma is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who require accommodations in this course are requested

to speak with the professor as early in the semester as possible. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services prior to receiving accommodations in this course.

Religious Observance Policy

It is the policy of the University of Oklahoma to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. If class conflicts with a religious observance, please notify me at least 24 hours before the class in question so we may schedule appropriate make up assignments.

Internet Information

This course will make use of D2L. Internet access and access to this platform are required for success in the course. Slides, revisions to the syllabus, readings, announcements, changes to this syllabus, etc. can all be found in the appropriate folder on the D2L page for this course.

The primary means of communication for this course will be email. Be sure to check your OU-issued email regularly.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

All assignments are due in the D2L dropbox before the start of class. Late assignments will be accepted for four days after the due date with a late penalty assessed for each day, class or otherwise, that it is late. Illness, schedule conflicts, family problems, computer issues are not valid reasons for late assignments—plan and work ahead.

Make-up exams will be given only in extraordinary circumstances. Students are permitted to take a make-up exam only in the case of documented illness, death in the family, and approved university activity. Notification of missed exams must be received prior to the exam day.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Professors have to obey rules of honest scholarship, and so do students. For more information about academic integrity, including a statement of what constitutes academic misconduct and plagiarism, see OU's "A Student's Guide to Academic Integrity" at <http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity/>. When writing about, paraphrasing, or quoting the work of others, you must give proper attribution in the form of parenthetical citations and quotation marks around directly quoted phrases or sentences. Using work in this class that you have completed for another class is plagiarism. Ignorance is not an acceptable excuse for plagiarism. Any work not resulting from the student's own efforts will result in a grade of 0 and be turned in to the property authorities. This includes plagiarized papers, copied assignments, cheating on exams, or any other dishonest activity.

Course Schedule*

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments**
9/30	Course Introduction	• Syllabus • O'Toole Part I	Reflection Paper 1
10/1	The Legal Grounding of Federalism	• O'Toole Part II • Federalist Papers 44 and 45 • Anti Federalist Paper #17 • Kathryn Abrams. "On Reading and Using the Tenth Amendment." The Yale Law Journal. 93(4): 723-743. 1984. • John C. Kilwein and Richard A. Brisbin, Jr. 1997. "Policy Convergence in a Federal Judicial System: The Application of Intensified Scrutiny Doctrines by State Supreme Courts." American Journal of Political Science. 41(1): 122-148. • G. Alan Tarr. "The Past and Future of the New Judicial Federalism." Publius. 24(2) 63-79. 1994. • Michael C. Tolley and Bruce A. Wallin. 1995. "Coercive Federalism and the Search for Constitutional Limits." Publius. 25(4): 73-90.	
10/2	The Political Aspects of Federalism	• O'Toole Part III • Donald F. Kettl. "The Transformation of Governance: Globalization, Devolution, and the Role of Government." Public Administration Review. 60(6): 488-497. 2000. • Paul L. Posner. "Unfunded Mandates Reform Act: 1996 and Beyond." Publius. 27(2): 53-71. 1997. • Joseph F. Zimmerman. "Preemption in the U.S. Federal System." Publius. 23(4): 1-13. 1993. • Craig Volden. "Intergovernmental Political Competition in American Federalism." American Journal of Political Science. 49(2): 327-342. 2005.	
10/14	Fiscal Federalism	• O'Toole Part IV • Steven D. Gold. 1992. "The Federal Role in State Fiscal Stress." Publius. 22(3): 33-47 • Andrew Reschovsky. 2004. "The Impact of State Government Fiscal Crises on Local Governments and Schools." State & Local Government Review. 36(2): 86-102. • Brian K. Collins, Brian J. Gerber. 2006. "Redistributive Policy and Devolution: Is State Administration a Road Block (Grant) to Equitable Access to Federal Funds?" Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory. 16(4): 613-632.	Reflection Paper 2
10/15	Federalism and Social Policy	• O'Toole Chapter 26, 27, 29 • Andrea K. Gerlak. "Federalism and U.S. water policy: lessons for the twenty-first century." Publius. 36(2): 231-258. 2006. • Aseem Prakash and Matthew Potoski. 2006. "Racing to the Bottom? Trade, Environmental Governance, and ISO 14001." American Journal of Political Science. 50(2): 350-364 • Dierdre Oakley. "Housing Homeless People: Local Mobilization of Federal Resources to Fight NIMBYism." Journal of Urban Affairs. 24(1): 97-116. 2002.	

10/16	Administrative Aspects	O'Toole Part V	
10/28	Tribal Government	- Anne Merline McCulloch. "The Politics of Indian Gaming: Tribe/State Relations and American Federalism." <i>Publius</i>. 24(3): 99-112. 1994. W. Dale Mason. "Tribes and States: A New Era in Intergovernmental Affairs." <i>Publius</i>. 28(1): 111-130. 1998. - James Ortiz. "Tribal Governance and Public Administration." <i>Administration & Society</i>. 34(11): 459-481. 2002. - Erich Steinman. "American Federalism and Intergovernmental Innovation in State Tribal Relations." <i>Publius</i>. 34(2): 95-114. 2004.	Reflection Paper 3
10/29	Disaster Management and National Security	"Managing Externalization: New Intergovernmental Role of Public Managers," Robert Agranoff, Chapter 3 (pp. 71-114) in <i>IGR 2020 [D2L]</i> "Disaster Response 2020: A Look into the Future," William Lester, Chapter 4 (pp 115-145) in <i>IGR 2020. [D2L]</i> - Maestas, Cherie D, Lonna Rae Atkeson, Thomas Croom, and Lisa A Bryant. 2008. "Shifting the Blame: Federalism, Media, and Public Assignment of Blame Following Hurricane Katrina." <i>Publius: The Journal of Federalism</i> 38(4): 609-32. - Malhotra, Neil. 2008. "Partisan Polarization and Blame Attribution in a Federal System: The Case of Hurricane Katrina." <i>Publius: The Journal of Federalism</i> 38(4): 651-70. - Comfort, Louise K. 2002. "Managing Intergovernmental Responses to Terrorism and Other Extreme Events." <i>Publius: The Journal of Federalism</i> 32(4): 29-50. - Kettl, "Katrina and 9-11" [D2L] - Brian J. Gerber, David B. Cohen, Brian Cannon, Dennis Patterson, and Kendra Stewart. "On the Front Line: American Cities and the Challenge of Homeland Security Preparedness." <i>Urban Affairs Review</i>. 41(11): 182-210. 2005. - James A. Stever. "Adapting Intergovernmental Management to the New Age of Terrorism." <i>Administration & Society</i>. 37(9): 379-403. 2005. - John Kincaid and Richard L. Cole. 2002. "Issues of Federalism in Response to Terrorism." <i>Public Administration Review</i>. 62: 181-192. - Charles R. Wise and Rania Nader. 2002. "Organizing the Federal System for Homeland Security: Problems, Issues, and Dilemmas." <i>Public Administration Review</i>. 62: 44-57.	
10/30	Future of Federalism and Paper Presentations	- Future of federalism in a polarized country: http://www.governing.com/columns/smart-mgmt/col-states-polarized-politics-variable-speed-federalism.html - Are states still labs of democracy: http://www.governing.com/columns/potomac-chronicle/gov-states-still-labs-of-democracy.html - is federalism breaking down? http://www.governing.com/columns/potomac-chronicle/gov-bad-intergovernmental-relations.html - O'Toole Chapter 30	Paper Presentation
11/11			Final Paper Due

*The Instructor reserves the right to add to, remove, or reorder these assignments and readings as she sees fit and in accordance with university policy.

**All assignments are due before the start of class, unless otherwise indicated.