

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Spring 2013

Gov 362L: Government Research Internship (Continuation of Gov 370M, Research on the U.S. Congress)

Unique #: 38931
TTh, 5:00-6:30
Mez 1.206
OH: T (3:15--5) and
Th (12:45 2)

Instructors:

Professor Sean M. Theriault
seant@mail.utexas.edu
Batts 3.130 (232-7279)
OH: T 10-12; Th 3-5

Professor Bryan Jones
bdjones@austin.utexas.edu
Batts 3.154 (471-9973)
OH: By appointment

Expert Consultant:

Michelle Whyman
michellecwhyman@gmail.com

Course Description

This research course is the second half of a year-long research program under the direction of Professors Theriault (ST) and Jones (BJ). This term will be devoted to pursuing your individual research projects and continuing with your work as research assistants.

Special Needs

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. To determine if you qualify, please contact the Dean of Students at 471-6259; 471-4641 TTY. If they certify your needs, I will work with you to make appropriate arrangements.

Course Format

The class will meet regularly to discuss progress on your projects and research assignments. We will also cover certain essential elements in design, analysis, and presentation of results. It is the student's responsibility to come to class with all of the assigned work – both research and reading – completed. Rarely will the class stray from a seminar format.

Grades

We will grade using + and -. Grades will be determined according to the following formula:

- 10% Class Participation. We will take attendance every class meeting. Because of the nature of the course, unexcused student absences will not be tolerated.
- 35% Research Assignments
- 35% Research Poster
- 20% Research Paper

We frown on issues of academic dishonesty and will severely punish any student caught plagiarizing, cheating, fabricating data, or engaged in unethical classroom practices. All grade disputes must be type written and turned in within 1 week of receiving the grade.

Course Readings

The course books are both available at the UT Co-op:

- Theriault, Sean M. 2008. *Party Polarization in Congress*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Baumgartner, Frank R., and Bryan D. Jones. 2009. *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*, 2nd Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Assigned readings associated with design, analysis, and presentation.
- Readings associated with your specific project; we will design the reading program for each student.

Course Outline

Week 1 (January 14th): Meet in general session for re-orientation and progress reports.

- *January x15th: URF Applications due.*

Week 2 (January 21th): Research Assignments.

Week 3 (January 28th): Research Assignments.

Week 4 (February 4th): Research Assignments.

Week 5 (February 11th): Research Assignments.

- *February 15th: URA Applications due.*

Week 6 (February 18th): General Session on Introduction to Graphical and Statistical Analysis

Week 7 (February 25th): Research Assignments.

Week 8 (March 4th): General Session on Constructing Effective Posters

Spring Break (March 11th)

Week 9 (March 18th): Research Assignments.

Week 10 (March 25th): Research Assignments

Week 11 (April 4th): General Session: Presentation of Posters

Week 12 (April 11th)

- *Midwest Political Science Association (April 11th – April 14th)*

Week 13 (April 18th): Research Assignments.

- *April 15th – 19th: University Research Week.*

Week 14 (April 22th): Research Assignments.

Week 15 (April 29th): General Session: Class retrospective.

- *Final Paper Due*