

SYLLABUS

PSC 525

FALL, 2012

Instructor: Dr. Ronald Michaelson

Office: Pac 370

Phone: 206-7930; 494-2311 (Cell)

Rmich1@uis.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

All ILSIP interns are required to take PSC 525, a two credit course designed to prepare them for their intern experience. The course includes a two day orientation session and four full day seminars. The course provides an overview of Illinois government and politics and a review how the state has dealt with specific policy areas.

The four seminars will be held on the UIS campus (room to be announced). The class will meet from 9-12 and 1-4, but always subject to adjustments to accommodate guest speakers and any supplemental training scheduled by the ILSIP program coordinator.

The class will meet on these days:

Friday, August 31

Thursday, September 13

Friday, September 28

Friday, October 12

Obviously, an effort is made to complete the seminar by mid-semester so that the interns can concentrate on their assigned duties at the earliest possible time.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. To provide a basic knowledge of Illinois government and politics and an understanding how fundamental public policy issues have been or not been addressed.

2. To provide concepts and a context to assist in placing the internship experience in its proper perspective.

REQUIRED TEXTS/MATERIALS

Each intern received (at no cost!) the following books at orientation:

1. Nowlan, Gove and Winkel, *Illinois Politics : A Citizen's Guide*
2. Mooney and Van-Dyke Brown, *Lobbying Illinois*
3. Redfield, *Money Counts*
4. Pensoneau, *Arrington : Powerhouse from Illinois*
5. Rock, *Nobody Calls Just to Say Hello*

The following materials from the Legislative Research Unit are also supplied to each intern:

1. *Preface to Lawmaking*
2. *1970 Illinois Constitution annotated for Legislators*
3. *Illinois Tax handbook for Legislators*

ATTENDANCE

Attendance (and hopefully active participation) in all seminars is MANDATORY. Work related absences, which are rare, will be accommodated. Interns who otherwise miss part of all of a seminar will be obligated to make up for their absence. This will be arranged with the instructor.

GRADES

Your course grade will be calculated as follows: 30% for each of the three written assignments; 10% on attendance and participation.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. This can include physical, psychological, chronic health, vision, hearing, learning, traumatic brain injury, Asperger's Syndrome and/or autism, cognitive and AD/HDD. Please notify the instructor at orientation if any accommodations are needed. All accommodations must be approved by the Office of Disability Services (206-6666), HRB 80.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

All interns are subject to the UIS policy on Academic Integrity which states, in part:

"Academic integrity is at the heart of the University's commitment to academic excellence. The UIS community strives to communicate and support clear standards of integrity, so that

students can internalize those standards and carry them forward in their personal and professional lives. Living a life with integrity prepares students to assume leadership roles in their communities as well as in their chosen profession. Alumni can be proud of their education and the larger society will benefit from the University's contribution to the development of ethical leaders. Violations of academic integrity demean the violator, degrade the learning process, deflate the meaning of grades, discredit the accomplishments of past and present students, and tarnish the reputation of the University for all its members."

Academic sanctions range from a warning to expulsion, depending on the severity of the violation as well as the history of violations. Whatever the sanction, instructors are required to file a report of academic dishonesty to the Office of the Provost.

Interns are responsible for understanding and complying with the UIS Academic Integrity Policy:

<http://www.uis.edu/campussenate/AcademicIntegrity.htm>