COURSE INFORMATION:
Course Information: R 2:00PM - 4:50PM (Chilton 245)
Office Hours:
   In Person: Wednesdays, 2-4 pm
   Online: Tuesdays 2-4 pm on MS Teams, and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The goal of the course is twofold: to provide students with an introduction to the political economy of metropolitan areas of the United States and to evaluate implications of the choices of structural arrangements utilized to provide public services at the local level. The basic premise of the course is that a host of problems at the local level are not easily solved by a single local government. Many policy issues -- from pollution, to watersheds, to emergency management, to public transportation -- are regional in nature, and not easily or appropriately confined to a single governmental unit. Because of this, governments and nonprofits often must achieve policy objectives jointly.

This is an advanced elective for graduate students in the Department of Public Administration. As such, some basic knowledge about public administration will be assumed and the reading load will be heavy. It is thus imperative that you read the material thoroughly every week, and that you come prepared to discuss the nuanced details of those readings in class. At a minimum, students should have taken or be enrolled in PADM 5010.

As an advanced elective, the course is NOT designed as a lecture-style class. Rather, you and your classmates will be responsible for a majority of the discussion in class. This “seminar style” can be very intellectually rewarding for the students, but only if everyone comes VERY well prepared to class. A superficial review of the readings in not enough – you will need to read and reread the material BEFORE class so that you can come prepared to discuss the finer points and details. The professor will ONLY be there to guide the discussion and provide clarity to the material as needed. The exam will be based on the assumption that the students fully and completely prepare for class each week, and participate in lively discussions of the issues. The professor will not “fill in the gap” if the discussion does not proceed because students assume they can let the other students do all the discussing. Successful completion of the course will require active participation and consistent attendance. If you know you will need to miss more than one of the regular weekly classes due to work or other obligations, you should not take this course.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ANTI-BIAS STATEMENT:
The Department of Public Administration believes in the fundamental principles of life, liberty, equality, equity, and in doing good to all people as we serve our students and the public interest.
- We believe in the importance of diversity and inclusion
- We believe in fairness and equity for all faculty and students in and out of class
- We believe in mutual respect and civility for all students and faculty
- We believe that faculty and students have a right to a redress of grievances
- We believe that students and faculty should be actively engaged in good works

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE:
1. Describe the historical forces that impact urban local governments today.
2. Critically assess regional problems and solutions that have been utilized in the public and nonprofit sector.
3. Identify barriers to collaborative efforts between public and nonprofit organizations, and be able to discuss mechanisms for overcoming those barriers.

REQUIRED RESOURCES:
1. City Politics: The Political Economy of Urban America (9th or 10th Editions) = J&S
   by Dennis R. Judd, Todd Swanstrom
2. City-County Consolidation and Its Alternatives: Reshaping the Local Government Landscape = C&F
   Edited by: Jered B. Carr; Richard C. Feiock
3. Other Materials. Provided by professor. See list below. = Other
**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES:**

Your grade will consist of three parts: weekly papers, one exam, and one research paper. Your overall grade will be determined as follows:

**Weekly Papers:** 30 percent  
**Exam:** 30 percent  
**Research Project:** 40 percent

All assignments will be graded on a 100-point scale.

**Weekly Papers.** Most weeks, a paper will be due on Canvas prior to the start of class. The papers should be 3-4 pages, single spaced (never more than 5 pages). Late papers will be penalized 10 points per day. The papers should summarize the readings due in class that day, so you will be summarizing readings we have not yet discussed in class.

**Exam.** You should expect the exam to be comprehensive and to explore the material deeply. Superficial answers that do not show a deep understanding of the material will not be sufficient to earn a passing grade in this course. Any students who misses the exam must fully comply with university policy for an excused absence (proof of student illness or death of an immediate family member will be required) to be allowed to take a make-up exam.

**Research Project.** Each student will be required to prepare a research paper of no less than 15 pages and no more than 20 pages (excluding bibliography, tables, figures, and appendices) that more deeply evaluates one of the topics covered in the course. All papers will be reviewed by turnitin.com to check for plagiarism. All topics must be pre-approved by the professor. A separate assignment description will be distributed later in the semester.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

1. This is a **face-to-face class**. As a result, I will not be recording it or otherwise making the course available electronically unless the campus is shut down again for COVID (or any other reason).  
   a. However, I am ready to go fully online if we are told to do so. If remote instruction becomes necessary, students will need access to a webcam and microphone to participate in the class.

2. UNT encourages everyone to **wear a face covering** when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions.

3. If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 ([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

4. Note that the seat you choose on Day 1 will be your **assigned seat** for the remainder of the semester. I will be taking attendance for purposes of contact tracing.
Course Outline:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>J&amp;S</th>
<th>C&amp;F</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<td>9/2/21</td>
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<td>11/11/21</td>
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<td>11/18/21</td>
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<td>***** THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS *****</td>
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<td>12/2/21</td>
<td>Paper Topic Discussions</td>
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<td>12/9/21</td>
<td><em><strong>FINAL PAPER DUE</strong></em></td>
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Extra Readings:

No. Reading
1 Hanlon, Bernadette, John Rennie Short, and Thomas J. Vicino. 2010. Cities and Suburbs: New Metropolitan Realities in the US. New York: Routledge. (Chapters 8-9.)
6 https://narc.org/about/what-is-a-cog-or-mpo/


UNT POLICIES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY
Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA POLICY
UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website (https://disability.unt.edu/).

PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION (POLICY 16.004)
The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.