

## Political Science 2100: State Government

Professor P. Squire  
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### Assigned Texts:

Moncrief and Squire, *Why States Matter*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition  
Squire and Moncrief, *State Legislatures Today: Politics under the Domes*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition  
Smith, *State and Local Government*, 2018-2019 edition

**Grading Policy:** Grades will be based on three examinations, each worth 30% of the final grade, and participation in discussion section, worth 10% of the final grade. The examinations will consist of essay questions. Students will be expected to attend lecture and their discussion (lab) section, to do the assigned reading, and to follow Missouri state politics by reading a daily newspaper (preferably the *Kansas City Star* or *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, both of which can be found on the web).

**Academic Integrity:** Breaches of academic integrity rules are regarded as serious matters. Any student caught cheating on an examination will receive a score of zero for that examination.

**Provisions for Students with Disabilities:** If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please establish an accommodation plan with the Disability Center (<http://disabilitycenter.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573- 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations.

**Intellectual Pluralism:** The University welcomes intellectual diversity. Students who have questions concerning the quality of instruction in this class may address concerns to either the Department Chair or Director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities (<http://osrr.missouri.edu>). All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor at the end of the course.

### Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments:

August 19: Introduction

August 21: An Overview of the States  
*Why States Matter* (WSM), chapter 1

August 26: Historical Development of the States  
*State and Local Government* (SLG), part X, number 38

August 28-September 11: State Constitutions, Federalism, and Political Cultures  
WSM, chapter 2  
SLG, part I

September 16-25: Political Parties, Participation and Voting in the States  
WSM, chapter 6  
SLG, part II, part III, numbers 9 and 10, part X, number 37

### September 30: FIRST EXAMINATION

October 2: Interest Groups  
SLG, part III, numbers 11 and 12

October 7-16: State Legislatures  
*State Legislatures Today*, all  
WSM, pages 57-59, 87-91  
SLG, part IV

October 21-October 28: Governors and the Executive Branch  
WSM, pages 59-67, 78-87  
SLG, parts V and VII

**October 30: SECOND EXAMINATION**

November 4-7: State Courts  
WSM, pages 67-73, 91-95  
SLG, part VI

November 11-18: Direct Democracy in the States  
WSM, pages 116-120

November 20-December 2: State Policies: Budgets, Taxation, and Spending  
WSM, chapters 5, 7, 8  
SLG, part IX

**December 4: THIRD EXAMINATION**