

## **New York State Assembly Graduate Scholars Seminar**

**Faculty:** Roman B. Hedges

**Phone:** 455-4049 [w]

**Meeting Place:** LOB 104a until further notice

**Meeting Time:** 1:00pm-3:00pm Thursdays

The seminar is designed to provide a strong introduction to the legislature and the issues it faces in New York. It is also intended to introduce the graduate scholars to the work and work products expected of legislative staff in New York.

Scholars are expected to do the weekly readings, attend the weekly seminars, and write the two papers assigned. All of the usual academic rules apply to the papers. Proper citations to works and people consulted, etc. are expected. Just as importantly, the work assignments provided in the office where the scholar is placed are to be completed to the satisfaction of the supervisor in the office in a timely manner.

The two written assignments for the seminar will be related to the work of the office. In addition, the scholars will be asked to present their work to the seminar in the two weeks that follow the due date of the written assignments.

The Executive Budget will be released in January. It will contain the narrative support for the Governor's proposed budget. (In addition, the budget proposal will include several appropriation bills and additional bills proposing law changes pursuant to Article VII of the state Constitution.)

As a part of that budget narrative, there are sections related to the proposal for each agency budget and additional sections related to taxes, the state financial plan and other materials. We will not know exactly how the narratives are constructed until the proposal is actually made. As a result, no specific pages can be assigned at the beginnings of the seminar. Expect that 20 or so pages will be read for each of the weeks where those narratives are appropriate.

The readings and seminars are "front loaded." Once the readings and written assignments are completed, the remaining work of the session will be in the office where the scholar is placed.

I will be available in the Capitol at a times and places to be determined.

## Required Readings

### Books:

Robert F. Pecorella and Jeffrey M. Stonecash, Governing New York State, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. State University of New York Press, 2006.

Alan Rosenthal, Heavy Lifting: The Job of the American Legislature. CQ Press, 2004.  
Robert B. Ward, New York State Government, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Rockefeller Institute Press, 2006.

### Court Decisions:

George E. Pataki v. New York State Assembly, et al. and Sheldon Silver v. George E Pataki (2004)

### Unpublished (draft) Papers:

H. Stanley, "The One Thing...by the Numbers"

H. Weisberg, "...Presidential Elections"

C. Evans, "...Congress..."

J. Wright, "...Interest Groups"

B. de Mesquita, "...Foreign Policy"

### Other:

Citizens Budget Commission, "Options for Budget Reform in New York State," pp. 1-28  
Executive Budget 2007-2008 (portions)

### Introduction to the Legislature and Political Parties

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 8, pp. 165-192

Ward, Chapter 5, pp. 95-132, portions of Chapter 20, pp. 561-567

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapters 3-4, pp. 49-92

H. Stanley, "The One Thing...by the Numbers"

H. Weisberg, "...Presidential Elections"

C. Evans, "...Congress..."

## **The Legislature (continued) , Executive, and Judiciary**

Ward, Chapter 4, pp. 55-94

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 7 (including the Introduction to Part II), pp. 127-164

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 9, pp 193-224

Ward, Chapter 6, pp 133-160

Rosenthal, Chapters 1-3, pp. 1-56

Rosenthal, Chapters 4-9, pp. 57-208

## **Graduate Scholar Assignment Guidelines**

### **The Budget**

Ward, Chapter 7, pp.161-192

Ward, Chapter 10, pp. 241-278

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

Silver v. Pataki and Pataki v. Legislature, pp. 1-45

### **Debt and Public Authorities**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 10, pp. 225-244

Ward, Chapter 11, pp. 279-300

B. de Mesquita, "...Foreign Policy"

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

### **Thinking about the Legislature**

Rosenthal, Chapters 10-11, pp. 209-247

Ward, Chapter 1, pp.1-10

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, pp. 1-48, 93-126

## **Education**

Pecorella and Stonecash, pp. 245-248

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapters 12, 13, pp. 261-332

Ward, Chapter 13, pp. 335-372

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

## **First paper. Topic to be discussed with faculty in advance**

## **Health**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 14, pp. 333-352

Ward, Chapter 12, pp. 301-334

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

## **Transportation**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 16, pp. 371-390

Ward, Chapter 14, pp. 373-396

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

## **Social Services**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 15, pp. 353-370

Ward, Chapter 15, pp. 397-438

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

## **Graduate Scholar Mid-Session Evaluations Due**

## **Environment**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 17, pp. 391-410

Ward, Chapter 17, pp. 483-510

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

## **Taxes and Economic Development**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapter 11, pp. 249-260

Ward, Chapter 3, pp. 35-54

Executive Budget, pp. To be determined

Due: Second paper. Topic: to be discussed with faculty in advance.

## **Reform**

Pecorella and Stonecash, Chapters 5, 6, pp. 93-126

Ward, Chapters 2, 20, pp. 11-34, 561-590

Citizens Budget Commission, "Options for Budget Reform"

Wright, "...Interest Groups"

## **Annual Awards Ceremony and Class Picture**