

THE FUTURE OF CHICAGO

This course is unlike others offered in the Political Science Department. Rather than focus only upon the analysis of existing political systems, the physical structure of Chicago, its past history as a city, or abstract political philosophies, we employ all these methods and more for the purpose of studying and reflecting upon the alternative futures of our city and metropolitan region.

The course involves debate about different visions of our future with outside speakers with opposing views of Chicago speaking each week. I provide an overview in lectures each week. Discussion sessions allow you to test your own views and conclusions against those of your classmates. In the end you will develop a synthesis of diverse views and different perspectives on Chicago society, economics, government, and politics. The readings for the course bring together nearly one hundred authors from very different backgrounds writing on Chicago, other American cities and their future. You are, of course, not required to adopt the views from these different sources. But you are required to know various proponents' arguments, the reasons they have for making them, the facts they present, and the strengths and weaknesses of each approach.

The course is planned to be exciting, demanding, and controversial. It is meant to be an introduction to the study of politics in a very political city. Much of the course content is also delivered by "Blackboard" and links from there such as to many of the movies and some of the readings.

You will be expected to read and master the following texts:

Mike Royko, Boss

James Laski, My Fall From Grace: City Hall to Prison Walls

John Koval, et. al. (editors), The New Chicago: A Social and Cultural Analysis
(assigned readings only)

Dick Simpson (ed.), Chicago's Future in a Time of Change (1993 Edition, assigned readings only).

Dick Simpson, Rogues, Rebels, and Rubber Stamps: The Politics of the Chicago City Council from 1863 to the Present

Pat Collins, Challenging the Culture of Corruption: Game-Changing Reform for Illinois

In addition, there will be a few other book chapters made available through the course Blackboard site.

Grades will be determined by three principal scores: 1) a mid-term examination; 2) a 7-10 page structured paper on a single unit of government within Cook County; and 3) a take home essay exam. Each is worth 30% of your final grade. In addition, 10 points will be added to your final grade for attending the National Student Issues Convention on October 8, 2010 from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at a site on campus to be announced. Please make arrangements to be present that day.

My office hours are Monday from 2-4 p.m. in room 1126C BSB. Discussion Sessions on 9/3, 9/10, 9/24, 10/1, 10/15, 11/5, 11/12, and 11/19 will be in two separate rooms with two different discussion group leaders. The Teaching Assistant for students whose last name begins with letters A-R is Wael Haboub and will meet in our regular classroom C3. The Teaching Assistant for students whose last name begins with letters S-Z is Melissa Mouritsen Zmuda and will meet in room 305 Burnham Hall. These Teaching Assistants will also be grading many of your exams and papers.

The office of Wael Haboub (Students last names A-R) is located in BSB 1113A and his email address is whabou2@uic.edu. His office hours are on Wednesday from 9:30-11:30 am. The office of Melissa Mouritsen Zmuda (Students last Names S-Z) is located in BSB 1170A and her email address is missyzmuda@gmail.com. Her office hours are on Wednesday from 1-3 pm.

PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS

(Speakers will not be confirmed until at least mid-September so the speaker dates and therefore the other classroom topics will change. All changes will be posted each Friday weekly on Blackboard.

<u>WEEK DATES</u>	<u>LECTURE TOPICS</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENTS</u>
I 8/23	Introduction to course and “Teaching Politics” DVD to be shown in class.	<u>Boss</u> , first half of book
8/25	Introduction to Chicago’s future and a discussion of machine politics.	
8/27	“Vito” videotape on machine politics to be shown in class.	
II 8/30	“Chicago: The City of the Century” DVD to be shown in class	<u>Boss</u> , second half of book
	“From DuSable to Obama” WTTW Film To be viewed at home on your computer from point 1:09 to the end of the film. Link on Blackboard	
9/1	The Development of Machine Politics and the Council of Grey Wolves	
9/3	Discussion: Boss, Vito, and Machine Politics	

III	9/6	Labor Day Holiday, No Class	
	9/8	Social Conditions of Chicago	<u>Chicago's Future</u> Part I pp. 1-62
	9/10	Discussion: Social Conditions of Chicago	<u>The New Chicago</u> pp. 82-93
			<u>Inside Urban Politics</u> Reading pp. 23-38 on Blackboard
IV	9/13	Economic Change in Chicago	<u>Chicago's Future,</u> Part II pp.77-107
	*9/15	Pierre de Vise Memorial Lecture: UIC Professor Janet Smith "Racial Change in Housing in Chicago"	<u>The New Chicago</u> pp. 97-114 and 221-230
	9/17	"Chicago City Council: Ready for Reform?" DVD To be viewed at home on Your computer	
V	9/20	Chicago's government	<u>Rogues, Rebels, and Rubber Stamps,</u> pp. 1-199
	* 9/22	Hannah Willage, Speaker Coordinator, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless "Homelessness in Metropolitan Chicago"	
	9/24	Discussion of Race and Politics in the Chicago Metropolitan Region	
VI	9/27	Political Corruption in Chicago	Laski, <u>My Fall From Grace</u> (all)
	* 9/29	The Honorable Jim Edgar, Former Illinois Governor "The Future of Illinois" In SCE, 3rd Floor, Cardinal Room	
	10/1	Discussion: Curing Corruption in Illinois	

VII	10/4	MIDTERM EXAM	
*	10/6	Erma Trantor, Executive Director Of Friends of the Park “The Future of Public Space in Chicago”	Carl Smith, The Plan of Chicago , Chapters 5 and 7. (posted on Blackboard)
*	10/8	National Student Issues Convention 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. UIC Forum, at Halsted and Roosevelt	
VIII	10/11	Assignment of Research Paper on one unit of Chicago or Cook County Government	<u>Chicago’s Future</u> Part III pp.135-164 199-205, 227-241, 263-286.
*	10/13	Joe Fergueson, Inspector General, City of Chicago: “The Future of Corruption In Chicago”	<u>Curing Corruption in Illinois</u> (all) [Based upon this book and other readings prepare a four year plan to cure corruption.]
*	10/15	Discussion: A Four Year Plan To Cure Corruption in Illinois	
IX	10/18	DVD: “Too Flawed to Fix” To be viewed at home on Your computer	<u>Rogues</u> pp.201-330
	10/20	7th Ward Alderman Sandi Jackson “The Chicago City Council and the Future Of Chicago”	
	10/22	Chicago Politics from Richard J. Daley to Eugene Sawyer	
X	10/25	UIC University Professor Maria De Los Angeles Torres Head of Latin American Studies: “Latino Politics in Chicago”	<u>The New Chicago</u> pp. 32-81
	10/27	The Richard M. Daley Regime And the New Daley Machine	Two Readings on Former Governor Rod Blagojevich posted on Blackboard

	10/29	DVD - "For the People: Local Government Budget Making" To be viewed at home on Your computer	
XI	11/1	Financing Local Governments	<u>Chicago's Future</u> Part V, pp. 401-431
	11/3	Former City Clerk James Laski "Inside the Chicago Machine"	Dick Simpson, et. al., Anti-Corruption Reports 1-3
	11/5	Discussion: A Global City in a Time of Recession	
XII	11/8	Planning our Future	
*	11/10	Dick Kay, Former TV Political Reporter "The Media, Elections and Politics"	
	11/12	Discussion: The 2010 Election Results and What They Mean For Chicago	
XIII	11/15	DVD: "Benched" DVD To be viewed at home on Your computer	<u>Chicago's Future</u> pp.482-490, 507-510
*	11/17	Manny Flores, Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission, "The Energy Future of Illinois"	
	11/19	Discussion: The Role of the State In Chicago's Future	
XIV	*11/22	County Board Commissioner Tony Peraica: "Reform of Cook County Government"	<u>Chicago's Future,</u> Part IV pp. 287-317
	11/24	"An Inconvenient Truth" – DVD To be viewed at home on Your computer	
		TURN IN RESEARCH PAPER At Professor Simpson's Mailbox in BSB 1101	
	11/26	Thanksgiving Holiday	

XV 11/29 Governing the Chicago
Metropolitan Region

* 12/1 **Fred Hess Memorial Lecture**
Chicago Public School
Superintendent Ron Huberman
“The Future of Education
In Chicago”

The New Chicago

pp. 305-317

12/3 Review of Course
RECEIVE TAKE-HOME EXAM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8. FINAL EXAM is due in Professor Simpson’s Mailbox by Noon. Room BSB 1101.