

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.

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

Mike Royko, Boss.

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

Dick Simpson and Constance Mixon, Editors. Twenty-First Century Chicago.

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 Political Issues Convention on November 11 from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at a site on campus to be announced.

My office hours are Monday from 2-4 p.m. in room 1126C BSB.

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 8/22	Introduction to course and "Teaching Politics" DVD Shown in class.	<u>Boss</u> , first half of book
8/24	Introduction to Chicago's future and a discussion of machine politics.	
8/26	"Vito" videotape on machine politics to be shown in class.	
II 8/29	"Chicago: The City of the Century" DVD to be shown in class	<u>Boss</u> , second half of book
8/31	The Development of Machine Politics and the Council of Grey Wolves	
9/2	Discussion: Boss, Vito, and Machine Politics	
III 9/5	Labor Day Holiday, No Class	
9/7	Social Conditions of Chicago	<u>21st Century Chicago</u> Part I, pp. 1-18
9/9	Discussion of Social Conditions of Chicago	
IV 9/12	Economic Change in Chicago	21 st Century Chicago Part II, pp. 21 - 64
*9/14	Pierre de Vise Memorial Lecture: UIC Professor Janet Smith "Racial Change in Housing in Chicago"	
9/16	"Chicago City Council: Ready for Reform?" DVD To be viewed at home on Your computer	
V 9/19	Chicago's government	<u>Rogues</u> , pp 1 - 199
* 9/21	14th Ward Alderman Ed Burke	<u>21st Century Chicago</u> Part III, pp 65 - 112

“The Chicago City Council and the Future Of Chicago”

	9/23	Discussion of Race and Politics in the Chicago Metropolitan Region	
VI	9/26	Political Corruption in Chicago	<u>21st Century Chicago</u> Part IV, pp 113 - 144
*	9/28	Former City Clerk James Laski “Inside the Chicago Machine”	Dick Simpson, et. al., Anti-Corruption Reports ON BLACKBOARD
	9/30	Discussion: Curing Corruption in Illinois	
VII	10/3	MIDTERM EXAM	
*	10/5	County Board President Toni Preckwinkle: “Reform of Cook County Government”	<u>21st Century Chicago</u> Part VI, pp 207 – 254
*	10/7	Discussion	
VIII	10/10	Assignment of Research Paper on one unit of Chicago or Cook County Government	
*	10/12	Joe Fergueson, Inspector General, City of Chicago: “The Future of Corruption In Chicago”	
*	10/14	Discussion: A Four Year Plan To Cure Corruption in Illinois	
IX	10/17	DVD: “Too Flawed to Fix” To be viewed at home on Your computer	
	10/19	Chicago Politics from Richard J. Daley to Eugene Sawyer	<u>Rogues</u> pp.201-330
	10/21	Discussion: Planning the	

		Future of Metropolitan Chicago	
X	10/24	The Richard M. Daley Regime And the New Daley Machine	
*	10/26	UIC University Professor Maria De Los Angeles Torres Head of Latin American Studies: “Latino Politics in Chicago”	
	10/28	DVD - "For the People: Local Government Budget Making" To be viewed at home on Your computer	
XI	10/31	Financing Local Governments	<u>21st Century Chicago</u> Part V, 145 - 206
*	11/2	Paul O’Connor, Former Executive Director, World Business Chicago: “Globalization and The New Chicago”	
	11/4	Discussion: A Global City in a Time of Recession	
XII	11/7	Planning our Future	<u>21st Century Chicago</u> Part VII, 255 - 258
*	11/9	Dick Kay, Former TV Political Reporter “The Media, Elections and Politics”	
	11/11	National Student Issues Convention 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Room to be announced	
XIII	11/14	DVD: “Benched” DVD To be viewed at home on Your computer	
*	11/16	DePaul University Professor Larry Bennett: “The New Chicago”	
	11/18	Discussion of Global Chicago today	
XIV	*11/21	Erma Trantor, Executive Director	

**Of Friends of the Park
“The Future of Public Space in Chicago”**

11/23 “An Inconvenient Truth” – DVD
To be viewed at home on
Your computer

**TURN IN RESEARCH PAPER
At Professor Simpson’s Mailbox in BSB 1101**

11/25 **Thanksgiving Holiday**

XV 11/28 Governing the Chicago
Metropolitan Region

* 11/30 **Fred Hess Memorial Lecture
Chicago Public School
Superintendent
“The Future of Education
In Chicago”**

12/2 Review of Course
RECEIVE TAKE-HOME EXAM

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