

# Political Science 103A

## California Politics

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Prof. Thad Kousser  
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Office Hours: 369 Social Science Building  
Noon-2pm Wednesdays

Summer 2011  
Lecture: M/W 2-4:50pm, PCYNH 121  
Final: Friday, July 29, 3-6pm

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### Required Reading

› The three texts are available for purchase at the bookstore: William Fulton's *The Reluctant Metropolis* (Johns Hopkins, 2001), Gerald Lubenow's *Governing California, Second Edition* (Institute of Governmental Studies Press, 2006), and Frederick Douzet, Thad Kousser, and Kenneth Miller, *The New Political Geography of California* (Berkeley Public Policy Press, 2008). I will also post online a copy of the "What's Next California" participants guide.

› The course webpage, located at <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~tkousser/PS103A.htm>, will contain information such as lecture slides, course announcements, and study guides.

### Course Assignments

- › 25% Midterm (Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, in class)
- › 30% Paper (due Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, beginning of class)
- › 35% Final: Constitutional Reform Debate, Friday, July 29, 3-6pm)
- › 10% Class Attendance and Participation

**Class Meetings:** Each meeting will consist of a lecture and discussion, then a break, then another lecture and discussion. Every student needs to be prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that day, and have something to say about the subjects that we are studying. The lecture outlines on the course website include discussion questions.

**Assignments:** There will be an in-class midterm on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, as well as a final debate on constitutional reform on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>. The midterm will be closed book, and composed of identifications, short answers, and an essay. For the paper, due on Monday, July 25, you will write a policy analysis of a specific piece of California legislation in 5-7 pages (I'll hand out more detailed instructions later). The paper will be graded on both substance and style. Each student must do his or her own work, adhering to university regulations prohibiting plagiarism and cheating.

**Grade Changes and Extensions:** All requests for grade changes must be made in writing, to me, within a week of receiving the graded assignment. Requests must be typed and double spaced, and review of a grade by the other grader or by me may result in either a higher or lower grade. There are no regrades for the final. Extensions on assignments and make-up exams

will only be granted in cases of documented illness or family medical emergencies. Please contact me as soon as possible if you need to request one.

### *Part I. Political Institutions in Flux*

1. Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, Course Introduction and The Progressive Movement I: Initiatives and Referenda.
  - a. “What’s Next California” participants guide, pages 5-12.
  - b. Eugene Lee, “Direct Democracy: Initiative, Referendum, and Recall,” in *Governing California*.
  
2. Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. Progressive Movement II: The Recall & Movements and Elections in California.
  - a. Pages 1-10 of “Governors, Geography, and Direct Democracy,” William Chandler and Thad Kousser, *The New Political Geography of California*.
  - b. William Fulton, “The Beachhead,” Chapter 1 in *The Reluctant Metropolis*.
  - c. “The Partisan East-West Divide,” Kenneth P. Miller and Frederick Douzet, *The New Political Geography of California*.

NO CLASS ON MONDAY, JULY 4<sup>th</sup>!

3. Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. Professionalizing the California Legislature & Term Limits and the Future of the Legislature.
  - a. “What’s Next California” participants guide, pages 25-35.
  - b. Patrick Johnston, “The Changing Legislative Landscape,” in *Governing California*.
  - c. Bruce Cain, Thad Kousser, and Karl Kurtz, “California: A Professional Legislature After Term Limits,” in *Governing California*.
  
4. Monday, July 11. Bargaining with Governors & Parties and Redistricting in California
  - a. John Jacobs and A.G. Block, “The Governor: Managing a Mega-State,” in *Governing California*.
  - b. John Decker, “Resolving Differences and Crafting Compromise: Creating a Budget for California,” in *Governing California*.
  - c. J. Morgan Kousser, “Redistricting,” in *Governing California*.
  
5. Wednesday, July 13, Midterm, 90 minutes.

### *Part II. The Geopolitics of Diversity*

6. Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. Demographics and Immigration Policy & Political Incorporation of Minority Groups.
  - a. Jack Citrin, “Immigration,” in *Governing California*.
  - b. William Fulton, “Suburbs of Extraction,” Chapter 3 in *The Reluctant Metropolis*.
  - c. Urban Change and Neighborhood Politics in San Diego: A Comparative Perspective,” Gerald Billard and Emmanuelle Le Texier, *The New Political Geography of California*.

7. Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Race, Demography and Voting in California & Moving On Up to Sacramento.
  - a. William Fulton, “Whose Riot Was This, Anyway,” in *The Reluctant Metropolis*.
  - b. “The San Joaquin Valley: Political Realignment and its Limits,” Kenneth P. Miller and Justin Levitt, *The New Political Geography of California*.

*Part III. Perspectives on Policy.*

8. Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Crime and Punishment I: The System & The Layers of California Government.
  - a. Preble Stoltz, Jerry Uelmen, and Susan Rasky “The Courts,” in *Governing California*.
  - b. “What’s Next California” participants guide, pages 47-54.
  - c. William Fulton, “Welcome to Sales Tax Canyon,” in *The Reluctant Metropolis*.
9. Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Crime and Punishment II: Race and Crime & Environmental Politics.
  - a. William Fulton, “Redefining Chinatown,” in *The Reluctant Metropolis*.
  - b. William Fulton, “The Politics of Extinction,” in *The Reluctant Metropolis*.