

POLITICAL SCIENCE 642

SEMINAR IN PUBLIC POLICY: EDUCATION POLICY

Ken Meier
Office: 2033
Fall 2001

Office Hours: M: 1:00-4:00

and by appointment

This seminar is a research seminar on the general topic of education policy. It is designed to give the student an opportunity to conduct original research in this area. The focus is on U.S. education policy with some comparative material, an individual student willing to do extra work might well do work on education policy issues in other countries. Special emphasis will be given to the TEEP National Latino Education Policy Project.

Grades

Each student has two responsibilities: 1. to read and be able to discuss the material assigned, and 2. design and implement a research project that investigates some aspect of education policy. Grades will be based on the following: 20% class participation 10% paper presentation, and 70% the research paper. All papers should conform to the APSA style manual. Paper presentations should be similar to the presentation of a conference paper.

The ability to meet deadlines in both research and teaching is a bona fide occupational qualification for a political scientist, therefore, the instructor does not accept late work.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Koldus Building, or call 845-1637.

Required Books

Kenneth Wong, *Funding Public Schools: Politics and Policies*. Lawrence: University of Kansas Press, 1999.

Mark Schneider, Paul Teske and Melissa Marschall, *Choosing Schools: Consumer Choice and the Quality of American Schools*. Princeton University Press 2001.

Christopher Jencks and Meredith Phillips, *The Black-White Test Score Gap*. Washington: Brookings, 1998.

David Tyack and Larry Cuban. *Tinkering Toward Utopia*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1995.

Frederick M. Hess. *Spinning Wheels: The Politics of Urban School Reform*. Washington: The Brookings Institution, 1998.

Gary Burtless, *Does Money Matter? The Effect of School Resources on Student Achievement and Adult Success*. Washington: Brookings, 1996.

Kenneth J. Meier and Joseph Stewart. *The Politics of Hispanic Education*. Albany: SUNY Press, 1991.

Course Outline

1. Introduction to the course
2. The National Latino Education Policy

project Meier and Stewart, entire book

3. The historical structure of education

policy Tyack and Cuban, entire book

Jeffrey Mirel, "Urban Public Schools in the Twentieth Century: The View from Detroit." in *Brookings Papers on Education Policy 1999*. Diane Ravich, eds. 9-58.

Maurice A. Garnier and Jerald Hage. 1991. "Class Gender and School Expansion in France: A Four Systems Comparison" *Sociology of Education* 64:229-250 JSTOR

4. The Politics of Political Control

Michael W. Kirst. 1995. "Who's in Charge? Federal, State, and Local Control?" in *Learning from the Past*, Diane Ravich and Maris Vinovskis, eds. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Richard F. Elmore. 1996. "Getting to Scale with Good Educational Practice." *Harvard Educational Review* 66: 1-26.

Kenneth K. Wong. 1999. *Funding Public Schools*. Lawrence: Kansas University Press.

Jaap Scheerens et al. 1999. "Aspects of the Organizational and Political Context of School Evaluation in four European Countries." *Studies in Educational Evaluation* 25: 79-108.

5. Questions of Money Burtless, entire

book, except Burtless article.

Ronald F. Ferguson and Helen F. Ladd. 1996. "How and Why Money Matters: An Analysis of Alabama Schools." in Helen F. Ladd, *Performance-Based Reform in Education*. Washington: Brookings.

Recommended: Hamilton Lankford and James Wyckoff. 1996. "The Allocation of Resources to Special Education and Regular Instruction." in Helen F. Ladd, *Performance-Based Reform in Education*. Washington: Brookings.

Recommended: Caroline Minter Hoxby. 1996. "Are Efficiency and Equity in School Finance Substitutes or Complements?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 10 (Fall) : 51-72.

Recommended: Evans, William N., Shelia E. Murray, and Robert M. Schwab. 1997. "Schoolhouses, Courthouses, and Statehouses After Serrano." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 16 (Winter): 10-31.

6. Reforming the

system Hess, entire book

Jane Hanaway. 1993. "Political Pressure and Decentralization in Institutional Organizations: The Case of School Districts." *Sociology of Education* 66:147-163. JSTOR

Kenneth K. Wong and Francis x. Shen, N.d. "Politics of State-led Reform in Education: Market Competition and Electoral Dynamics" electronic.

John Ambler. 1987. "Constraints on Policy Innovation in Education" *Comparative Politics* 20:85-105.

7. Race: the test score gap

Jenkins and Philips, entire book

Ron W. Zimmer and Eugenia F. Toma 2000. "Peer effects in Private and Public Schools across Countries" *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 19:75-92.

8. School choice

Schneider et al. entire book

9. Charter Schools

Texas Charter School Evaluation

10. Alternative Forms

Rosemary C. Salomone, "Single Sex Schooling: Law, Policy, and Research." in *Brookings Papers on Education Policy* 1999. Diane Ravitch ed.

A. Bryk, V. Lee and P. Holland. 1993. Chapter 12 "Catholic Lessons for America's Schools" *Catholic Schooling and the Common Good*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Eugenia Toma. 1996. "Public Funding and Private Schooling Across Countries" *Journal of Law and Economics* 39:121-148.

11 Higher Education

Steven Brink and Jerome Karabel. 1991. "Institutional Origins and Transformations: The Case of American Community Colleges." In *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis*, Walter W. Powell and Paul J. DiMaggio, eds. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Claudia Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz. 1998. "The Shaping of Higher Education: The Formative Years in the United States 1890-1940." NBER Working Paper 6537.

Marilyn Gittell and Neil Scott Kleiman. 2000. "The Political Context of Higher Education" *American Behavioral Scientist* 43: 1058-1091, On line in libcat

Michael K. McLendon and Stuart Eddings. N.d. "Direct Democracy and Higher

Education: Higher Education Balloting in the American States" electronic.

12. Texas

Shiela Nataraj Kirby et al. 1999. "Supply and Demand of Minority Teachers in Texas: Problems and Prospects." *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 21: 47-66.

Linda M. McNeil 1988. "The Politics of Texas School Reform." in *The Politics of Excellence and Choice in Education*, William Lowe Boyd and Charles Taylor Kerchner eds. New York: The Falmer Press.

Kenneth J. Meier, et al. 1999. "Representative Bureaucracy and Distributional Equity: Addressing the Hard Question." *Journal of Politics* 61 (November):1025-39. See also the exchange in JoP May 2001.

Weihher, Gregory. 2000. "Minority Student Achievement: Passive Representation and Social Context in Schools." *Journal of Politics* 62 (August), 886-895.

John Bohte 1999. "Examining the Effects of School Finance Reform in Texas" TEEP Report #5.

Recent work on education politics

Guadalupe San Miguel. 2001. *Brown, Not White: School Integration and the Chicano Movement in Houston*. College Station: Texas A&M Press.

Jeffrey R. Henig, Richard C. Hula, Marion Orr, Desiree Ss. Pedescleaux. 1999. *The Color of School Reform: Race, Politics and the challenge of Urban Education*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

John Portz, Lana Stein, and Robin R. Jones. 1999. *City Schools and City Politics*. Lawrence: University of Kansas Press.

Clarence Stone. 1998. *Changing Urban Education*. Lawrence: University of Kansas Press.

Linda McNeil. 2000. *Contradictions of School Reform: Educational Costs of Standardized Testing*. New York: Routledge.

Michael Mintrom. 2000. *Policy Entrepreneurs and School Choice*. Washington: Georgetown University Press.

Christina Hoff Sommers. 2000. *The War Against Boys: How Misguided Feminism is Harming our Young Men*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

American Association of University Women. 1995. *How Schools Shortchange Girls*. New York: Marlowe and Company.

Gerald W. Bracey. 1997. *Setting the Record Straight: Responses to Misconceptions about Public Education in the United States*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD

David C. Berliner and Bruce J. Biddle. 1995. *The Manufactured Crisis*. Cambridge, MA: Perseus Books.

Wilbur C. Rich. 1996. *Black Mayors and School Politics*. New York: Garland Publishing.

*William G. Bowen and Derek Bok. 1998. The Shape of the River: Long-Term
Consequences of Considering Race in College and University Admissions.
Princeton: Princeton University Press.*