Welcome to the 2010 Columbus Seminar. This year the Seminar celebrates its 26th year of engaged learning at Cleveland State University.

The Columbus Seminar is a field study of state government. Its purpose is to give students both an intellectual understanding of and experience with the basic public organizations and institutions of Ohio's state government. This course is part of the undergraduate major in Urban Studies and an elective course in graduate programs, such as the MPA, the MUPDD, and MSUS. While the field experiences are common to all students, the Seminar's academic requirements are tailored to meet different educational levels. This means that honor students and graduate students will do an additional assignment and must perform at higher standard.

The Seminar's focus is on how state government operates at the institutional level and how Ohio incorporates constitutional values and public interests. During the field experience, students will meet important officials drawn from all branches of state government - the legislature, the executive branch, and the court system. The Seminar will also include leaders from the state's largest independent agency (PUCO), the media, and non-governmental organizations that interact frequently and intensively with the state. Seminar students will meet MPA and CSU alumni who work in state government or affiliated organizations in Columbus. The Seminar's size is limited so that students will have maximum opportunity for meaningful interaction with the speakers.

In the last thirty years, the institutions of state government have been transformed and expanded. As Carl Van Horn (2006, 2) argues, the rising importance of state government has been a quiet revolution. Some changes are the product of landmark court decisions while the integration of the U.S. economy into the global market system has triggered others. Therefore, state government has strengthened its policy and economic roles to accommodate these shifts. At the same time, state government has expanded its role in traditional services, such as law enforcement and education. In effect, state governments have more prominence in American politics and public administration, and job opportunities for professional staff have increased in this new environment. In 2009, state government in Ohio confronted unprecedented challenges due to the economic emergency while public needs rose in an era of diminishing resources.

Required Readings


League of Women Voters of Ohio, *Know Your Ohio Government*, Ninth Edition C all


Kenneth Ashworth, *Caught Between the Dog and the Fireplug, or How to Survive Public Service* (2001)

- Selections for undergraduates (see p. 7-8 of the syllabus).
- The entire book is a required reading for all graduate students.

Alexander P. Lamis and Brian Usher (Eds.), *Ohio Politics* (Revised & Updated Edition) (2007); the entire book is required reading for doctoral students.


**Required Readings for All Students Available through Electronic Reserve**

William Rehnquist, *The Supreme Court: How It Was, How it Is* (1987) excerpts: AHow the Court Does Its Oral Arguments@ (chapter 12), and AHow the Court Does its Work: Deciding the Cases@ (chapter 13).

The Ohio Constitution: [http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/constitution.cfm](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/constitution.cfm)

**Learning Process**

Students must complete the readings by Friday, March 12, 2010. By completing the readings before the experiential part of the seminar, students will learn more from the guest speakers. In all meetings in Columbus, students must listen carefully and ask intelligent questions respectfully to show that they have done their background reading.

The class will meet initially Sunday, March 14, 2010 at the Doubletree Guest Suites at 50 S. Front Street, Columbus (614-228-4600; [http://doubletree1.hilton.com](http://doubletree1.hilton.com)). The plan is for the Sunday session to involve some lectures and walking tours so that students can familiarize themselves with their surroundings.

Between March 14 and March 19, 2010, Seminar students will meet in state agency locations, based at the Riffe Building or the Rhodes Tower. Some sessions will be held at an agency location, such as the Ohio Supreme Court, so that students can observe live the operations of state government. Occasionally, students will attend a night hearing of a
legislative committee or even a reception. While meeting with state officials, students must
dress for a business meeting and display a professional demeanor.

Seminar students are ambassadors of Cleveland State University and the Levin College
of Urban Affairs. Therefore, students must adhere to the highest standards of legal and ethical
behavior at the hotel and during all agency and legislative visits. Each student must sign a waiver
of liability by February 5, 2010.

Punctuality is required at all Seminar sessions, both in Cleveland and Columbus.

Tardiness will be penalized. State officials have agreed to take time out of their busy schedules
to meet the Columbus Seminar, and students must respect their commitment by arriving
promptly. The arrival times of students will be monitored and recorded. Students may not miss
more than two (2) of the scheduled meetings either in Cleveland or Columbus. Students who
miss more than two sessions will automatically receive an AF grade for the course and be asked
to leave. Please inform the Professor before the session of any schedule conflicts.

The University=s online platform Blackboard will enhance the Seminar. Students will
receive the course materials and travel announcements through the seminar=s Blackboard
website. Checking Blackboard frequently is imperative in this Seminar. In addition,
students must submit their written assignments to the Professor by the deadline in the appropriate
Blackboard assignment drop box. The Professor will grade only those assignments submitted
in the correct Blackboard assignment drop box by the specified deadline.

Reasonable Accommodation: Educational access is the provision of classroom
accommodations, auxiliary aides, and service to ensure equal educational opportunities for all
students regardless of their disability. Any student who feels that he or she may need an
accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact CSU=s Office of Disability
Services at (216) 687-2015. The Office is located in MC 147. Accommodations need to be
requested in advance and will not be granted retroactively. Please contact Ms. Kate Yurick at
r.c.yurick@csuohio.edu.

Dates to Remember:

Cleveland-based sessions at the Levin College of Urban Affairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 29</td>
<td>Overview of the course - VVC, PAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to state government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweet Seminar Room</td>
<td>Lecture by Prof. Larry Keller (guest speaker)</td>
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<td>- UR 241</td>
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<tr>
<td>Face-to-face session</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 29, Blackboard Discussion</td>
<td>Post an Introduction &amp; Profile; participation required by 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 1st.</td>
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</table>

January 29, Blackboard Discussion | Online reflections of Lessons Learned from Dr. Keller. Students must submit an original posting |
AND post a substantive response to a classmate by 11:59 p.m. of Feb. 1.

Friday, February 5 (4:00-6:00 p.m.)
UR 247 (Face-to-face session)
Overview of state government institutions
Lecture by Prof. Larry Keller (guest speaker).
Signed Waiver of Liability, required for travel, due in class.

Feb. 5, Blackboard Discussion
Online reflection of lessons learned from Dr. Keller. Students must submit an original posting AND post a substantive response to a classmate by 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 8.

March 1, Blackboard Assignment
Submit Assignment #1 (biography) by 11:59 p.m.

Friday, March 5 (4:00-6:00 p.m.)
Sweet Seminar Room - UR 241
Face-to-face session
State government in Cleveland
Sweeney Leadership Panel

March 5, Blackboard Discussion
Lessons Learned from the Sweeney Panel. Students must submit an original posting AND post a substantive response to a classmate by 11:59 p.m. on March 8.

Thursday, Mar. 11, 2010, 4:00 p.m.
Blackboard synchronous chat
Finalize Columbus Logistics online. All-class chat room: participation required.

Mar. 31, Blackboard Discussion
Columbus Seminar Field Study Debriefing
Online Reflections of Lessons Learned. Students must submit an original posting AND post a substantive response to a classmate by 11:59 p.m.

Also students must submit the debriefing questionnaire on this discussion board so that their responses are available to other students by 11:59 p.m.

Mar. 31, Blackboard Assignment
Submit Assignment #2 (Columbus Journal) as a word document by 11:59 p.m.

Friday, April 16 (4:00-6:00 p.m.)
Career Development Panel:
Sweet Seminar Room -UR 241  
Face-to-face session  
State Auditor Mary Taylor (invited)  
Local speakers  
Assignment #3: Submit written letters & envelopes at the beginning of the class session.

April 16,  Blackboard  
Submit Assignment #3 (list), by 11:59 p.m.

April 16, Blackboard  
Optional discussion – Good-bye Columbus

April 19, Blackboard  
Submit Assignments # 5 & #8, by 11:59 p.m.

May 5, Blackboard  
Submit Assignment #4 - Final Exam, by 11:59 p.m.

Field Study in Columbus, Ohio  
March 14 through March 19, 2010 & Follow-up

March 14 (1:00 -5:00 p.m.)  
Location: Doubletree Hotel, Columbus  
Lecture: “Ohio Government & Governance”  
Overview: “The Week Ahead in Columbus”  
Alumni Presentations  
Virtual Tour of Statehouse:  
http://www.ohiochannel.org/your_state/ohio_statehouse/multimedia/virtual_tour.cfm?site_id=98290&tour_id=98268

March 15-19  
TBA - Agency Site Visits & Legislative Shadowing; Supreme Court oral arguments.

March 19  
Goodbye Columbus (4:00 p.m.)

Seminar Requirements & Assignments

All students must complete four (4) written assignments. As the Seminar emphasizes practical learning, these requirements are real world assignments. Undergraduate Honor, master’s level, and doctoral students must complete additional assignments commensurate with their educational level.

**Assignment # 1 - A Biography (due: March 1, 2010).** Each student must write a brief biography about an important STATE official that describes what s/he does, and the official=s educational background and significant accomplishments. The biography should also address the official=s motivation for choosing a state government career and the student=s rationale for selecting this official. This assignment must not be longer than four pages, and the paper must
be double spaced and typed with the pages numbered. The paper must contain a bibliography that contains three sources, and relevant Seminar readings are appropriate to use. Please do not submit a transcription of the official=s Web-based biography. Biographies of historical state government leaders are acceptable.

Assignment #2 - A Columbus Journal@ (due: March 31, 2010). While in Columbus, each student must keep a brief journal of their daily activities, including an assessment of their legislative shadowing experience --- what went well and what did not. On returning to Cleveland, Seminar students must submit their journal as a typed report via Blackboard’s assignment drop box. This journal provides official documentation of the student=s participation in the field study.

Assignment #3 B “Relationship Building Letters” (due: April 16, 2010). Each student must prepare personalized letters of thanks on CSU stationery to ten (10) Seminar speakers. Those letters and envelopes must be turned into the Professor at the beginning of the face-to-face session. The assignment also requires each student to submit his or her list of officials and the rationale for choosing them in a word file via Blackboard by 11:59 p.m.

Assignment #4 - Final Exam. Each student must complete the final exam by May 5, 2010. The exam may be taken more than once but not in a group situation.

Assignment #5 - Honor Student Assignment: 5-page review of the Sheridan book (due: April 19, 2010). Each honor student must summarize the entire Sheridan book and reflect on the extent to which Sheridan’s lessons were relevant in Columbus. The paper must be typed, double-spaced, and contain appropriate citations.

Assignment #5 - Master=s (& Law) Student Assignment: 20-page review of the Ashworth, Sheridan, & Wright books (due: on April 19, 2010). Each graduate student must review the Ashworth, Sheridan, & Wright books, identify the lessons learned from these authors, and reflect on the extent to which those lessons had relevance in Columbus. The paper must be typed, double-space, and contain appropriate citations.

Assignment #8 - Doctoral-level assignment: State agency profile or policy analysis (due on April 19, 2010). Doctoral students are expected to review the Ashworth, Wright, Sheridan, Van Horn, and Lamis & Usher books in a 40-page paper, using a state agency as a backdrop; footnotes/endnotes and references must be included. This paper should include a brief history of an Ohio agency or policy that integrates insights gleaned from the Columbus field experience and the readings. Alternatively, a doctoral student may propose a research project that extends the Seminar readings. In either case, the quality of the work must be worthy of doctoral effort by emphasizing the use of theory to interpret agency action and history.

The following chart displays how the course assignments are weighted for different categories of students.
### Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Undergraduate Honor Students</th>
<th>Graduate Students</th>
<th>Doctoral Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Biography (due: March 1)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Columbus Journal (due: Mar. 31)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Relationship Building Letters (due: April 16)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Final Exam (due: May 5)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Book Review(s) (due: April 19)</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Active &amp; prompt face-to-face participation in Cleveland &amp; Columbus</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Active &amp; prompt online participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. State agency profile or policy analysis (due: April 19)</td>
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<td>-----</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grading Scale

AA@ = 95-100; AA-A = 90-94; AB+@ = 85-89; AB@ = 80-84; AB-@ = 75-79; AC+@ = 70-74; AC@ = 65-69; AD@ = 60-64

Please note that at the graduate level, a grade of AB-@ and AC@ are below standards. Graduate courses do not include grades of AC+@ or AD@.

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Plagiarism or cheating will result in an AF@ for the course. Unprofessional or inappropriate behavior in Columbus will also result in a dismissal from Columbus and an AF@ for the course. As stated, any student who misses more than two sessions in Cleveland or Columbus or who is consistently tardy will receive an AF@ for the course.

### Office Hours

In Cleveland, I will hold my office hours in UR 319 on the Fridays before our class sessions, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in Glickman-Miller Hall. If these times are not convenient, please contact me to set up a mutually convenient time via Blackboard email. You may also contact the teaching assistant, KC Petraitis, via email in Blackboard.

I will be available at the Doubletree Guest Suites during our time in Columbus. I will hold office hours at the hotel from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), unless we have an evening session.

### Order of Readings

...
I. Conceptual Overview of State Government & Politics
   League of Women Voters, Know Your Ohio Government
   Keller, AConnecting Organizations to Philosophy® (handout)
   Knepper, Chapters 1-4
   Rosenthal (Introduction in the Wright book)
   Wright, Chapter 1

II. Ohio’s Three Branches: History & Conflict in State Government
   Knepper, Chapters 5, 7, 8, 9, 12 & 17, 18
   Rehnquist excerpts (on electronic reserve)
   The Ohio Constitution; http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/constitution.cfm
   Keller, AInstitutional Analysis® - handout on Blackboard
   Keller, AOhio Politics and Governance: Political Eras in the Development of an
   American State® B handout on Blackboard
   Ashworth, AWorking with Politicians, pp. 1-22

III. Lawmaking & the Legislative Process
   Wright, Chapters 2-7, 9-11
   Ohio Legislative Process: http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/process.cfm
   Navigating a Bill: http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/research/navigatebill.html

IV. Policy Process & Analysis
   Ashworth, ATaking the Initiative® pp. 73-81
   Ashworth, AEthics & Morality in Public Service® pp. 23-33
   Ashworth, Working with the Press, pp. 23-33
   Knepper, Chapter 6, 10-11, 13-16
   Wright, Chapters 8, 12

V. The Budget & Accountability Tools
   Sheridan, entire book
   Ashworth, A bona fide Bureaucratic Behavior® pp. 121-133
   Ashworth, AWalking with Kings® pp. 134-144

VI. Strategic Leadership & Public Service
   Ashworth, A Few Thoughts on Leadership® pp 168-177
   Ashworth, A Summing Up® pp. 178-184
   Wright, Epilogue, pp. 226-236

VVC: 1/1/10