

Urban Studies 695-4
Selected Topics: Comparative Metropolitan Governance

Recommended Pre-Reading: Tindal and Tindal, *Local Government In Canada*, (5th/ 6th edn)

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Description:

This course is intended to allow students to critically evaluate the varied nature and development of metropolitan governance. It focuses on differing city-regional forms and responsibilities, particularly in North America, with some comparative discussion of the EU, Asia, Israel and elsewhere; its primary emphasis is on comparing the political processes involved in the governing of major urban regions, especially on intergovernmental institutions/governance whose territories cover substantial portions of relevant metropolitan areas - in Canadian settings such as Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Halifax and Vancouver, in American metropolitan regions such as Chicago, Minneapolis-St.Paul and San Francisco, in Greater London, England, in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Israel, in Korea and elsewhere. The course will provide opportunities to interact with key political/bureaucratic actors and local/comparative academic experts.

The course is organized around three modules: the *first* focuses on: the evolution of metropolitan governance and on theoretical perspectives of the form; some of the administrative and policy dilemmas confronting contemporary city regions and the senior jurisdictions with constitutional authority for their governance: issues such as land use and urban transportation planning, environmental sustainability, social and economic equity and debates about forms of governance; world city forms/definitions. The *second* module examines the dynamics of actual metropolitan governance in selected Canadian, American, EU, Asian, Israeli and other comparative case settings. An opportunity to interact with actual policy-makers/analysts in some of these settings is a key component of the class. Module *three* will consist of student case studies/memoranda of specific metropolitan policy/governance issues and settings.

One or two *field seminars* - at the GVRD and in Seattle - as well as the involvement of metropolitan policy/governance participants in Canada and elsewhere - are anticipated as part of the course.

Course Organization:

One seminar/colloquium weekly: Tuesdays - 5:30-9:30PM, Scotia McLeod Room, HC1525

Required Texts:

A detailed outline of readings will be available at the start of the semester.

Eran Razin and Patrick J. Smith, eds., *Metropolitan Governing: Canadian Cases, Comparative Lessons*, (Jerusalem: Magnes Press, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2005), paperback - available at first class.

Metropolitan Governance: Custom Course Reader - available at first class. Approx. \$20.00

Course Evaluation:

Article Presentation/Critique	15%
Municipal - Regional Briefing Note	20%
Met Governance/Policy Memorandum	30%
Met Gov Media Release	15%
Seminar Presentations/Participation	20%