READINGS:
Readings are listed on the following pages. All of the papers listed will be discussed in the lectures to some degree. Those marked (*) are papers which the students are expected to read, while those marked (**) the students are expected to know especially well.

TEXTS:
The following books are recommended:


PAPER:
Each student will be required to prepare a short 7 page paper that summarizes the results in a single area of the literature discussed in the class, and highlights the open questions still remaining in the literature. The papers not *ed or **ed will be a guide to what else should be included in the summary, although additional papers will likely be needed to supplement the discussion. *Note: 7 pages is an absolute maximum number of pages.* Use single-spacing and 12 point fonts with no less than 1 inch margins. I also strongly encourage the use of TeX or ScientificWord (i.e. LaTeX) in preparing the papers. [For a free TeX compiler and previewer, see MiKTeX http://www.miktex.org/, and also buy the *TeXBook* by Donald Knuth.]

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:
During the course of the semester, all students will be expected to make one presentation each in class of course material, which I expect will be related to their papers in topic. This can be presentation of a particular paper, or a synthesis of several similar papers on a particular topic. Presentations should be about 45-60 minutes in length.

EXAM:
The course will have a final exam. The date and format of the exam will be determined by the class through an appropriate social choice mechanism.
0. Introduction

Laffont, Introduction

Mueller, Public Choice, Chapter 10


1. Public Goods

1.1 Neoclassical Theory


Laffont, Chapter 2.1 -- 2.4, 2.7


1.2 Privately Provided Public Goods


1.3 Fund-raising


1.4 Experimental Studies


1.5 Econometric Studies


2. Externalities

Laffont, Chapter 1.


3. Collective Choice and Majority Voting

Laffont, Chapters 2.5, 2.6, 4, “Collective Choice Theory.”

* Mueller, Public Choice, Chapters 4, 5 and 6.


4. Preference Revelation and Implementation


Mueller, Public Choice II, Chapter 8.

** Laffont, Chapter 5, “Incomplete Information in Public Economics.”


5. Local Public Finance

5.1 Theoretical Issues: The Tiebout Hypothesis


5.2 Empirical Issues: Tiebout Sorting, Federalism


5.2 Empirical Issues: Education


6. **Economics of the Family**


7. Public Intervention in Markets for Private Goods

7.1 Transfers In-Kind


7.2 Mandated Benefits


7.3 Public Provision of Private Goods


### 7.4 Preferences for Redistribution


### 8. Law and Economics


9. The Political Economy of Career Advancement (Independent Reading)
