

SMU ArmentroutScholars Reading Group  
Spring 2023 Syllabus

Cities, Local Government, & Local Governance

Mon. & Tues. Dean Stansel, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor, Bridwell Institute  
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Wed.: Richard Alm, Writer in Residence, Bridwell Institute  
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Fri.: Meg Tuszynski, Research Assistant Professor & Bridwell Institute Managing Director  
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Bridwell Institute for Economic Freedom  
Cox School of Business, Expressway Tower 1100, Room 1090B  
<https://www.smu.edu/cox/Centers/Institutes/BridwellInstitute>

Meeting Times Our meetings will be held on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, and Fridays at 11:15 pm in the Bridwell Institute conference room. Note that for the two years of the Cox Business School building renovation, our office has temporarily moved to the Expressway Tower 1100, Room 1090B. If you have any questions, please contact the office at (972) 768-3170.



Attendance is required. Your attendance and active participation are required. We will have regular meetings plus a joint reading group summit which may include students from similar groups at other universities. Meetings will be held at SMU Monday through Friday, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, and on Friday nights at 11:15 pm. If you cannot attend a meeting, you can instead attend Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday that week and/or a Friday night meeting. If that does not work, to make up for your absence, please email a short paragraph summary of what you learned to your discussion leader. The Bridwell Institute is not responsible for parking fines or towing fees.

Readings for that week to your discussion leader, preferably by the time your scheduled meeting starts. In addition, the Bridwell Institute hosts several guest speakers throughout the semester. You are required to attend at least one of those events and email to your discussion leader a one-paragraph summary of what you learned.

If none of those dates work for you, you may instead watch a previous event on our YouTube channel chosen from a list that will be distributed towards the end of the semester.

Dinner. The formal discussion session will last about an hour, after which we will bring in food to continue our conversation informally. You should expect this to last until about 8 pm (Fridays). This is considered an integral part of the program and you are expected to participate. Leaving early (or arriving late) will count as half an absence. Please notify us if you have food allergies or other issues so that we can be accommodate you.

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## Meeting Schedule

Meeting #	Dates (Mon./Tues./Wed./Fri.)	Notes
1	Jan. 2/24/25/0*	second week of class
2	Jan. 30/31/Jan. 27*	
3	Feb. 6/7/8/3*	
4	Feb. 13/14/15/10*	
5	Feb. 20/21/22/17*	
6	Feb. 27/28/Mar. 1/24*	
7	Mar. 6/7/8/3*	

NO MEETINGS Mar. 13/14/15/17 Spring Break

NO MEETINGS Mar. 20/21/22/24 due to summit on Saturday

Sat. Mar 25, Mandatory Reading Group Summit at SMU

8 Mar. 27/28/29/31

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10 Apr. 10/11/12/21\* \*SMU closed 4/7 for Good Friday

\*To avoid having to meet the Friday before Spring Break, the Friday group will have its first meeting on 1/20, the Friday of the first week of class. Also, the weeks 9 and 10 meetings will be bumped by a week because of the Good Friday holiday on Fri. 4/7.

## Reading List

Books that will be provided:



Week 5: Local Government: What Is It Good For? (Feb. 20/21/22/17) (72pages)

\*Wallace Oates. (1972) An Economic Approach to Federalism, Chapter 1 in Wallace Oates, *Federalism*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 3

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Week 8:

Salim Furth and Eric Cousens Case study: Auburn, Maine Incremental Victories without Zoning Reform Better Cities Project <https://bettercities.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/BCP-Auburn-casestudy.pdf>

\*Stringham, Edward P., Jennifer K. Miller, and J.R. Clark. (2010) Internalizing Externalities Through Private Zoning: The Case of Walt Disney Company's Celebration, Florida *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy*, 40 (2): 96-103.

\*Benjamin Powell and Edward Stringham. (2009) Inclusionary Zoning, Ch. 6 in *Housing America: Building Out of a Crisis*, Oakland: Independent Institute