

**POLS V3230x**  
**Political Economy of Regionalism in the United States**  
**Fall 2002**

[Prof. Kimberley Johnson](#)

Office: 419 Lehman / 854-8522

Email: [kimjohnson@barnard.edu](mailto:kimjohnson@barnard.edu)

Office hours: Wednesday 9:30-11:30 & by appointment

Class:

237 Milbank Hall

Tue Thu 10:35-11:50

Course Description: This course explores the relationship between politics and place. We consider how political institutions such as the federal system shape regional economic and political development. In turn, we consider how different patterns of regional economic development shape national, state and local politics. We first turn to defining what is meant by federalism and regionalism, and the relationship between these two concepts. We then turn to a brief historical overview of regionalism and public policy from 1789 to 1930. Next, we consider different stages of regional public policy starting with nationally directed regional policy and politics (1930 to 1970). During this era we focus on Appalachia, the rise of the “Sunbelt” and the emergence of the “New South.” We then examine the era of competitive regionalism (1970 to present), We especially focus on the growth of metropolitan areas, especially the rise of high tech regions accompanied by the growing poverty of central cities.

Course Requirements: Class attendance is required. Students will participate in three (3) in-class exercises. Other requirements: Mid-term, Final Exam.

<u>Grading:</u>	Class presentation/participation	60%
	Exercise #1	- 20
	Exercise #2	- 20
	Exercise #3	- 20
	Midterm	20%
	- 10/15	
	Final	
	- 12/17	20%
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	Total	100%

Class Schedule: NO CLASS: Thursday, 10/3; Tuesday, 11/5; Thursday, 11/28.

Books available at Columbia University Bookstore:

Ayers, Edward, *All Over the Map: Rethinking American Regions*

Fishman, Robert, ed., *The American Planning Tradition*

Larson, John, *Internal Improvement*

Luger, Michael, *Technology in the Garden*

Saxenian, Annalee, *Regional Advantage*

Schulman, Bruce, *From Cottonbelt to Sunbelt*

Course Reader available at Quick Copy (Amsterdam and 120<sup>th</sup> Street).

## Topics and Readings

### I. Defining Regions and Regionalism

Ayers, All

#### Reader

“Heartbroken: Is rural America really such a good role model for the nation?” *The Economist* (8/15/02)

“For African-Americans, trend is back to the South” *Christian Science Monitor* (6/26/2001)

“Don’t count Midwest out” *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (12/28/00)

Turner, Frederick Jackson. “The Significance of Sections in American History”

- Chpt. 1, *The Frontier in American History*”

- See also <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/TURNER/home.html>

Bradshaw, “The Significance of Regions” “Elements of Regional Differences in the United States”

#### Web resources

- Growth of United States - e.g. territorial expansion. Map Link:

[http://xroads.virginia.edu/~MAP/terr\\_hp.html](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~MAP/terr_hp.html)

- Historical Maps of the U.S.: <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/histus.html>

- Regional literary culture: <http://www.traverse.net/people/dot/default.html>

- You are where you live: <http://cluster2.claritas.com/YAWYL/>

- Kuntsler, “Home from Nowhere” *Atlantic Monthly* September 1996

- <http://www.theatlantic.com/issues/96sep/kunstler/kunstler.htm>

### Class Exercise #1

### II. Politics of Regionalism: Federalism

Hamilton, *Federalist Papers*: 10, 11, 15, 39, 46

- Available via CU Digital Library Collection

#### Reader

Chubb, “Federalism and the Bias for Centralization”

Diamond, Martin “What the Framers Meant by Federalism”

Dye, Thomas, “Federalism as Competition”

Elazar, Daniel. “Cooperative Federalism in American History”

### III. Regionalism in the United States: the Early Republic to 1900

Fishman, 4

Larson, All

#### Reader

Bradshaw, “Historic Basis of Regional Differences”

Cayton, “Separate Interests” and the Nation-State: The Washington Administration and the Origins of Regionalism in the Trans-Appalachian West”

Cronon, “Dreaming the Metropolis” “Gateway City”  
 Elazar, “The Roots of Cooperation” “The Dismal Swamp Canal” “Internal Improvements on the Eastern Seaboard”

Web Resources for Regional Economic development (pre-1900)

- Growth and Expansion of the United States in the Era of James Madison:  
<http://www.jmu.edu/madison/demographics.htm>
- National Atlases: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/census.html>
- The Northwest Ordinance  
<http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/milestones/ordinance/text.html>  
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/umhtml/umessay5.html>
- The National Road (Gallatin Plan): <http://www.nps.gov/fone/natlroad.htm>
- The Erie Canal: <http://intotem.buffnet.net/bhw/erie-canal/erie-canal.htm>  
<http://www.history.rochester.edu/canal/>
- Southern railroads: see <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/rrhtml/rrhome.html>

**Class Exercise #2**

**III. The Era of Centralized Regional Planning: From Appalachia to the Sunbelt**

Fishman, 3,5-8

Schulman, All

Reader

Bradshaw, Chapt. 5,6,8,9

Derthick, “The Logic of Regional Organization” “Tennessee Valley Authority” “Appalachian Regional Commission” “Federal Regional Councils”

Web Resources - Centralized Planning

- The Tennessee Valley Authority: <http://www.tva.gov/>  
<http://newdeal.feri.org/tva/>
- The Appalachia Regional Commission: <http://arc.gov/>

**IV. People over Places: Silicon Valley, Edge Cities and (Gilded?) Ghettos**

Fishman, 9,10

Luger, All

Saxenian, All except 5-6

Reader

Miller and Cote, “The Minnesota High Technology Cluster” “The Case of the Metropolitan Philadelphia Area”

Porter, “Clusters and the New Economics of Competition”

Porter, “The Competitive Advantage of the Inner City”

Regional Plan Association, “A Region at Risk”

Web Resources - People over Places

- What’s in a name? The growth in Silicon handles: <http://www.tbtf.com/siliconia.html>

- Journey-To-Work Trends in the United States and its Major Metropolitan Areas 1960-1990  
<http://ntl.bts.gov/DOCS/473.html>
- Sierra Club anti-sprawl: <http://www.sierraclub.org/sprawl/>

#### Regional Councils

- The Research Triangle (NC): <http://www.researchtriangle.org/>
- Regional Plan Association (NY/NJ/CT): <http://www.rpa.org/>
- Midwest: <http://www.marc.org/>
- Chicago: <http://www.chicagometropolis2020.org/>

### **Class Exercise #3**

## **V. Conclusion**

**Final Exam - December 17, 2002**

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