

Economics 4999 Colorado Economy

Fall 2008

Professor Barry W. Poulson

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00-12:00 and by appointment

Office: Econ 107

## **Syllabus**

### **Course Objectives:**

This course will introduce students to major policy issues confronting the Colorado economy. The course is divided into three major policy issues: state and local government issues; economic growth, infrastructure and the environment; and human resources. In each of the three sections of the course major issues are identified.

Within each issue area a number of specific questions are suggested. Students should select within each of the three major sections of the course. Readings and important links are suggested to help students explore these questions. Students may also propose an alternative specific question to explore as long as it relates to one of a major issue confronting the Colorado economy.

### **Course requirements:**

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Independence Institute  
Bighorn Center  
Bell Policy Center  
Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute

Other State Think Tanks: (see State Policy Network web site)

National Think Tanks

CATO  
Heritage Foundation  
Brookings Institute  
American Enterprise Institute  
Urban Institute  
Reason Foundation  
National Center for Policy Analysis

National Organizations Focused on State Issues

American Legislative Exchange Council  
National Conference of State Legislatures  
National Association of State Budget Officers  
National Governors Conference

National Taxpayer Organizations

Tax Foundation  
Americans for Tax Reform  
Americans for Prosperity  
National Taxpayers Union

**Grading**

Students will receive three grades representing each section of the course. Each of those grades will be based upon the essay and class attendance and participation. Each of the three grades will be equally weighted in the final grade.

**Disclaimer:**

This class will be conducted in conformity to all of the rules and procedures which are provided in publications by the University of Colorado

**Topical Outline and Assignments**

**I State and Local Government (Aug 26-Oct 2)**

**Important Links**

Colorado Legislative Council

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Office of State Budget and Planning

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Independence Institute Fiscal Policy Center

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Bighorn Center, Budget Policy

<http://www.coloradobudget.com/>

Bell Policy Center Fiscal Studies

<http://www.thebell.org/index.html>

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

<http://www.cclponline.org>

State Policy Network

<http://www.spn.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute

<http://www.cclponline.org>

## **Is It Too Easy To Change the Colorado Constitution?**

**Lecture Aug. 28**

**Roundtable Sept. 9**

### **Suggested Readings**

Government Publications

Colorado Constitution (for reference purposes)

<http://i2i.org/Publications/ColoradoConstitution/iscolocn.htm>

Referendum O Citizen-Initiated State Laws

Colorado Legislative Council

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Other Publications

A Colorado Constitutional Paradox: Initiatives, Referenda, and the Eclipse of Original Intent in County governance.

<http://i2i.org>

Protecting the People's Voice: Identifying the Obstacles to Colorado's Initiative and Referendum Process

<http://i2i.org>

## **Does Colorado Need a New Fiscal Constitution?**

**Lectures Sept. 2-4**

**Roundtable Sept.11**

**Suggested Readings**

Government Publications

Colorado Constitution (for reference purposes)

<http://i2i.org/Publications/ColoradoConstitution/iscolocn.htm>

Initiative #126

Colorado Legislative Council

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Initiative #126 Changing Education Funding and Ending Future TABOR Rebates  
Colorado Legislative Council

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Memorandum: Proposed Initiative Measure 2007-08 #126, Concerning Education Funding

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Henry Sobanet TABOR 101: How Colorado's Budget works

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Legislative Staff Discussion on Referendum C and D

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2005/research/05taxandfinance.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2005/research/05taxandfinance.htm)

Legislative Staff Report on Referendum C Revenue and Spending

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Referendum #88 Rebate of Money Above referendum C Estimates

<http://www.leg.state.co.us/lcs/0506initrefr.nsf/89fb842d0401c52087256cbc00650696/c6083eca0cdbe3fd87257186007644c5?OpenDocument>

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## Other Publications

Independence Institute Fiscal Policy Center

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Linda Gorman and Ben DeGrow, Exposing TABOR Data Games

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Penn Pfiffner, TABOR Benefits Colorado's Citizens

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Robert Bigot, California TABOR Dreamin

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Mark Hillman and Amy Oliver, State Budget Scrutiny Reveals Ref C Shuffle

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Barry W. Poulson, Amendment 23, An \$11 Billion Tax Increase

[http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author\\_id=90](http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author_id=90)

Barry W. Poulson, Tax and Spending Limits: Theory Analysis and Policy

[http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author\\_id=90](http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author_id=90)

Barry W. Poulson, A Constitutional Impasse: Gallagher, Bird/Arveschaugh, TABOR, and Amendment 23

[http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article\\_id=441](http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article_id=441)

Barry W. Poulson, Getting the Government that Colorado Citizens Want and are Willing to Pay For

[http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author\\_id=90](http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author_id=90)

Barry W. Poulson, Californicating Colorado's Economy

[http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author\\_id=90](http://www.i2i.org/main/author.php?author_id=90)

Barry W. Poulson, Surveying the Battleground on Tax and Spending limits, Reason Foundation Annual Report on Privatization 2006

<http://www.reason.org/>

Barry W. Poulson Colorado's TABOR Amendment: Recent Trends and Future prospects Americans for Prosperity Foundation

[http://www.americansforprosperity.org/includes/filemanager/files/co/pdf\\_co\\_paulson0704a.pdf](http://www.americansforprosperity.org/includes/filemanager/files/co/pdf_co_paulson0704a.pdf)

Lind Gorman, Referendum C: Rewarding the Colorado assembly for Behaving Irresponsibly  
<http://i2i.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute Colorado Center on Law and Public Policy  
<http://www.cclponline.org>

Bighorn Center, Budget Policy  
<http://www.coloradobudget.com/>

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities  
[www.cbpp.org](http://www.cbpp.org)

Independence Institute Fiscal Policy Center  
<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Bell Policy Center Fiscal Studies  
<http://www.thebell.org/index.html>

State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org>

## **Should Colorado Governments Use the Power of Imminent Domain to Promote Economic Development?**

**Lecture Sept.16**

**Roundtable Sept. 18**

**Suggested Readings**

Government Publications

Colorado Constitution (for reference purposes)  
<http://i2i.org/Publications/ColoradoConstitution/iscolocn.htm>

Colorado Legislative Staff 2008 Legislative Issues Government Local Urban Renewal Authorities/Downtown Development Authorities  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Land Use and Property Rights Bills 2007  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff, Growth and Land Management Legislation 2003  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2003/research/03GROWTHANDLANDMANAGEMENT.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2003/research/03GROWTHANDLANDMANAGEMENT.htm)

#### Other Publications

Independence Institute, Property Rights Project, Legislation  
<http://i2i.org>

Jessica Peck Corey, At the Crossroads of Condemnation  
[http://www.i2i.org/articles/IP\\_1\\_2006\\_b.pdf](http://www.i2i.org/articles/IP_1_2006_b.pdf)

Jessica Peck Corry, Tower Tussle: The Colorado Battle Over Extraterritorial Condemnation  
<http://i2i.org>

David Loos, One Year Post –Kelo: America’s Response  
[Blog Archive » ONE YEAR POST-KELO AMERICA’S RESPONSE.htm](#)

Wayne Laugesen, Unstolen: Boulder Weekly on Property Rights  
[Blog Archive » Unstolen Boulder Weekly on Property Rights.htm](#)

State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org>

#### **Should Colorado Freeze Property Taxes?**

**Lecture Sept. 23**

**Roundtable Sept. 25**

#### **Suggested Readings**

#### Government Publications

Governor Ritter Unveils Colorado Children’s Amendment, Press Release, 13 March 2007  
<http://www.colorado.gov/governor>

2008 Legislative Issues Government Local Taxes/Tax Revenues  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Senate Bill 07-199 Digest of Bills – 2007 Education Public Schools



[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Memorandum Proposed Initiative Measure 2007-2008 #113 Concerning Severance Tax

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Initiative 119 Concerning the Allocation of Severance Tax Revenues

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Initiative #120 Use of Severance Tax Revenue for Highways

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Memorandum Proposed Initiative Measure 2007-2008 #120 Concerning Severance Tax – Transportation

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

The Oil and Gas Industry in Colorado Office of State Planning and Budgeting

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Colorado Severance Taxes Colorado Office of State Planning and Budgeting

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Initiative 23 Proposed Initiative Measure 2007-2008 Concerning the Imposition and Distribution of Severance Tax on Oil and Gas

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Memorandum Proposed Initiative Measure 2007-2008 Initiative for severance tax on gas and oil

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

## Other Publications

Coloradan's for a Stable Economy

<http://www.facethestate.org>

The Colorado Oil and Gas Severance Tax Break: Eliminating This Subsidy Will Not Affect Consumer Energy Prices

[www.sonoran.org](http://www.sonoran.org)

Separating the Severance Tax Issues, gjfreepress

<http://www.gjfreepress.com>

Independence Institute Fiscal Policy Center

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Bighorn Center, Budget Policy  
<http://www.coloradobudget.com/>

Bell Policy Center Fiscal Studies  
<http://www.thebell.org/index.html>

Colorado Center on Law and Policy  
<http://www.cclponline.org>

State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute Aiming for the Middle  
<http://www.cclponline.org>

## **Are There Opportunities for Budget Reform in Colorado?**

**Lecture Sept. 30**

**Roundtable Oct. 2**

### **Suggested Readings**

#### Government Publications

Colorado Legislative Staff 2007 Fiscal Bills  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Office of State Budget and Planning  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

#### Other Publications

Geoffrey Segal, Priority Colorado  
<http://i2i.org>

Barry Poulson  
Budgeting for Fiscal Discipline (mimeo)

Bighorn Center, Budget Policy  
<http://www.coloradobudget.com/>

Independence Institute Fiscal Policy Center  
<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Bell Policy Center Fiscal Studies  
<http://www.thebell.org/index.html>

Colorado Center on Law and Policy  
<http://www.cclponline.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute Aiming for the Middle  
<http://www.cclponline.org>

State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org>

## **II Economic Growth, Infrastructure, and the Environment (Oct 7-Oct 30)**

### **Important Links**

Colorado Legislative Council  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Office of State Budget and Planning  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Office of Economic Development and International Trade  
<http://www.state.co.us/oed/index.cfm>

Property Rights Project

## Smart Growth Issues

Lecture Oct. 7

Roundtable Oct. 9

### Suggested Questions

- Should cities impose growth management planning?
- Should Colorado cities plan for urban renewal projects?
- Should local governments use zoning to control economic development?
- Should local governments impose limits on employment growth?
- Should local governments impose taxes and fees to control development?
- Should enterprise zone legislation be modified or repealed

### Suggested Readings

#### Government Publications

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, Governor Ritter's Anti-Poverty FY 2008-09 Budget Request

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Colorado Legislative Staff Land Use and Property Rights Bills 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Senate, Growth Legislation 2005

[http://www.coloradosenate.com/mainlist3.php3?subject\\_search=%25growth%25](http://www.coloradosenate.com/mainlist3.php3?subject_search=%25growth%25)

Legislative Staff, Government – Local

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Legislative Staff, Growth and Land Management Legislation 2003

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2003/research/03GROWTHANDLANDMANAGEMENT.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2003/research/03GROWTHANDLANDMANAGEMENT.htm)

#### Other Publications

Independence Institute, Property Rights Project, Legislation

<http://i2i.org>

Randal Otoole, The Planning Penalty

<http://www.i2i.org/articles/3-2006.pdf>

Stephen Hackman, Creating a Housing Crises

<http://i2i.org>

Jennifer Lang, New urban Renewal in Colorado's Front Range  
<http://i2i.org>

Kathleen Cologne The Truth About Transit Oriented Development  
<http://i2i.org>

Dick Foster, Fort Carson Growth Double Edged  
<http://i2i.org>

## **Transportation Issues**

**Lecture Oct 7**

**Roundtable Oct. 9**

### **Suggested Questions**

- Should the state build more toll roads?
- Should the state convert existing highways into toll roads?
- Should the state use peak load pricing on toll roads?
- Should the state rely more heavily on alternative transportation?
- Should the state raise the sales tax on gasoline?
- Should the state privatize RTD?
- Should the state rely on private construction of toll roads?

### **Suggested Readings**

Government Publications

Colorado Legislative Staff Transportation 2008  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Other Publications

Randal Otoole Great Rail Disasters  
<http://www.i2i.org/articles/1-2004.pdf>

Randall OToole Rail Disasters 2005  
<http://i2i.org>

Randal OToole The Mobility Plan for Denver  
<http://i2i.org>

Randall OToole The Full Truth about Fastracks

<http://i2i.org>

Randall OToole, Why Rail When Bus Works Better

<http://i2i.org>

Robert Poole, The Train Drain: Brookings Institution on Rail Transit in America

[www.brookings.org](http://www.brookings.org)

Randal O'Toole, America's greatest Invention

<http://i2i.org>

Mark Hillman, Roads Short Changed in State Budget

<http://i2i.org>

Independence Institute, Colorado Transportation Center (various papers)

<http://i2i.org/cad.aspx>

State Policy Network

<http://www.spn.org>

## **Water Issues**

**Lecture Oct. 14**

**Roundtable Oct 16**

### **Suggested Questions**

Should the state plan and implement policies for the interbasin transfer of water?

Should the state facilitate smaller regional agreements for water transfers and storage?

Should Colorado reclaim water now flowing to out of state users?

Should the state create a claim on water resources for environmental and recreational uses?

### **Suggested Readings**

#### Government Publications

Legislative Staff, Government –Water Legislation 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Legislative Staff, Water Legislation 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Legislative Staff, Government, Water Legislation 2005

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2005/research/05Water.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2005/research/05Water.htm)

Colorado Senate, Water Legislation 2005

[http://www.coloradosenate.com/mainlist3.php3?subject\\_search=%25water%25](http://www.coloradosenate.com/mainlist3.php3?subject_search=%25water%25)

Referendum A: Revenue Bonds for Water Projects

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2003/ballot/2003BlueBookforInternet2.pdf](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2003/ballot/2003BlueBookforInternet2.pdf)

Initiative Proposal De-authorization of Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

#### Other Publications

Natural Resources Law Center

<http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc>

Natural Resources Law Center, Water and Growth in Colorado: A Review of Legal and Policy Issues

<http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/publications/waterandgrowth.htm>

Natural Resources Law Center, Two Decades of Water Law and Policy Reform: A Retrospective and Agenda for the Future

[http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/publications/2001\\_Conference\\_Report.pdf](http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/publications/2001_Conference_Report.pdf)

J. Craig Green, Let Colorado Water Markets Work

[http://www.i2i.org/articles/6\\_2004.pdf](http://www.i2i.org/articles/6_2004.pdf)

J. Craig Green, Politicians Duped by Water “Crises”

source materials 4999fall 07\water\Politicians, Media Duped By Water “Crisis”.htm

Independence Institute, Environmental Policy Studies (various papers on water issues)

<http://i2i.org/environment.aspx>

Natural Resources Law Center

<http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/publications/.htm>

State Policy Network

<http://www.spn.org>

## **Energy Issues**

**Lecture Oct. 21**

**Roundtable Oct. 23**

### **Suggested Questions**

Should the state mandate the use of alternative fuels in autos?

“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ to generate electricity?

Should oil and gas operators be required to compensate for impacts caused by exploration?

Should the state subsidize research in alternative fuel technology?

Should the state allow local governments to regulate oil and gas activities?

### **Suggested Readings**

Government Publications

Colorado Governor's Office of Energy  
in alternative fu



Gary A. Young, Corn Ethanol: Right Problem, Poor Solution  
<http://i2i.org>

Legislative Staff, Natural Resource Legislation 2005  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2005/research/05NaturalResources.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2005/research/05NaturalResources.htm)

Initiative #35 2007-2008 Greenhouse Gas Emission Standard  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Initiative #17 2007-2008 for Colorado Department of Environmental Conservation  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

#### Other Publications

J. Craig Green, Use It or Lose It Colorado's Oldest and Best Recycling Programs  
<http://i2i.org>

Independence Institute, Environmental Policy Studies (various papers)  
<http://i2i.org/environment.aspx>

Beth Skinner, Wasted in Denver Brief on Denver's Contract for Waste Disposal  
<http://i2i.org>

Jay Ambrose, Under-Reported Scandal May Kill Again  
<http://i2i.org>

Benjamin Powell, The Faulty Economics of Colorado's Climate Change Action Plan: A Peer Review  
<http://i2i.org>

#### **IV Human Resources (Nov 4- Dec 11)**

#### **Important Links**

Colorado Legislative Council  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Office of State Budget and Planning  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Bell Policy Center  
<http://www.thebell.org/>

Independence Institute  
<http://i2i.org/>

Colorado Center on Law and Policy  
<http://www.cclponline.org>

The Bighorn Center  
<http://www.bighorncenter.org/index.cfm>

State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org/publications>

## **Education Issues**

**Lecture Nov. 4**

**Roundtable Nov. 6**

### **Suggested Questions**

Should school districts be required to allocate 65% of operational expenditures to the classroom?

Should school choice be expanded through voucher?

“ “ “ “ “ “ charter schools?

Should tax credits be expanded for donations and expenditures for private schools

Should the state implement more rigorous testing in the schools?

Should minimum requirements be imposed for high school graduation?

Should the voucher program in higher education be increased and expanded to all post secondary schools?

Should services in education be privatized or contracted out?

Should community colleges and universities be privatized?

### **Suggested Readings**

#### Government Publications

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, Governor Ritter's Anti-Poverty FY 2008-09 Budget Request

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Colorado Legislative Council K-12 Education legislation 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Higher Education legislation 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff K-12 Legislation 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Higher Education Legislation 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff High School Graduation Requirement Bills 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff School Choice Bills 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff School Finance Act 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff, Government –Education

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff School Finance in Colorado

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Colorado Public School Accountability

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Amendment 39, School District Spending Requirements

<http://www.leg.state.co.us/lcs/0506initrefr.nsf/89fb842d0401c52087256cbc00650696/570ef8fde282b79d87257168005fe3d7?OpenDocument>

Colorado Legislative Staff, How Colorado Compares in K-12 Funding

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/schfin/k-12Funding0100.pdf](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/schfin/k-12Funding0100.pdf)

Legislative Staff K-12 Student Assessments

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/2000/research/00K-12studentassessment.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2000/research/00K-12studentassessment.htm)

#### Other Publications

Benjamin DeGrow, A Second Look at K-12 Cash: Updating the Facts about Per Pupil Spending in Colorado

<http://www.i2i.org>

Krista Kafer A Chronology of School Choice in the U.S.

<http://www.i2i.org>



Headfirst, Who's Controlling Colorado's Schools?  
<http://www.headfirstcolorado.org/index.php>

Colorado Legislative Council Health Care Legislation 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Public Health Legislation 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Health Care Reform Bills 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Rural Health Bills 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute Schip Rauthorization

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Bell Policy Center, Colorado Issues Health (various papers)

<http://www.thebell.org/health.html>

Health Care for All Colorado

<http://www.healthcareforallcolorado.org/>

State Policy Network Medicaid

<http://www.spn.org/publications>

Independence Institute, Center for Health Care Policy (various papers)

<http://i2i.org/healthcarecenter.aspx>

National Center for Policy Analysis

<http://NCPA.org>

Heritage Foundation

<http://www.heritage.org>

CATO Foundation

<http://www.cato.org>

Colorado Consumer Health Initiative



“ “ impose stricter requirements for food stamps ?

## **Suggested readings**

### Government Publications

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, Governor Ritter's Anti-Poverty FY 2008-09 Budget Request

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Colorado Legislative Council Human Services Bills 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Legislative Staff Family Related Bills 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Department of Human Resources

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/index.html>

### Other Publications

Welfare Reform: Next Steps for Colorado

[http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article\\_id=874](http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article_id=874)

Bobbi Whitlock, Welfare Benefits: Puerto Rico's Lesson For Colorado

<http://i2i.org>

The Urban Institute, Recent Changes in Colorado Welfare and Work, Child Care, and Child Welfare Systems

[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/CO\\_Update.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/CO_Update.pdf)

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Independence Institute, Welfare Reform papers

<http://i2i.org>

State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org>

## **Criminal Justice and Corrections Issues**

**Lecture Nov. 18**

**Roundtable Nov. 20**

### **Suggested Questions**

Should the state expand the privatization of prisons?  
Should sentencing laws be modified?  
Should the parole system be modified?  
Should the state offer alternative education and training programs to prisoners and parolees?  
Should the state privatize “ “ “ “ “ “ and parolees ?  
Should drug sentencing laws be changed?  
Should the state eliminate the death penalty?  
Should sentencing laws be linked to age and sex?

### **Suggested Readings**

#### Government Publications

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, Governor Ritter’s Anti-Poverty FY 2008-09 Budget Request

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, Governor Ritter’s FY 2008-09 Crime Prevention and Recidivism Reduction Package

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, A Fact Sheet Recidivism

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Colorado Legislative Council Criminal Justice Bills 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Courts Bills 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Corrections Bills 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Corrections Legislation 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Criminal Justice Legislation 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff, Criminal Justice

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff, Corrections

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Overview of Colorado Adult Criminal Justice System

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff, Criminal Justice Resource Page (various papers)

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/CrimIssScroll.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/CrimIssScroll.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff , Criminal Justice Briefs

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/CrimPubScroll.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/CrimPubScroll.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Criminal Justice Research Memoranda

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/CrimResearchScroll.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/Scrollpages/CrimResearchScroll.htm)

## Other Publications

Getting Smart on Crime: Time to Reform Colorado's Drug Offense Sentencing Policies

<http://www.i2i.org>

Nullifying the Probationary Period

<http://www.i2i.org>

Refining Colorado's Criminal Code

[http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article\\_id=610](http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article_id=610)

Extreme Drug Law Tramples Bill of Rights

[http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article\\_id=663](http://www.i2i.org/main/article.php?article_id=663)

Mike Krause, Prison Spending In Colorado  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Breaking Ranks  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Throwing Away Money  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Colorado's Prison spending Meltdown  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Prison Costs Are Running Out of Control  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Take the F Word Out  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, When Policies Go to Pot  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Pot Enforcement a Waste of Resources  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Medical Marijuana is a state's Rights Issue  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, Analyze This: Remodeling Drug Policy  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause and Chelsea Johnson, How Many Laws Did You Break This Weekend  
<http://i2i.org>

Mike Krause, New Crimes Mean More Criminals  
<http://i2i.org>

Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition, (various papers)  
<http://www.ccjrc.org/index.html>

David Boyum and Peter Reuter, An Analytical Assessment of U.S. Drug Policy  
[http://www.aei.org/books/bookID.812.filter.all/book\\_detail.asp](http://www.aei.org/books/bookID.812.filter.all/book_detail.asp)

Independence Institute, (Various papers on reforming the criminal justice and penal system)

<http://www.i2i.org/>

State Policy Network

<http://www.spn.org>

## **Labor Issues**

### **Lecture Dec. 2**

### **Roundtable Dec. 4**

### **Suggested Questions**

- Should the state impose a higher minimum wage?
- Should workers have the right to a secret ballot to determine union representation?
- Should public employees have the right to strike
- Should Colorado enact a Right to work Law?
- Should Colorado prohibit discrimination on the basis of race and ethnicity in awarding government contracts?
- Should Colorado determine the admission of students to institutions of higher education based on race and ethnicity?

### **Suggested Readings**

#### Government Publications

Office of State Planning and Budgeting, Governor Ritter's Anti-Poverty FY 2008-09 Budget Request

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/govnr\\_dir/ospb/index.html](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/govnr_dir/ospb/index.html)

Colorado Legislative Council Employment Related Legislation 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Initiative #123 2007-2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Proposed Initiative Measure 2007-2008 #123

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Initiative #124 2007-2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Proposed Initiative Measure #124 2007-2008  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Proposed Initiative Measure #82 2007-2008  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Amendment 46 2007-2008  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Amendment 47 2007-2008  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council Amendment 49 2007-2008  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council All-Union Agreement Approval Vote  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Council State Minimum Wage  
[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

#### Other Publications

Benjamin DeGrow The Case for Unionizing State Government Unravels  
<http://i2i.org>

Benjamin DeGrow A Shaky Foundation, A Potential Threat: Analyzing Colorado State Union “Employee Partnerships”  
<http://i2i.org>

Jessica Peck Corry A Color Scheme: Questions Raised by Accounting and Business Practices Within the University of Colorado at Boulder’s Multi-million Dollar Diversity Administration  
<http://i2i.org>

Linda Gorman, What If---Amendment 42 Passes  
<http://www.i2i.org/articles/2006-I.doc>

Ben DeGrow, HB 1072: Empowering Union Leaders, Not Workers  
<http://i2i.org>

Ben DeGrow, A Double Victory for Teacher’s Rights  
<http://i2i.org>

Ari Armstrong, Minimum Wage Often Transfers Wealth Away From the Poor  
<http://i2i.org>

State Policy Network

<http://www.spn.org>

Heritage Foundation

<http://www.heritage.org>

CATO Foundation

<http://www.cato.org>

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Independence Institute Fiscal Policy Center

<http://i2i.org/fiscalpolicycenter.aspx>

Bighorn Center, Budget Policy

<http://www.coloradobudget.com/>

Bell Policy Center Fiscal Studies

<http://www.thebell.org/index.html>

## **Immigration Issues**

**Lecture Dec. 9**

**Roundtable Dec. 11**

### **Suggested Questions**

Should the state restrict government services to illegal immigrants?

Should the state enforce immigration laws?

Should illegal immigrants be able to attend colleges and universities in Colorado?

Should regulations on hiring illegal immigrants be tightened?

Should illegal immigrants be incarcerated?

Should Colorado support a guest worker program?

Should illegal immigrants be granted amnesty?

Should illegal immigrants be given a path to citizenship?

### **Suggested Readings**

Government Publications

Colorado Legislative Council Immigration Bills 2008

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff Immigration Bills 2007

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Colorado Legislative Staff, Immigration in Colorado: State Impact and Recent Legislation

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/StaffInfo/geninfo.htm)

Referendum #55 Restrictions on Government Services to Illegal Immigrants

<http://www.leg.state.co.us/lcs/0506initrefr.nsf/89fb842d0401c52087256cbc00650696/597b2322acb205618725718600795817?OpenDocument>

#### Other Publications

Illegal Aliens Attending Public Institutions of Higher Education

<http://www.i2i.org>

Center for Immigration Studies

<http://www.cis.org/>

State and Local Authority to Enforce Immigration Law

<http://www.cis.org/>

Illegal Immigration

<http://www.cis.org/topics/illegalimmigraion.html>

Colorado Center on Law and Policy

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute

<http://www.cclponline.org>

Immigration's Costs and Benefits

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB115100948305787940.html> <http://www.cclponline.org>



State Policy Network  
<http://www.spn.org>