There are no blueprints for institutions that foster inclusive governance but it is, this seminar argues, possible to design processes that are more likely to produce such institutions, and maintain them over the medium-term. The seminar examines a wide range of initiatives in developing and developed countries that have sought to bring government agencies and civil society associations, service providers, and other actors together to negotiate public policy, strengthen accountability, or co-manage public initiatives. It looks closely at institutional theory to better understand the formation and transformation of governance institutions, and to explore how political support for specialized institutions of inclusion is constructed among strategic stakeholders. Cases illustrate the long arc of fostering more inclusive governance, and how different institutions are implicated in the iterative processes of planning, policy-making, and implementation. The seminar will further explore how informal social relations permeate formal organizations of the state and civil society, and when these relations enhance governance and are developmentally positive.

Students are asked to address how the performance of institutions such as city budgeting, transportation planning, right to information, oversight of conditional cash transfers and others, is influenced by the broader institutional architecture of urban (and national) governance, and by local ecologies of actors such as professional associations, advocacy NGOs, associations representing urban poor, clientelist political groupings and others. Students are also expected to strategies to counter elite capture, political clientelism, or drift towards exclusion. Participation in the seminar is open to all graduate students.

Requirements:
This class is a seminar and the most important requirement is close and thoughtful reading of the materials each week and active participation in class (30%). Student will submit a succinct memo on each week’s readings Monday night. In no more than 1,000 words setout what you found the most interesting, puzzling, or infuriating about the readings and why. Please post your memos the evening before class, they will help guide our discussions. Groups of 2-3 students will also write up and present a Case Note (15 minutes, 30%). The Note should be 3-4 pages and provide a concise (i) summary of the case, (ii) analysis of author’s implicit and explicit assumptions, and (iii) reflection on what lessons we should take away. In the final Policy Paper (40%) students will design a strategy to enhance one or more dimensions of inclusive governance in a policy paper of no more than 25 pages (double spaced). The paper should identify the issue/problem that will be addressed, the institutional arrangement proposed, and a strategy for delivering this arrangement, taking into account potential allies and opponents in the public and private sectors, and the different phases of the policy process.

Books:
I. Public Action: State, Government, or Governance?

02/07


Recommended


02/09


II. Choice, Voice, and Going Local

02/14

Donald F. Kettl. *The Transformation of Governance*. (Johns Hopkins UP, 2002). Preface & Ch.6-7 (ix-xii, 118-172)


Recommended


02/16


02/21 No Class

III. Why Institutions Matter & How They Change

02/23


Recommended


02/28


Kelletee S. Tsai, Adaptive Informal Institutions and Endogenous Institutional Change in China, World Politics 59, Number 1, October 2006, pp. 116-141

Recommended
IV. Inclusion in Decision Making: Empowering Institutions

03/01


Recommended


03/06


Recommended


V. Challenges of Participation

03/08  Government Agencies: Hierarchy, SOPs, and Professionalism


Recommended


03/13  Unequal Access to the Government


Recommended


VI. Collaborative and Stakeholder Governance

03/15


03/20 Student Presentations


Accountability: Horizontal, Vertical, and Social

03/22


Recommended


03/27 No Class (Spring Break)

03/29 No Class (Spring Break)
04/03


Recommended


04/05 Student presentations


04/10 Right to Information in India


Recommended


04/12 Accountability and Civil Society Representation


Recommended


04/17 No class
The Long Arc: Pragmatic Rights Advocacy & Enforcement

04/19 w/ Lucie K. White (Louis A. Horvitz Professor of Law, Harvard Law School)


- Introduction (1-16)
- Ch.6 Peter P. Houtzager and Lucie E. White. 2011. “The Long Arc of Pragmatic Economic and Social Rights Advocacy.” (172-194)

Recommended


- Felix Morka. Ch. 1 “A Place to Live: Evictions in Ijora-Badia, Nigeria.”
- William Forbath. Ch.2 “Cultural Transformation, Deep Institutional Reform, and ESR Practice: South Africa’s Treatment Action Campaign.”

04/24 w/ Judith Tendler (Professor DUSP)


Salo V. Coslovsky. (2011) “Relational Regulation in the Brazilian Ministério Publico: The organizational basis of regulatory responsiveness,” Regulation & Governance 5, 70–89.

State Reform: State Elites or Middle-Class Professionals

04/26


Recommended

Generative Civil Society

05/01
Leonardo Avritzer, *Democracy and the Public Space in Latin America* (Princeton UP, 2002). Intro., Ch.2, ch.5, 6 (36-54, 103-164)

**Recommended**

05/03

**Recommended**

Collaborative Governance in a Networked Polity

05/08
Graziela Castello and Peter P. Houtzager. 2012. “How Society Permeates the State: Issue Networks in the City of São Paulo.” (manuscript)

**Recommended**

05/10


Recommended


05/15 Class Presentations

05/17 Class Presentations (last session)