Syllabus
Course Description: This is an elective course on the relationship between levels of government and agencies within governments in the United States. The course forms one of the requirements for both the state and local administration and the public policy, analysis and program evaluation concentrations and is a core course in the proposed Master of Science in Security Studies program.

The substance of the course involves the vertical interactions between the three levels of government in the US and the horizontal interactions between bureaucratic agencies at each of those three levels. These interactions can be formal and institutional, they can be informal and personal, or they can be programmatic. For the vertical component of the course, we will concentrate on three aspects: federalism, intergovernmental relations, and intergovernmental management. For the horizontal component of the course, we will concentrate on a key question: why it is so difficult for bureaucratic agencies at each of the three levels of government in the US to cooperate with each other to solve societal problems? The course will revolve around several themes: what the founders of the US conceived the vertical relationship to be; how that relationship has evolved over the last 200 years; financial relationships between levels of government; policy relationships between agencies and levels of government and agencies; and the changing nature of governments and their relationships at the beginning of the 21st Century.

Prerequisites: Undergraduate or graduate course work in American government and state and local government is recommended, but not required. Some familiarity with the American system of government is assumed.

Course Objectives: The primary objectives of this course are 1) an understanding of the theory and practice of federalism, intergovernmental relations, and intergovernmental management in the United States; and 2) an appreciation for the difficulties in achieving and maintaining interagency cooperation to address major policy problems in the US. The focus will be on the federal system as conceived and as practiced; fiscal federalism; policy implementation of federal programs by state and local governments; the questions of federal preemption and mandates; and interagency cooperation and conflict.

Method of Instruction:
Class sessions will be a combination of reading, discussions, and presentations of case studies.

Evaluation: Grades will be based on the following factors:

1. Preparation/submission of assignments (30%)
2. Presentation of on-line case study (20%)
3. Research paper on case study (30%)
4. Participation in on-line chats (20%)

ASSIGNMENTS: There are eight assignments listed in the ASSIGNMENTS section of the course website. They each have instructions and submission dates. PLEASE make sure that you submit the assignments with the proper subject line since I will get horribly lost if you don't do this!

ON-LINE CASE STUDY: I will divide you all into three groups and each group will be responsible for leading an online discussion (on the discussion board) of one of the three case studies listed at the end of the syllabus. I will say more about this later in the session.

RESEARCH PAPER: After leading the online discussion, each member of the group will SEPARATELY write a 10 page paper on the subject of the case study. Research for the paper should go beyond the material in the case; in other words, you should consult additional sources in preparing your paper. These papers will be due one week after you case study discussion is completed.
ON-LINE CHATS: Once per week, we will get together in the BlackBoard chat room to discuss the week's readings and any problems you all might be having. These sessions are mandatory for all class enrollees! I will set the time so that it is not inconvenient for any of you.

SPRING, 2006 SCHEDULE

January 9-13: INTRODUCTION

Walker, pp. 1 – 38
Goldsmith and Eggers, Part 1, pp. 1-54
Agronoff and McGuire, “Inside the Matrix: Integrating the Paradigms of Intergovernmental and Network Management,” on course website as “Agronoff”

January 17-20: INTERGOVERNMENTAL/INTERAGENCY ISSUES: THE CASE OF THE USA PATRIOT ACT

Louise K. Comfort, “Managing intergovernmental responses to terrorism and other extreme events,” Publius, Fall 2002 v32 i4: 29-51 on course website as “Comfort.”
Matthew Segal, “A Federalism Role Reversal?” on course website as “Segal”
Brian Hook, Margaret Peterlin, and Peter Welsh, “Intelligence and the New Threat: The USA Patriot Act and Information Sharing between the Intelligence and Law Enforcement Communities,” on course website as “Intelligence”

January 23-27: HISTORICAL ISSUES

D. Wright, “Federalism, Intergovernmental Relations, and Intergovernmental Management: Historical Reflections and Conceptual Comparisons” on website as “Wright”

January 30 – February 3: IGR EVOLUTION: PHASES, CHANGES, PATTERNS

Walker, pp. 1 - 211

February 6-10: LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL CONTROVERSIES

Chronology of US Supreme Court cases on federalism:

National League of Cities v. Usery (1976)
Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Authority (1985)
Printz v. United States (1997)
Alden v. Maine (1999)

NOTE: All of these Supreme Court decisions are available online at a variety of web sites. I know that they are all can be found at the FindLaw web site. Its URL is: http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/supreme.html

February 13-17: CIVILIAN/MILITARY ISSUES

Charles Dunlap, “The Origins of the American Military Coup of 2012,” on course website as “Colonel Dunlap’s Coup”
Robert Hannah, “A Transformed Coast Guard Bridges the Civil-Military Divide,” on course website as “Coast Guard”
Peter Singer, “Peacekeepers, Inc,” on course website as “Peacekeepersinc”
Sunil Desai, “Solving the Interagency Puzzle,” on course website as “Desai”

February 20-24: INTERGOVERNMENTAL FISCAL RELATIONS

Walker, pp. 212-259

February 27 - March 3: POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Terrorism: on course website as “SC&Terrorism,” “regionalism,” and “tswg”
Welfare reform: on course website as “Welfare reform”
Child Welfare: on course website as “continuum of service”

March 6-10: INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND INTERAGENCY RELATIONS: FOCUS ON KATRINA REACTION AND RECOVERY

D. Dan Reid, “What Organizations Can Learn from Hurricane Katrina,” on course website as “Reid”
Saundra K. Schneider, “Administrative Breakdowns in the Government Response to Hurricane Katrina,” on course website as “Schneider”

March 13-17 SPRING BREAK

March 20-24 THE IMPEDIMENTS TO INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Bardach, Chapters 1 – 6
Alan Greenblatt, “A Rage to Reorganize,” on course website as “Greenblatt”

March 27-31: THE PROSPECTS FOR INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Bardach, Chapters 7 – 9
Goldsmith and Eggers, Part 2, pp. 55-188
R. G. Edmondson, “Maritime-security strategy takes a step toward interagency cooperation” on course website as “Edmondson”
Craig Thomas, “Public management as interagency cooperation: Testing epistemic community theory at the domestic level,” on course website as “CraigThomas”

April 3-7: EFFECTS OF INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Stephen Page, “Measuring Accountability for Results in Interagency Collaboratives,” on course website as “Page”

April 3-7: CASE STUDY ON TERRORISM AND CRIME

April 10-14: CASE STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

April 17-21: CASE STUDY ON ONE OTHER POLICY ISSUE (to be decided)