

PPE Colloquium
Spring 2006

Instructor:

Jennifer Warlick, Associate Professor of Economics and Chairperson, Department of Economics and Policy Studies, 245 O'Shaughnessy, 631-6335, jwarlick@nd.edu

Course Description

This course examines the process of welfare reform in Wisconsin through the eyes of Lawrence Mead as reported in his book, *Government Matters: Welfare Reform in Wisconsin*. Throughout the course, I will ask you to apply the concepts learned in the Justice Seminar, and compare the images created by Jason DeParle in his book, *American Dream*, with those in *Government Matters*.

Course Schedule, Location, and Reading Assignments:

The course meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:45 in 246 O'Shaughnessy Hall. The course will meet on the days shown below. The reading assignments and paper responsibilities are also given. Contact one another if you need to switch days and let me know what trades have been made.

Wednesday—February 8, Chapters 1-2: Molly and Ben
Wednesday—February 15, Chapters 3-4: Brittany and Dan
Wednesday—February 22, Chapters 5-6: Justin and Katie-Rose
Wednesday—March 1, Chapters 7-8: Todd and Ben
Wednesday—March 22, Chapters 9-10: Molly and Dan
Wednesday—March 29, Chapters 11-12: Brittany and Justin
Thursday—March 30, Dinner with Larry Mead at 5:00 pm; Lecture at 7:00
Wednesday—April 5, Chapter 13 and the Grand Finale: Todd and Katie-Rose

Office Hours

My office is 245 O'Shaughnessy. I will keep office hours from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. I am also glad to make appointments for other mutually convenient times (office phone: 631-6335). Most days I will be working in my office and you are welcome to drop in. It is better, but not necessary, to call ahead. Feel free to call me at home (233-4581) on weekdays after 9:00 a.m. and before 9:00 p.m.

Course Work

Course work includes three papers approximately 4 pages in length, and a set of two questions that each student would like to pose to Larry Mead. The latter are due on March 29. The first two papers will be written in teams of two students and will be the basis for class discussion. They should be distributed by email no later than Tuesday night before our Wednesday class. The last paper is a commentary comparing of *Government Matters* and *American Dream*. You may deviate from this topic if you consult with me and receive my approval.

Grading System

Professor Roos tells me that this course is offered on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Your papers will be graded accordingly and account for 50 percent of your grade. The other 50 percent is allocated to class participation.

Attendance

Attendance is required.

Honor Code

You may consult one another and any external materials you wish when writing the team papers for discussion. The final paper must be your own work written without consulting other members of the class.

