

Syllabus

ADC5376: Local Government and Public Services

GSIR, International University of Japan, Spring 2017

Time: Thursday 10:30–12:00, 13:00–14:30
Room: 103
Office: 323
Office Hours: 10:00–12:00 on Wednesdays
(and by appointment)

Instructor : Yuki Yanai (矢内 勇生)
Email: yanai@iuj.ac.jp
Website: <http://yukiyanai.com>
Slack: @yanai

Overview and Class Goals

Local governments provide a wide range of services today. The actions that elected and unelected officials take at the local levels of government have far-reaching consequences for our lives. In this course, we will discuss topics concerning local governments such as decentralization, democratic accountability, the size of local governments, and the impacts of broader structural changes. We will also examine local government in Japan in order to relate theories and findings in the academic literature with local governments in the real world context.

By completing this course, you will:

- Become familiar with theoretical and empirical works on local governments.
- Understand the roles local governments play in providing public services.
- Be able to critically evaluate scholarly works on local governments.
- Be able to conduct independent research on local governments.

Prerequisites: None

Class Format

The course will be based on lectures and discussions. To engage in class discussions, students are expected to complete all the required readings before each class.

Grading

Grades will be based on:

- Class participation (10% of final grade),
- Two presentations
 - Individual presentation (15%)
 - Group presentation (15%)
- Mid-term writing assignment (short paper) (20%)
- Final project (term paper) (40%)

Final grade:	
Letter	Percentage earned
A	96–100
A–	90–95
B+	80–89
B	70–79
B–	66–69
C	60–65
F	Less than 60

Assignments

1. Readings

See the **Schedule** section below.

2. Presentations

- (a) **Individual presentation:** Each student is required to deliver a 15–20 minutes presentation on a required reading material. *Summarize the assigned reading and provide at least two questions* for further discussion.

- i. Reading materials assigned for presentation are indicated as **P**.
- ii. Focus on the research question, theory (answer), data, and results. You do not have to discuss formal (mathematical) models or statistical analyses in detail.

- (b) **Group presentation:** Students will form a group of 3–6 people and deliver a 20–30 minutes presentation on *one of the following tasks*. Groups are formed by the instructor.

- i. Select a public service and provide comparisons across countries represented by your group members. **Examples:** waste management; snow removal; sewage; election administration.
- ii. Select one feature of local governments and compare across countries represented by your group. **Examples:** intergovernmental transfers; selection of leaders; services provided by local governments; size of local governments.
 - A. Each group member must deliver a part of the presentation. If one misses the presentation, one will be required to deliver an individual presentation on a later date.
 - B. You are not required to submit a written report.

3. Papers

- (a) **Midterm short paper:** Each student has to submit a short paper (2–3 pages, double spaced) on **one** of the following two tasks. **Due: 10am on Friday, May 5.**

- i. Recent event
 - A. Select a recent event related to local government and public services in a country of your choice (your country, Japan, etc, or any country)
 - B. Describe the event in one or two paragraphs
 - C. Provide a discussion that relates the event with one or more themes covered in this course
- ii. Comparison
 - A. Select two countries or two local governments within a country
 - B. Focus on one feature of local governments or one public service provided by local governments
 - C. Discuss similarities and differences between the two

- (b) **Term paper (final project):** Each student has to complete a final project. Select any issue related to local government and/or public services and write a research paper (Max. 10 pages, double spaced). **Due: 10am on Friday, June 9.**

- i. **Sample topics:** replication of a large-N, cross-national studies; comparative study of two cities; relationship between the population size of local governments and the expenditure in a country

4. **Notes:**

- (a) Submit your papers by sending a **Slack's Direct Message** to the instructor by the deadline.
- (b) Please name your files sensibly so that I can easily manage your files. A file name should be like `lgps-shortpaper-YourName.pdf` or `lgps-final-YourName.pdf`.
- (c) Submit your files in **PDF** format. I do *not* accept MS Word files (.docx or .doc) or PowerPoint files (.ppt or .pptx), because I do not use Microsoft software.
- (d) ***No late submission will be accepted.***

Course Materials

Course materials are distributed through Slack.

Slack

To facilitate communication outside class, we use [Slack](#). The Slack group of this class is

<https://iuj-lgps.slack.com/>.

Visit [Getting Started | Slack](#) to learn the basic usage of Slack.

You are expected to post questions regarding class to *an appropriate channel* in Slack; you may create a new channel if you cannot find one.

You should not only ask questions but also answer other students' questions if possible. Your answers do not have to be complete or perfect. If you find an answer to your own question after you post the question, please post the answer to share it with your colleagues. If nobody posts an answer to a question, the instructor will provide an answer or discuss the problem in the following class.

You can join the slack team by clicking the following link:

<https://iuj-lgps.slack.com/signup>

To sign up, **you need to use your IUJ email address ending with @iuj.ac.jp**. If you would like to use another email address, please send me an email with the subject "Slack for Public Administration," and I will send you an invitation.

Once you join the group, please use Direct Message on Slack when you need to contact me—I strongly prefer Slack messages to emails (I do not check emails frequently).

Required Books

None.

Reference Books

You do not have to buy the following books, but many of you should find them useful. You should be able to find them at the library.

- Bovens, Mark, Robert E. Goodin, and Thomas Schillemans, eds. 2014. *The Oxford Handbook of Public Accountability*. Oxford: Oxford UP.
- Inoguchi, Takashi, and Purnendra Jain, eds. 2011. *Japanese Politics Today: From Karaoke to Kabuki Democracy*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Levi-Faur, David, ed. 2012. *The Oxford Handbook of Governance*. New York: Oxford UP.
- Lijphart, Arend. 2012. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries, Second Edition*. New Haven, CT: Yale UP.
- Rosenbluth, Frances McCall, and Michael F. Thies. 2010. *Japan Transformed: Political Change and Economic Restructuring*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP.

Schedule

The readings with **P** (Presentation) or **M** (Mandatory) should be **completed prior to the lecture** for which they are listed. Because we discuss the readings with **P**, all students must read these readings. You should at least skim readings with **R** (Recommended) either before or after the lecture. Although you do not have to read them, readings with **O** (Optional) should enrich your understanding of the topics.

The readings with hyperlinks can be obtained on the internet through the IUJ network. The readings with * are available in the course folder:

IUJ-home/IR materials/Yanai/LocalGovernment/Readings/

This schedule is subject to change.

Week1 (Apr. 6) **No class**. Instructor is out of town.

Week 2 (Apr. 13) 1. Introduction; 2. Significance of Local Governments

- M** Andrew, Caroline, and Michael Goldsmith. 1998. "[From Local Government to Local Governance— and Beyond?](#)" *International Political Science Review* 19(2): 101–117.
- M** Pratchett, Lawrence. 2004. [Local Autonomy, Local Democracy and the 'New Localism'.](#)" *Political Studies* 52(2): 358–375.

Week 3 (Apr. 20) 3. & 4. Citizens and Local Governments

- M** Arnstein, Sherry. 1969. "[A Ladder of Citizen Participation.](#)" *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 35(4): 216–224.
- P** *Damgaard, Bodil, and Jenny M. Lewis. 2014. "Accountability and Citizen Participation." In Bovens et al. (2014), chapter 16.
- P** Irvin, Renée A., and John Stansbury. 2004. "[Citizen Participation in Decision Making: Is It Worth the Effort?](#)" *Public Administration Review* 64(1): 55–65.
- P** Marschall, Melissa J. 2004. "[Citizen Participation and the Neighborhood Context: A New Look at the Coproduction of Local Public Goods.](#)" *Political Research Quarterly* 57(2): 231–244.
- R** Schlozman, Kay Lehman. 2002. "Citizen Participation in America: What Do We Know? Why Do We Care?" In Ira Katznelson, and Helen V. Milner, eds. *Political Science: The State of the Discipline*. New York: W. W. Norton: 433–461.

- R Putnam, Robert D. 1993. *Making Democracy Work*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP.
- R Tarrow, Sidney. 1996. “[Making Social Science Work Across Space and Time: A Critical Reflection on Robert Putnam’s *Making Democracy Work*](#).” *American Political Science Review* 90(2): 389–397.
- O Fischer, Frank. 2012. “Participatory Governance.” In Levi-Faur (2012), chapter 32.
- O Phillips, Susan D. 2012. “The New Citizenship and Governance: Alternative Intersections.” In Levi-Faur (2012), chapter 34.

Week 4 (Apr. 27) 5. & 6. Local Elections and Representatives

- P Berry, Christopher R., and William G. Howell. 2007. “[Accountability and Local Elections: Rethinking Retrospective Voting](#).” *Journal of Politics* 69(3): 844–858.
- P Besley, Timothy, Rohini Pande, Lupin Rahman, and Vijayendra Rao. 2004. “[The Politics of Public Good Provision: Evidence from Indian Local Governments](#).” *Journal of the European Economic Association* 2(2–3): 416–426.
- P Ferraz, Claudio, and Frederico Finan. 2011. “[Electoral Accountability and Corruption: Evidence from the Audits of Local Governments](#).” *American Economic Review* 101(4): 1274–1311.
- P Scheiner, Ethan. 2005. “[Pipelines of Pork: Jaapanese Politics and a Model of Local Opposition Party Failure](#).” *Comparative Political Studies* 38(7): 799–823.
- R Bardhan, Pranab, and Dilip Mookherjee. 2000. “[Capture and Governance at Local and National Levels](#).” *American Economic Review* 90(2): 135–139.
- O Dahl, Robert A. 2005. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City, Second Edition*. New Have, CT: Yale University Press.
- O Mller, William L. 1988. *Irrelevant Elections?: The Quality of Local Democracy in Britain*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- O Shepsle, Kenneth A., and Barry R. Weingast. 2015. “[The Positive Theory of Public Goods Provision](#).” Working Paper, Princeton University.

Makeup for W1 (Apr. 29, Time: TBA) 7. & 8. Local Elections and Representatives in Japan

- M *Reed, Steven R. 2011. “Winning Elections in Japan’s New Electoral Environment.” In Inoguchi and Jain (2011), chapter 4.
- M Fukui, Haruhiko, and Shigeko N. Fukai. 1996. “[Pork Barrel Politics, Networks, and Local Economic Development in Contemporary Japan](#).” *Asian Survey* 36(3): 268–286.
- R Rosenbluth and Thies (2010).
- R Stockwin, J. A. A. 2011. “Party Politics in Japan.” In Inoguchi and Jain (2011), chapter 5.
- O Feigert, Frank B., and Pippa Norris. 1990. “[Do By-Elections Constitute Referenda? A Four-Country Comparison](#).” *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 15(2): 183–200.
- O Hirano, Shigeo. 2006. “[Electoral Institutions, Hometowns, and Favored Minorities: Evidence from Japanese Electoral Reforms](#).” *World Politics* 59(1): 51–82.

Week 5 (May 4) 9. & 10. Legislative and Executive Branches in Local Governments

- M Council of Local Authorities for International Relations. 2010. [Local Government in Japan](#). CLAIR.

- P** Hambleton, Robin, and David Sweeting. 2004. "U.S.-Style Leadership for English Local Government?" *Public Administration Review* 64(4): 474–488.
- P** Heinelt, Hubert, and Nikolaos-K. Hlepas. 2006. "Typologies of Local Government Systems." In Henry Bäck, Hubert Heinelt, and Annick Magnier, eds. *The European Mayor*. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag.
- P** Langston, Joy. 2010. "Governors and "Their" Deputies: New Legislative Principals in Mexico." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 35(2): 235–258.
- R** Lijphart (2012), chapter 7.

Week 6 (May 11) 11 & 12. Size of Local Governments

- M** *Alesina, Alberto, and Enrico Spolaore. 2003. *The Size of Nations*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, chapter 1.
- P** Blom-Hansen, Jens, Kurt Houlberg, and Søren Serritzlew. 2014. "Size, Democracy, and the Economic Costs of Running the Political System." *American Journal of Political Science* 58(4): 790–803.
- P** Lassen, David Dreyer, and Søren Serritzlew. 2011. "Jurisdiction Size and Local Democracy: Evidence on Internal Political Efficacy from Large-scale Municipal Reform." *American Political Science Review* 105(2): 238–258.
- P** Newton, K. 1976. "Is Small Really So Beautiful? Is Big Really So Ugly? Size, Effectiveness, and Democracy in Local Government." *Political Studies* 30(2): 190–206.

Week 7 (May 18) 13 & 14. Accountability and the Provision of Public Services

- P** Chattopadhyay, Raghabendra, and Esther Duflo. 2004. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India." *Econometrica* 72(5): 1409–1443.
- P** Cleary, Matthew R. 2007. "Electoral Competition, Participation, and Government Responsiveness in Mexico." *American Journal of Political Science* 51(2): 283–299.
- P** Olken, Benjamin A. 2007. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115(2): 200–249.
- P** Reinikka, Ritva, and Jakob Svensson. 2004. "Local Capture: Evidence from a Central Government Transfer Program in Uganda." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 119(2): 679–705.
- R** Escobar-Lemmon, Maria, and Ashley D. Ross. 2014. "Does Decentralization Improve Perceptions of Accountability? Attitudinal Evidence from Columbia." *American Journal of Political Science* 58(1): 175–188.
- O** Przeworski, Adam, Susan C. Stokes, and Bernard Manin, eds. 1999. *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*. New York: Cambridge UP.
- O** Schmitter, Philippe C. 2007. "Political Accountability in 'Real-Existing' Democracies." European University Institute.

Week 8 (May 25) 15 & 16. Group Presentation

Week 9 (June 1) 17. & 18. Intergovernmental Relations

- M** Besley, Timothy, and Stephen Coate. 2003. "Centralized versus Decentralized Provision of Local Public Goods: A Political Economy Approach." *Journal of Public Economics* 87(12): 2611–2637.

- P** Davoodi, Hamid, and Heng-fu Zou. 1998. “Fiscal Decentralization and Economic Growth: A Cross-Country Study.” *Journal of Urban Economics* 43(2):244–257.
- P** Fisman, Raymond, and Roberta Gatti. 2002. “Decentralization and Corruption: Evidence across Countries.” *Journal of Public Economics* 83:235–345.
- P** Prud’homme, Rémy. 1995. “The Dangers of Decentralization.” *World Bank Research Observer* 10(2): 201–220.
- P** Fitriani, Fitria, Bert Hofman, and Kai Kaiser. 2005. “Unity in Diversity? The Creation of New Local Governments in a Decentralising Indonesia.” *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies* 41(1): 57–79.
- M** lijphart (2012), chapter 10.
- R** Rodden, Jonathan. 2004. “Comparative Federalism and Decentralization: On Meaning and Measurement.” *Comparative Politics* 36(4): 481–500.
- O** Treisman, Daniel. 2007. *The Architecture of Government: Rethinking Political Decentralization*. New York: Cambridge UP.

Week 10 (June 8) 19 & 20. Multilevel Administration

- M** Perter, B. Guy, and Jon Pierre. 2001. “Developments in Intergovernmental Relations: Towards Multi-level Governance.” *Policy & Politics* 29(2): 131–135.
- P** Agranoff, Robert. 2013. “Local Governments in Multilevel Systems.” *American Review of Public Administration* 44(4_suppl): 47S–62S.
- P** Bache, Ian, and Matthew Flinders. 2004. “Multi-Level Governance and the Study of the British State.” *Public Policy and Administration*.
- P** Hooghe, Liesbet, and Gary Marks. 2003. “Unraveling the Central State, but How? Types of Multi-level Governance.” *American Political Science Review* 97(2): 233–243.
- P** *Papadopoulos, Yannis, 2014. “Accountability and Multi-Level Governance.” In Bovens et al. (2014), chapter 17.
- R** Bache, Ian. 2012. “Multi-Level Governance in the European Union.” In Levi-Faur (2012), chapter 44.
- R** Evans, Mark, and Jonathan Davies. 1999. *Understanding Policy Transfer: A Multi-Level, Multi-Disciplinary Perspective*. *Public Administration* 77(2): 361–385.
- O** Hooghe, Leibet, and Gary Marks. 2001. *Multi-Level Governance and European Integration*. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to act with civility, personal integrity, respect other students’ dignity, rights and property; and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their own efforts. An environment of academic integrity is requisite to respect for self and others and a civil community.

Academic integrity includes a commitment to not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another persons’ work as one’s own, using internet sources without citation, taking or having another student take your exam, tampering with the work of another student, facilitating other students’ acts of academic dishonesty, etc. Unfortunately, incidents of academic dishonesty, especially plagiarism, have been observed at IUJ. Plagiarism is the act, intentional or unintentional,

of using other people's words or ideas as your own. The university, GSIR, and I expect you to write your own papers and to provide full and accurate citations for any specific ideas or language—words, phrases, sentences—that you take from outside sources, including the internet.

Refer to [GSIR's Policy Statement on Plagiarism and Cheating](#), [IUJ Professional Ethics Committee Guideline](#), and the Curriculum Handbook. Following the university's policy, any act of academic dishonesty in this class will be reported to the faculty meeting and the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) and may result receiving an F on the assignment, dismissal from class with a final grade of F, and even suspension or expulsion from the university, depending upon the severity of the violation.