Department of Political Science
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

INNOVATION AND GOVERNANCE
POL 408H 1 F / POL 2338H 1 F
Fall 2009

Instructor: Harald Bathelt
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Office Hours: Tuesday, 2:30-4:30 PM
(or by appointment)
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Lecture Hours: Wednesday, 12:00-2:00 PM
Lecture Room: TC 24 (Trinity College)

Course Description:

The course discusses a broad range of topics related to innovation and governance, such as (i) technological change and its social and economic consequences, (ii) the spatial effects which result from this, and (iii) the necessities for economic policies at different territorial levels. As international competitiveness of industrial economies cannot be based on cost advantages alone, future growth in the knowledge-based economy will be increasingly associated with capabilities related to knowledge generation and innovation. As a consequence, questions of performance in innovation and policy support will become decisive at the firm, regional-state and national-state levels.

The seminar is divided into four main parts: The first part deals with conceptual foundations of innovation processes, such as evolutionary and institutional views of innovation. In the second part, national configurations of innovation processes and governance are investigated. The third part will deal with innovation processes at the sub-national level, focusing on regional innovation and a knowledge-based conception of clustering. The final part of the course discusses aspects of multilevel governance in regional and global context. The seminar develops a relational perspective of institution-building and territorial governance which helps us to understand cross-national innovation processes.

This course is inter-disciplinary in nature and uses literature from a number of different fields dealing with innovation, governance and its consequences in economic and social life. The course might thus also be of interest for students in Economics, Geography, International Relations, History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, and Sociology.
Course Structure:

This course will be based on a seminar format. Course evaluation will be based on a seminar presentation and a research assignment (including a proposal and a research paper). Active seminar participation will also be considered.

For the research assignment, students are expected to choose a topic which is closely related to the context of the course and, if possible, relate this topic to empirical studies in Canada and/or the US. The paper proposal should provide an introduction to the topic, put forward the main question or problem to be addressed and provide a structure of the argument advanced. Students should aim at conducting a comparative study; for instance, an investigation of an industry in two countries or two regions; or a study of the differences in the organization of regional innovation conditions; or a study comparing specific aspects of two innovation systems. An annotated bibliography should also be attached that gives an overview of the sources to be used. It is expected that the research paper will later be developed from this proposal and the comments received on it. Undergraduate students are expected to hand in a 15-20-page paper (double-spaced) and graduate students a 20-25-page paper (double-spaced) in the last week of classes. To conserve paper, please print all assignments double-sided.

Assignments are expected to be handed in on the due date in class. The due dates for the assignments are noted below. For lateness, a penalty of 3% per day will be deducted from the mark for the first 7 days. After this 7-day period, papers will no longer be accepted. Students are strongly advised to keep all rough and draft work as well as hard copies of their research papers and assignments until the marked assignments have been returned.

Turnitin.com:

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. If, as a student, you object to using Turnitin.com, please see the course instructor to establish appropriate alternative arrangements for submission of your written assignments prior to the submission deadline.

Plagiarism is a serious offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information, please see the University of Toronto’s policy on Plagiarism at http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html.

Students are expected register with the course on the Turnitin.com website as soon as they have decided to take on the course. The information required for registration includes Class ID: 2759835 and Enrollment Password: pol408. The Class Name is “innovation and governance 2009”.
Further details of the course and suggestions from students will be discussed in class.

Required Reading:

POL 408H / POL 2338H Course Kit (information to be provided by the instructor)

Course Evaluation:

The course evaluation will be based on the following aspects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2-page proposal with annotated literature list (due week 7: October 21)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>presentation and seminar participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>research paper (due week 12: December 2)</td>
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TOPICS: Fall Term 2009

A. Conceptual foundations of innovation processes
1. Introduction to the course: Innovation as an interactive, social process
2. Proximity, innovation and learning
3. Institutions and innovation

B. Innovation and national governance
4. Regulation theory and national innovation systems
5. Varieties of capitalism, and the US and German cases
6. The innovation systems of Canada, Britain and France

C. Innovation and subnational governance
7. Regional or regionalized innovation systems?
8. Toward a knowledge-based conception of clusters
9. High technology clusters in Canada

D. Relational, multilevel governance in global context
10. Multilevel governance and innovation policy
11. Cross-national governance and the role of boundary spanners
12. Regional governance and cluster policy
**Readings by Topic: Fall Term 2009**

Readings marked by an asterix (*) are core readings on each topic which all students are required to read.

1. **Introduction to the course: Innovation as an interactive, social process**


2. **Proximity, innovation and learning**


3. Institutions and innovation


4. Regulation theory and national innovation systems


5. Varieties of capitalism, and the US and German cases


6. The innovation systems of Canada, Britain and France


7. Regional or regionalized innovation systems?


8. Toward a knowledge-based conception of clusters


pipelines and the process of knowledge-creation. Progress in Human Geography 28: 31-56.


9. High technology clusters in Canada


10. Multilevel governance and innovation policy


11. Cross-national governance and the role of boundary spanners


12. Regional governance and cluster policy


