

POSC 171 State Politics and Policy  
Final Study Guide

As before, all material covered in the slides or the text below is fair game, but questions are most likely to come from the study guide. The test is cumulative, although weighted extensively towards the latter half of the course. For the first half study guide see the guide posted on the course website.

Chapters 12, 14-16, 18, 20-21, 24-25

Chapters 12 (Didn't go over in class), 14, 15, 16 (Didn't go over in class), 18, 20 (Didn't go over in class), 21 (Didn't go over in class), 24, 25

Ch. 12

Media influences on voters in U.S. states  
Political knowledge and geography  
Agenda setting and framing  
Are reporters liberal? Media bias generally  
Bias in news content  
Know about state press corps  
    -Rise of state house bloggers  
Shield laws

Ch. 14

Gerrymandering, organizing districts more generally  
What is racial redistricting?  
How do states determine how to redistrict?  
    -Institution selecting  
    -Process based  
    -Outcome based  
    -What does California do?  
    -What is balanced partisanship  
Know about different types of commissions

Ch. 15

-Know about different patterns of diversity (gender, black, Asian, Latino)  
-What are key differences between gender and racial/ethnic diversity in terms of role of federal gov't?  
    -1965 voting rights act  
-Which party has more ethnic diversity?  
-Demand side/supply side hypotheses of gender diversity  
-Role of incumbents in gender representation  
-Lawless and Fox's Citizen Political Ambition study  
-What is impact of legislative diversity?

## Ch. 16

### Agenda power

What do leaders do (appointment, procedure, unity/obstruction) and how are they selected?

Why are some leaders/parties more powerful than others?

Role of committees?

- screening/shaping
- Oversight
- Assisting logrolls

## Ch. 18

Formal/informal components to gubernatorial power

Where does CA fall in terms of gubernatorial power

Relations between governor and legislature

- why might one governor be more effective than another

Quasiformal powers (why?)

Recall elections

- Used often?

Gubernatorial campaigns

- plural executive
- Cost

## Ch. 20

Major historical influences on state court structures

- statehood/constitutions
- governmental reforms
- legal codification and court modernization movements

-Structure of contemporary courts

- Effects of court structure

## Ch. 21

Judicial elections (money, media, ads)

Decisions regarding judicial campaigns?

- Should judges be elected?

Elections and diversity on bench

- voting behavior of elected judges in comparison to appointed judges

## Ch. 24

Know the four theories of policy processes, and why one might be more plausible than another in different contexts

## Ch. 25

What is policy innovation? Where are we most likely to see it? What role does geography play? How is innovation measure?

- Other reasons diffusion occurs

- Antismoking policy diffusion – know the case study

What are diffusion mechanisms?

- Role of federal gov't