**DRAFT Fellows Seminar Schedule as of August 2024**

*This is a living syllabus, subject to change.*

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Reading** | **Assignment** |
| 1 | October 25  9 am - noon | Foundation: Introductions, salutations, expectations, public service and memo writing | California Politics – A Primer (all)  Water articles (emailed) |  |
| 2 | November 1  9 am – 5 pm | Foundation (cont’d)  Peculiarities of California governance | Legislative Analyst’s Office’s [Cal Facts](https://lao.ca.gov/reports/2018/3905/calfacts-2018.pdf) (2018). You don’t have to memorize every data point in Cal Facts, but take a look at all of it, especially the section on finances (pages 12-19) and education (pages 22-32)  [California Voter and Party Profiles](https://www.ppic.org/publication/california-voter-and-party-profiles/) (PPIC 2022)  [California’s Likely Voters](https://www.ppic.org/publication/californias-likely-voters/) (PPIC 2022)  [Millennial Voters and California Politics](https://www.ppic.org/publication/millennial-voters-and-california-politics/)(PPIC 2019) |  |

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| 3 | November 8  9 am – 5 pm | Peculiarities of California governance (cont’d)  California budget & finances – Local government finances | [Political Reform and Moderation in California’s Legislature: Did Electoral Reforms Make State Representatives More Moderate?](https://www.ppic.org/publication/political-reform-and-moderation-in-californias-legislature-did-electoral-reforms-make-state-representatives-moderate/) (PPIC 2018 all)  [California’s Future](https://www.ppic.org/publication/californias-future/) (PPIC 2021)  [Development of Modern Budgeting](https://dof.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/352/budget/budget-analyst-guide/history.pdf) (California Department of Finance) – It is *recommended* that you read all of it, but it is only *required* that you read from “The Executive Budget Movement” to the end of the article (bottom of page 15 to 23).  [California’s Budget Process](https://dof.ca.gov/budget/californias-budget-process/)  [Budget Process flowchart](https://dof.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/352/budget/budget-analyst-guide/budenact.pdf)  [California’s State Budget: The Governor’s Proposal](https://www.ppic.org/publication/californias-state-budget/) (Yes, I know, it’s from the 2019-20 budget… oh so long ago. PPIC has not published one since then)  [FY2023-24 Budget: Overview of the California’s Spending Plan](https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4788) –I don’t expect you to read, let alone memorize, every page. Just review the overall trends  [Governor’s State Budget](https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4662) (again, just look at the trends) |  |
| 4 | November 13  9 am- noon | California budget & finances – Local government finances (cont’d) | [California’s Tax System: A Visual Guide](https://lao.ca.gov/reports/2018/3805/ca-tax-system-041218.pdf) (yes, I know, it’s from 2015, but trust me, little has changed)  California [Budget Challenge](http://www.budgetchallenge.org/pages/budget_overview) (Click through each page linked on the left. **Do not take the challenge**. |  |
| 5 | November 15  9 am – 5 pm | California budget & finances – School finances  Meltzer/Schwartz: Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2 | [School Resources and the Local Control Formula](https://www.ppic.org/publication/school-resources-and-the-local-control-funding-formula-is-increased-spending-reaching-high-need-students/)  All parts in their entirety | **Discussion Leads:** |
| 6 | November 22  9 am - noon | Meltzer/Schwartz: Chapters 3 & 4 | Both chapters in their entirety | **Problem Memo #1 due**  **Discussion Leads:** |
| X | November 29 | **Thanksgiving No Seminar** |  |  |
| 7 | December 6  9 am - noon | Meltzer/Schwartz: Chapters 5 & 6 | Both chapters in their entirety | **Discussion Leads:** |
| 8 | December 13  9 am - noon | Meltzer/Schwartz: Chapters 7 & 8 | Both chapters in their entirety | **Problem Memo #2 due**  **Discussion Leads:** |