**ECON 3330 – Public Choice**

**Fall 2016**

**Syllabus**

Professor: Lee A. Coppock

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:00 – 2:30pm, or by appointment.

**Course Description**: James Buchanan defines Public Choice as “the economics of politics.” In this class, we’ll use economic analysis to study the behavior of political actors (suppliers and demanders in political markets)

**Text and Supporting Materials**:

1. *Public Choice III*, by Dennis Mueller.

2. *The Myth of the Rational Voter*, by Bryan Caplan.

3. Several readings available through collab (collab.virginia.edu).

These are secondary to the material presented in the lectures.

**Grades**: Based on the following:

Writing Assignments 20%

Midterm Exam (Thursday, October 13, during class) 30%

Final Exam (see final exam schedule) 50%

*You must be present for both exams*.

Your grade is solely determined by your output: no portion is determined by class attendance, participation or other input measures.

Come to class on time, don’t eat, and don’t use any electronic devices (including laptops). Late arrival, eating and texting impose negative externalities on the rest of us.

**Honor:** I assume you are truthful and do not cheat on exams or plagiarize on writing assignments. In the unlikely event that you observe cheating, I assume you will contact an Honor Advisor.