

# Structure is Key

Ryan Blackburn | *Weekly Report 10/23 - 10/29*

Despite all of the challenges presented to me in the coming weeks, a goal I find myself aspiring to adhere to - in addition to the workload presented to me - is to ensure my upcoming projects, educational research, and presentations are all strongly structured to focus more on the content at hand. With more and more tasks being given each class (including documents supporting the presentation of my original work or preparations for a comprehensive overlook of my research), I have dedicated myself to ensuring I am well prepared for the ordeals laid out ahead while also realizing that each project serves a critical purpose in furthering my passion for state public policy.

This past week was a defining moment in my Independent Study and Mentorship experience: I have been able to clearly identify the organization and route I wish to my have my research take. As I continued to pursue a greater understanding on the influences present on public officials, I have defined a division in the focus of my research. Each research assessment looks more specifically at the impacts made on representatives by three groups: sectional, cause, and business. With these three categories for research in mind, I hope to expand my knowledge of the unique impacts each put forward in my research presentation this coming week.

Truly, these pieces of work help define my ISM experience for not only the short-term, but the long-term as well. As I look to the future, my original work and Final Presentation Night in mind, I can relate each of these projects to my underlying values of educating the common people seen in today's undertakings.