

PLSC 541, Fall 2008  
Baumgartner

Questions for week 9

Readings: Rebirth of Urban Democracy

Questions:

1. Describe the research design and evaluate it. This is not a dissertation project. Why aren't there more research projects like this?
2. How do the authors position their work to previous works in the literature? Who are they building on? Criticizing? Do you think this is the appropriate set of literature? Are there others that they also relate to that they do not discuss?
3. Some books report on a diverse range of qualitative and quantitative evidence drawn from a wide variety of sources. Others are called "research monographs" because they report the results of a single (possibly complex) study. What is this and would it be better if it were otherwise?
4. Which set of implications / conclusions are most important for the authors: Normative, theoretical, or practical? Do they make the right choice?
5. This book is highly unusual in that it is a study of local governance that is read by people outside the field of urban politics. What gave it this range of impact?