

Call For Papers: NPS Special Issue 33.4 (December 2011)

The Great Recession: Causes, Consequences, and Responses

Systemic and structural contradictions, combined with specific public policies, culminated in the so-called “Great Recession” that began in 2008 and continues into the present. While most policy makers are committed to strategies of muddling through without addressing systemic and structural problems, it behooves progressives to offer deeper, critical analyses that address root causes and shortcomings of mainstream policy prescriptions, on both national and global stages. The 33.4 (December 2011) issue of *New Political Science* will be devoted to those analyses. The special issue will address three main areas. First, what were, and are, the causes of the crisis? To what degree can the crisis be attributed to long term underlying systemic and structural forces characteristic of advanced capitalism, and to what degree can the crisis be attributed to specific policies of specific administrations? Would the collapse have occurred without the war on terror? Without the corporate fraud and speculative trading made possible by neoliberal policy choices? Second, what are the consequences of the crisis that offer both opportunities and challenges? These might include, for example, a critical turning point in the ascendancy of neoliberalism, fiscal meltdown in state and local governments, and increasing commitment to military Keynesianism. Has the crisis opened or closed opportunities for progressive reform in education, sustainable development, health care, immigration, and others? Third, what are the appropriate responses by progressives? What particular policy responses appear most likely to solve the problems, both in the short term and long term? What responses are likely to offer palliatives and which offer real, long term reform and transformation? In the U.S., what, if anything, can Democrats and Republicans offer in the way of effective policy responses? In other countries, what, if anything, can dominant policy makers offer?

Submission Guidelines: Preliminary proposals of 250-500 words should be sent to both editors by January 1, 2011. After reviewing those proposals, the editors will invite contributors to submit full articles by April 15, 2011. The co-editors may be contacted at: lovens@appstate.edu and mmattern@bw.edu.