SPECIAL COURSE
Election Systems, Technologies, and Administration
COMP 435 / POLI 420 / PSYC 480(2)

Feb. 16, 2006: Photo of actual prop used by protesters outside a California hearing on electronic voting machines. Are they right or wrong?

DESCRIPTION   This multidisciplinary course will consider how elections are conducted to enhance participation, to accurately measure the will of the elctorate, and to be sufficiently rigorous to convince all parties that the results are legitimate. This course will consider the design and evaluation of election technologies, ranging from voter registration through the polling booth and vote tabulation. This course will consider three questions: how do individual voters interact with the voting technology, how are voting technologies engineered to be accurate and secure, and how do the social aspects of voting fulfill democratic goals for elections? A central requirement for this course will be group research projects, many operating in our community, built around the November 2006 election.

Open to all students, no pre-requisities. We are especially interested in getting students with a wide variety of backgrounds and interests!

TIME   Class is scheduled to meet MWF 11am–12:30pm, but we expect to actually meet only twice per week.

LOCATION   Baker Institute, room 114.

VOTING TECHNOLOGY
IS A VERY BIG DEAL

For more information, see the course Web site:
http://sys.cs.rice.edu/election-systems/