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PoliSci 410
Fall Quarter, 2018
Office Hours: By appointment

American Political Institutions and Behavior

This course provides an introduction to the evolution and current state of the academic literature on American Politics. The course emphasizes breadth over depth (although time constraints prevent us from examining all areas of American politics). The first part of the course focuses on political behavior, while the second part emphasizes political institutions. The class meets on Tuesdays from 2:00-4:50 in Scott Hall 319.

Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss, in detail, *all of the assigned readings*. Students may be asked to present assigned readings *without* prior notice. In so doing, students should be prepared to discuss main themes, contributions, problems, and unanswered questions. Additionally, each week, one (or more) student(s) will be assigned the task of writing a brief discussion paper about a specific reading (or a few specific readings). The paper should summarize the reading(s) *and* identify weaknesses and unresolved questions (no more than 2 pages double spaced, with references, page numbers, and name/date). Papers should be e-mailed to all class members by Sunday, 3:00PM. Late papers will *not* be accepted for credit by the Professor. There will be a final examination with questions similar to those asked on the comprehensive exam. The course grade will be determined as follows: class participation (30%), the short papers (20%), and the final exam (50%). (We will discuss the date of the final exam which will be a take-home exam, although tentatively plan on Wednesday, December 12th.)

Many of the assigned books are available at Norris Bookstore (or can be bought on-line). Most articles are available at JSTOR or other sources accessible via the Northwestern library. Books and articles that are difficult to obtain will be made available from the Professor the week before the class in which they will be discussed.

Prior to the first class, students are expected to complete the below readings, which will be very briefly discussed in class. Students also are expected to complete the below assignment.

Frank J. Goodnow, "The Work of the American Political Science Association." *Proceedings of the American Political Science Association* 1 (1904): 35-46

Examine the organized sections of the APSA at: <https://www.apsanet.org/sections>. We will discuss political economy, political psychology, political sociology, political history, political philosophy, and other multi-disciplinary relationships.

Lee Sigelman, "The Coevolution of American Political Science and the *American Political Science Review*," *APSR* 100 (2006): 463-478

William, R. Shadish, Thomas D. Cook, and Donald T. Campbell. *Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs for Generalized Causal Inferences* (2002), Chapters 1-3

Paul W. Holland, "Statistics and Causal Inference." *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 81 (1986): 945-960

Assignment: Each student should choose one article from the *American Political Science Review's* November 2006 issue on the Evolution of Political Science. The student will write a 1 page, double spaced, overview of it. Submit papers to all class participants by 3:00PM on September 30, and come ready to very briefly discuss.

Class 1, October 2. American Political Institutions and Culture

The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution

The Federalist Papers, Numbers 10, 51, 70, and 78

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, Part I, Sections 2, 3, and 5; Part II, Sections 3-9 (all from Volume 1)

Louis Hartz, *The Liberal Tradition in America* (1955), Chapter 1

Rogers M. Smith, "Beyond Tocqueville, Myrdal, and Hartz: The Multiple Traditions of America," *APSR* 87 (1993): 549-566

Jacqueline Stevens and Rogers M. Smith (reply). "Beyond Tocqueville, Please!" *APSR* 89 (1995): 987-995

Class 2, October 9. Political Participation

Anthony Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (1957), Chapter 14

William Riker and Peter Ordeshook, "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting," *APSR* (1968): 25-41

Steven J. Rosenstone and John Mark Hansen, *Mobilization, Participation, and American Democracy* (1993), Chapters 1-2, 8

Henry Brady, Sidney Verba, and Kay L. Schlozman, "Beyond SES: A Resource Model of Political Participation," *APSR* 89 (1995): 271-294

Robert Putnam, "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital," *Journal of Democracy* 6 (1995): 65-78

Alan S. Gerber and Donald P. Green, "The Effects of Personal Canvassing, Telephone Calls, and Direct Mail on Voter Turnout: A Field Experiment," *APSR* 94 (2000): 653-664

Michael P. McDonald and Samuel L. Popkin, "The Myth of the Vanishing Voter," *APSR* 95 (2001): 963-974

Yanna Krupnikov. "When Does Negativity Demobilize? Tracing the Conditional Effect of Negative Campaigning on Voter Turnout," *AJPS* 44 (2011): 797-813.

Melanie J. Springer. "State Electoral Institutions and Voter Turnout in Presidential Elections, 1920-2000," *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 12 (2012): 252-283.

Jan E. Leighley and Jonathan Nagler. *Who Votes Now?: Demographics, Issues, Inequality, and Turnout in the United States* (2013). Chapters 6, 7

Class 3, October 16. Public Opinion.

Philip E. Converse, "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Publics," In David Apter (ed.), *Ideology and Discontent* (1964), Chapter 6 (*excerpts*)

Samuel Kernell, "Explaining Presidential Popularity," *APSR* 72 (1978): 506-522

Shanto Iyengar and Donald Kinder, *News That Matters* (1987), Chapters 1-3, 7, 12

John Zaller and Stanley Feldman, "A Simple Theory of Survey Response," *AJPS* 36 (1992): 579-616

John L. Sullivan and John E. Transue. "The Psychological Underpinnings of Democracy: A Selective Review on Political Tolerance, Interpersonal Trust, and Social Capital," *Annual Review of Psychology* 50 (1999): 625-650

Robert S. Erikson, Michael B. MacKuen, and James A. Stimson, *The Macro Polity* (2002), Chapter 1

Charles S. Taber and Milton Lodge. "Motivated Skepticism in the Evaluation of Political Beliefs." *AJPS* 50 (2006): 755-769

Matthew Levendusky, "Clearer Cues, More Consistent Voters" *Political Behavior* 32 (2010): 111-131

William G. Jacoby, "Is There a Culture War? Conflicting Value Structures in American Public Opinion." *APSR* 108 (2014): 754-771

James N. Druckman and Arthur Lupia, "Preference Change in Competitive Political Environments," *Annual Review of Political Science* 19 (2016): 13-31.

Class 4, October 23. Voting Behavior

Bernard R. Berelson, Paul F. Lazarsfeld, and William N. McPhee, *Voting* (1954), Chapters 1, 6-7, 11-12, 14

Anthony Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (1957), Chapters 1, 3, 11-13

Angus Campbell, Philip Converse, Warren Miller, and Donald Stokes, *The American Voter* (1960), Chapters 1-4, 6-7, 19-20

Morris Fiorina, *Retrospective Voting in American National Elections* (1981), Chapters 1, 5, 9, 10

Gary Jacobson, "Strategic Politicians and the Dynamics of House Elections, 1946-1986," *APSR* 83 (1989): 773-793

John Ferejohn, "The Spatial Model and Elections," In Bernard Grofman, ed., *Information, Participation, & Choice* (1995)

Richard R. Lau and David P. Redlawsk, "Advantages and Disadvantages of Cognitive Heuristics in Political Decision Making," *AJPS* 45 (2001): 951-971

Stephen Ansolabehere, Jonathan Rodden, and James M. Snyder Jr., "The Strength of Issues: Using Multiple Measures to Gauge Preference Stability, Ideological Constraint, and Issue Voting," *APSR* 102 (2008): 215-232

Andrew Healy, and Neil Malhotra. "Retrospective Voting Reconsidered," *Annual Review of Political Science* 16 (2013): 285-306

Class 5, October 30. Political Parties

"Toward a More Responsible Two-Party System: A Report of the Committee on Political Parties," *APSR* 44 (3, supplement) (1950): Forward, 1-14

V.O. Key, Jr., "A Theory of Critical Elections," *JOP* 17 (1955): 3-18

Anthony Downs, *Economic Theory of Democracy* (1957), Chapter 8

Morris Fiorina, "The Decline of Collective Responsibility in American Politics," *Daedalus* 109 (1980)

Keith T. Poole and Howard Rosenthal, "Spatial Realignment and the Mapping of Issues in American History: The Evidence from Roll Call Voting," In William H. Riker, ed., *Agenda Formation* (1993)

John Aldrich, *Why Parties? The Origin and Transformation of Party Politics in America* (1995), Chapters 1-2, 9

Marc J. Hetherington, "Resurgent Mass Partisanship: The Role of Elite Polarization," *APSR* 95 (2001): 619-632

Matthew Levendusky, *The Partisan Sort* (2009), Chapters 2, 3, 7

Leonie Huddy, Lilliana Mason, and Lene Aaroe. "Expressive Partisanship: Campaign Involvement, Political Emotion, and Partisan Identity." *APSR* 109 (2015): 1-17

Class 6, November 6. Interest Groups

David B. Truman, *The Governmental Process*, 2nd ed. (1971), Introduction and Chapters 2 and 16

E.E. Schattschneider, *The Semisovereign People* (1960), Chapters 1, 2, 5

Peter Bachrach, and Morton Baratz, "The Two Faces of Power," *APSR* (1961): 947-952.

Mancur Olson, *The Logic of Collective Action* (1965), Chapters 1, 2

Theodore Lowi, *The End of Liberalism*, 2nd ed (1979), Chapters 3, 10

Ken Kollman, "Inviting Friends to Lobby: Interest Groups, Ideological Bias, and Congressional Committees," *AJPS* 41 (1997): 519-544

Stephen Ansolabehere, John M. de Figueiredo, John M. Snyder, "Why is There so Little Money in U.S. Politics?," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17 (2003): 105-130

Dara Z. Strolovitch, *Affirmative Advocacy* (2007), Chapters 1, 2, 4

Daniel Diermeier, "Private Politics - A Research Agenda," *The Political Economist* (2007) 19: 1-2. (http://www.apsanet.org/~polecon/The_Political_Economist.summer07.pdf).

Martin Gilens and Benjamin I. Page. "Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens." *Perspectives on Politics* 12 (2014): 564-581.

Class 7, November 13. Congress (and Public Policy)

Nelson Polsby, "The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives," *APSR* 62 (1968): 144-168

David R. Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection* (1974), Pages 1-77

Richard F. Fenno, Jr. *Home Style: House Members in Their Districts* (1978), Introduction, Pages 1-33, 214-248

Kenneth A. Shepsle and Barry W. Weingast, "Positive Theories of Congressional Institutions," *LSQ* 19 (1994): 149-179

Suzanne Mettler and Joe Soss. "The Consequences of Public Policy for Democratic Citizenship: Bridging Policy Studies and Mass Politics," *Perspectives on Politics* 2 (2004): 55-73

Butler, Daniel M. and David E. Broockman. "Do Politicians Racially Discriminate Against Constituents? A Field Experiment on State Legislators." *AJPS* 55 (2011): 463–477.

Alan Wiseman and Craig Volden. "Legislative Effectiveness and Representation," In, Lawrence C. Dodd, and Bruce I. Oppenheimer. *Congress Reconsidered, 10th Ed.* Washington DC: CQ Press. 2012

John D. Griffin. "When and Why Minority Legislators Matter." *Annual Review of Political Science* 17 (2014): 327-336

Class 8, November 20. The Presidency and the Bureaucracy (part 1)

Richard Neustadt, "The Power to Persuade," In Pietro Nivola and David Rosenbloom, eds., *Classic Readings in American Politics*, 3rd ed, 370-378

Samuel Kernell, *Going Public: New Strategies of Presidential Leadership*, 4th ed (2006), Chapters 1, 2, 4

Lyn Ragsdale and John J. Theiss, "The Institutionalization of the American Presidency, 1924-92," *AJPS* 41 (1997): 1280-1318

Matthew A. Baum and Samuel Kernell, "Has Cable Ended the Golden Age of Presidential Television?" *APSR* 93 (1999): 99-114

Daniel Galvin, *Presidential Party Building* (2010), Chapters 1-2

James N. Druckman and Lawrence R. Jacobs, "Presidential Responsiveness to Public Opinion," in George C. Edwards III and William G. Howell, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of the American Presidency* (2009): 160-181

James Q. Wilson, "The Bureaucracy Problem," In Pietro Nivola and David Rosenbloom, eds., *Classic Readings in American Politics*, 3rd ed, 405-410

Hugh Heclo, *A Government of Strangers: Executive Politics in Washington* (1977), Chapter 1

Theodore Lowi, *The End of Liberalism*, 2nd ed (1979), Chapter 5

Class 9, November 27. Bureaucracy (Party 2) and the Courts

Mathew McCubbins and Thomas Schwartz, "Congressional Oversight Overlooked: Police Patrols vs. Fire Alarms," *AJPS* 28 (1984): 165-179

Mathew McCubbins, Roger Noll, and Barry Weingast "Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control," *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* 3 (1987): 243-277

Sean Gailmard and John Patty, "Formal Models of Bureaucratic Politics," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2012): 353-377

Walter F. Murphy, "Marshalling the Court," In Pietro Nivola and David Rosenbloom, eds., *Classic Readings in American Politics*, 3rd ed, 445-484

Martin Shapiro, "The Presidency and the Federal Courts," In Pietro Nivola and David Rosenbloom, eds., *Classic Readings in American Politics*, 3rd ed, 485-494

Robert G. McCloskey, *The American Supreme Court*, 2nd ed, (1994), Chapters 1-3, Epilogue

Donald R. Songer, Jeffrey A. Segal, and Charles M. Cameron, "The Hierarchy of Justice: Testing a Principal-Agent Model of Supreme Court-Circuit Court Interactions," *AJPS* 38 (1994): 673-696

Brandice Canes-Wrone, "Bureaucratic Decisions and the Composition of the Lower Courts," *AJPS* 47 (2003): 205-214

Brandon L. Bartels and Christopher D. Johnston. "On the Ideological Foundations of Supreme Court Legitimacy in the American Public." *AJPS* 57 (2013): 184-199.

Peter K. Enns and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. "The Swing Justice." *JOP* 75 (2013): 1089–1107.

Adam Bonica, Adam S. Chilton, and Maya Sen. "The Political Ideologies of American Lawyers." *Journal of Legal Analysis* 8 (2016): 277-335.

Class 10, December 4. Reading Week. Will meet if needed.