

GOVT 510: American Government and Politics

Spring 2016 - Research Hall 202; T 7:20-10:00 PM

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Course Description:

This course provides a broad introduction and overview of the academic study of American government and politics. The course is designed for both PhD- and Masters-level students, with varying requirements for each degree. This is a survey course, but we cannot cover all seminal and contemporary approaches to studying American politics. Yet, by the end of this course, students will have a basic familiarity with the debates, controversies, methodologies, and approaches to studying American politics by political scientists. Political science is a diverse discipline and, despite the instructor's intellectual biases, this course will expose students to myriad epistemologies and different analytical points of view. In particular, we will cover both institutions and behavior — the two major subfields in American politics — as well as issues in public policymaking; and we will examine research that is theoretical and empirical, quantitative and qualitative.

This is a core course for political science MA and PhD students and it should be the foundation for successful completion of the PhD qualifying exam in American Government and Politics. In addition, for those wishing to specialize in this field, this course should assist you in identifying your own research topic and specialty. For such majors, this course should be supplemented by field seminars, including: GOVT 603: Seminar in the Courts and Constitutional Law; GOVT 604: Seminar on Congress and Legislative Behavior; GOVT 605: Seminar on the Presidency; GOVT 706: Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations; and field electives in more specialized topics.

Note: *There are different requirements for MA and PhD students. Please read these requirements carefully.*

Course Goals:

By the end of this course, each student should be able to:

- Understand and evaluate classic and theoretical works on American politics
- Understand and evaluate empirical political science research

PhD students should be additionally prepared to:

- Study for the PhD qualifying exam in American Government and Politics
- Develop and design original empirical research on a topic in American politics

Course Requirements:

This course is a seminar and individual class sessions will be discussion-based. Although the instructor may spend some time during each meeting introducing the material and perhaps clarifying technical aspects of the readings, the primary purpose of our meetings is for student-led critique and discussion of the required readings. Given the nature of the course, the readings are at times numerous and detailed.¹ If you find that you are having trouble keeping up with the readings, feel free to contact the instructor for advice. In addition, you may wish to coordinate with other students for help with collective notes, which are encouraged especially for students planning to take the PhD qualifying examination in American Government and Politics.

A necessary requirement for this type of course is that students *attend every class*. Absence from more than one class – unless a student has a *documented emergency* – is considered unacceptable. With each absence past the first, a student may be penalized a letter grade, and will be encouraged to drop the class. Work commitments, vacation, and travel are *not* documented emergencies, and if these conflict with class, you should strongly consider dropping and taking the course when it better fits your schedule. In addition, any absence must be reported to the instructor prior to the beginning of class.²

The following are components of the requirements for ALL students in this course:

- *Class Participation* is required to make the seminar run smoothly. Students should read all of the required readings and think about them before arriving to a class meeting. Participation includes both raising and responding to questions regarding the readings and being attentive to the thoughts and criticisms of fellow participants. Advanced graduate students need not be coerced into engaging the literature and fellow seminar participants. Discussions, while focused on criticism, will remain constructive and productive throughout. **15%**
- To facilitate the desired levels of participation, each student is responsible for *Seminar Leadership*. **Twice** during the semester (once in the first half, and once in the second half), a student will be required to lead seminar discussion. The discussion leader should

¹You'll notice that there are many required books. These are all essential bookshelf material for PhD students, but I understand that it might be financially burdensome to purchase all of these books, especially all at once. I ask that if you take these books out of the library, you coordinate with your classmates in case any of them also wanted to check the book out. Please plan ahead. All required readings must be completed by the day of assignment. "I didn't have the book" is never a valid excuse for not reading required material.

²This does not mean that you are "allowed" one absence before your grade is penalized. In particular, any absences that are not documented emergencies will hurt your participation grade.

prepare at least 10 discussion questions based on the week's readings and post them to Blackboard by 5:00pm the Monday before class. Each student should read these discussion questions ahead of time and come to class prepared to discuss at least the topics indicated in the leader's questions. Discussion leaders have extensive freedom to structure the discussion session as they choose, and may use audio/visual materials as desired. 10%

- *Response Papers* — Each student is required to write 5 response papers over the course of the semester on the weekly readings of any 5 topics of their choosing. These are due by the Monday before class at 5:00pm, and should be submitted via Blackboard. These papers should briefly summarize the week's readings, analyze arguments and execution, offer critical assessments, and discuss the readings in a larger framework. Students can choose to select to focus on one or more of the readings in that selected week (that is, you need not mention each and every assigned reading in your response). Papers should be 3-4 pages, double-spaced, 12pt font, and include proper citations. You may *not* submit a reading summary on a class period where you are seminar discussion leader, so this limits your flexibility somewhat. You may, however, write a summary of our Capitol Hill Day experience (see below, this will take place on 2/19, as a special class in Washington, DC). This particular response paper must refer to readings from the course as a lens through which to view the presentations of the the Capitol Hill Day speakers. This Capitol Hill Day summary will be due on 2/23. Reading summaries must pertain to the week's readings and cannot be submitted for past readings. 25%
- *Mock Conference Assignment* — Each student is to select a recently published paper on American Politics that interests them, assign it to the rest of the class to read for our Week 15 meeting (4/26), and prepare a 10-15 presentation of the paper for that class. You are to act as if you had written the paper yourself and are presenting it at a professional conference. Your classmates are you colleagues and, along with the instructor, will play the role of the conference audience and ask questions of you and make criticisms of "your" research. There are a number of important guidelines:
 1. You must make your assignment by no later than 4/1.
 2. The paper you choose must have been published no earlier than 2010, must be on a topic related to American Politics (though it need not be on a particular topic that we cover in this particular course), and must be published in a reputable general or field-specific journal. If you are unsure of where to look, these journals can get you started: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *American Politics Research*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Political Behavior*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*
 3. The article may not otherwise appear on this syllabus as either a required, or recommended, reading. 5%
- Each student is required to complete an *Assessment of Course Readings* (due 5/5). This informal assessment should specify a) those readings that have been especially useful and reasons why, b) those readings that should be dropped from future versions of the course and why, and c) what you have read outside of this course that should be added

to this syllabus. Completion of this assessment will earn you 5% of the final course grade.

In addition to those components mandatory for all students, students must choose (by Friday, February 12) whether they wish to write a **research design** OR take **midterm and final examinations**. Political Science PhD students **are required** to take the “research track,” but MA and MPA students can choose between that option and an “exam track.” Once an MA or MPA student chooses either to take exams or write a research paper, they cannot, under any circumstances, change to the other track. The following are components of the two separate “tracks”:

- **Research Track (required for PhD students)**

Choose a research question in American politics, broadly speaking, and complete an original research design meant to address your chosen question. The final product should take the form of a conference paper/journal article, but without the actual empirical research. Your paper should be between 15 and 18 pages in length. For the design, you must pose a unique and appropriate political science research question that is properly motivated, use the literature of the field to develop theoretical expectations about a relationship, and pose a suggested course of collecting and analyzing data that would allow a researcher to evaluate the question. In your conclusion you can speculate about findings, but you do not need to perform the research. The paper will be due in several stages (all by 5:00pm on the due dates, via Blackboard):

- *Friday, February 12* : Research Proposal. First, you will complete a 1-page introduction that states a thesis, or research question, and provides a basic outline of your paper.
- *Friday, March 18* : Literature Review and Bibliography. 4-7 pages for the literature review. As many bibliographic references as you’d like to add, but certainly enough to fill out the literature review.
- *Friday, April 15* : Hypotheses and Description of Data. 1-2 pages of hypotheses, derived from the existing literature. 3-5 pages describing which data/evidence you would use to test these hypotheses. These can be qualitative or quantitative in nature.
- *Tuesday, May 3*: Final Research Design due.

The research design is due in multiple stages, but will be graded holistically, taking into consideration the quality of the intermediate submissions, at final submission. **40%**

- **Exam Track**

For this option, you will be required to complete take-home midterm and final examinations. For each assessment, you will be required to answer two (out of a pool of more than that) questions in 5-7 pages per question. You will be expected to refer primarily to the literature covered in the course, but you can use outside sources if you wish. The exams are open books and open notes, so your answers should be well thought out and written intelligently. You will **not** be allowed to work collaboratively on these exams. The following are the dates for the exams:

- *Midterm Exam* will be distributed in class on March 1 and will be due a week later, by 7:20 pm on March 8 (There is no class this day, but the exam will be due via Blackboard). **20%**
- *Final Exam* will be distributed in class on April 26 and will be due a week later, by 7:20 pm on May 3. **20%**

Grade Distribution:

<i>Class Participation</i>	15%
<i>Seminar Leadership</i>	10%
<i>Response Papers</i>	25%
<i>Mock Conference</i>	5%
<i>Assessment of Course Readings</i>	5%
<i>Research Design/Exams</i>	40%

Required Books:

Aldrich, John H. 1995b. *Why Parties? The Origin and Transformation of Political Parties in America*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes. 1960. *The American Voter*. New York: Wiley and Sons.

Dahl, Robert A. 1961. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Gilens, Martin. 2012. *Affluence and Influence: Economic Inequality and Political Power in America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Howell, William G. 2003. *Power without Persuasion: The Politics of Direct Presidential Action*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Mayhew, David R. 1974. *Congress: The Electoral Connection*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Mayhew, David R. 2005. *Divided We Govern: Party Control, Lawmaking, and Investigations, 1946-1990*. 2nd ed. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Schattschneider, E. E. 1960. *The Semi-Sovereign People: A Realist's View of Democracy in America*. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.

Sinclair, Betsy. 2012. *The Social Citizen: Peer Networks and Political Behavior*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Zaller, John R. 1992. *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Topics and Schedule of Readings

The following is a *tentative* schedule for the course. Updates to this schedule may be emailed and communicated in class, as appropriate. This schedule is meant to give you a sense of the topic(s) to be covered on a given day. It is also meant to guide you if you wish to complete readings ahead of time. You are required to have read the assigned reading by the week listed below.

Week 1 (1/19)

INTRODUCTION

No readings.

Part I. Classics

Week 2 (1/26)

THE FOUNDERS AND FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Required

- Hamilton, Alexander, John Jay, and James Madison. N.d. *The Federalist Papers*. Nos. 10, 14, 39, 46-49, 51, 70, 78. Available at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/histdox/fedpapers.html>
- Dahl, Robert A. 1956. *A Preface to Democratic Theory*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. Foreword, Introduction, Chapter 1, Chapter 5, Afterword.
- Kenyon, Cecilia M. 1955. "Men of Little Faith: The Anti-Federalists on the Nature of Representative Government." *The William and Mary Quarterly: A Magazine of Early American History* 12 (1): 4-43.
- Smith, Rogers M. 1993. "Beyond Tocqueville, Myrdal, and Hartz: The Multiple Traditions in America." *American Political Science Review* 87 (3): 549-566.

Recommended

- *The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union*. 1781.
- *The Constitution of the United States of America*. 1788.
- *Anti-Federalist Papers*.
- Bailyn, Bernard. 1967. *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.
- Bense, Richard F. 2000. *The Political Economy of American Industrialization, 1877-1900*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Hartz, Louis. 1991. *The Liberal Tradition in America*. 2nd ed. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

- Hofstadter, Richard. 1948. *The American Political Tradition and the Men Who Made it*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf.
 - Huntington, Samuel. 1974. "Paradigms of American Politics: Beyond the One, the Two, and the Many." *Political Science Quarterly* 89 (1): 1-26.
 - Key, V.O. Jr. 1949. *Southern Politics in State and Nation*. New York: A. Knopf.
 - Stillman, Richard J. 1982. "The Changing Patterns of Public Administration Theory in America." In *Public Administration History and Theory in Contemporary Perspective*, ed. J.A. Uveges. Marvel Dekker.
 - Alexis de Tocqueville. 1835. *Democracy in America*.
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Week 3 (2/2)

WHO GOVERNS? POWER & POLICY

Required

- Dahl, Robert A. 1961. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. Chapters 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 19-28.
- Schattschneider, E. E. 1960. *The Semi-Sovereign People: A Realist's View of Democracy in America*. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. Chapters 1-4, 8.
- Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Chapters 1-2.

Recommended

- Almond, Gabriel A. 1988. "The Return to the State." *American Political Science Review* 82 (3): 853-874.
- Bachrach, Peter, and Morton S. Baratz. 1962. "Two Faces of Power." *American Political Science Review* 56 (4): 947-952.
- Buchanan, James, and Gordon Tullock. 1962. *The Calculus of Consent: Logical Foundations of Constitutional Democracy*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Lowi, Theodore. 1969. *The End of Liberalism: The Second Republic of the United States*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- McConnell, Grant. 1966. *Private Power and American Democracy*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Moe, Terry M. 2005. "Power and Political Institutions." *Perspectives on Politics* 3 (2): 215-233.
- Riker, William H. 1982. *Liberalism Against Populism: A Confrontation Between the Theory of Democracy and the Theory of Social Choice*. San Francisco: W. H. Freeman.
- Schumpeter, Joseph A. 1942. *Capitalism, Socialism, & Democracy*. New York: Harper.
- Stigler, George J. 1975. *The Citizen and the State: Essays on Regulation*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. Especially chapters 7-8.
- Truman, David B. 1951. *The Governmental Process*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf. Especially through chapter 3.
- Walker, Jack L. 1966. "A Critique of the Elitist Theory of Democracy." *American Political Science Review* 60 (02): 285-295.

Part II. Political Behavior

Week 4 (2/9)

PUBLIC OPINION & IDEOLOGY

Required

- Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes. 1960. *The American Voter*. New York: Wiley and Sons. Chapters 1, 6-7.
- Converse, Philip E. 1964. "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Publics." In *Ideology and Discontent*, ed. David E. Apter. New York: Free Press.
- Zaller, John R. 1992. *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-6.
- Gilens, Martin. 2012. *Affluence and Influence: Economic Inequality and Political Power in America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapter 1.

Recommended

- Abramowitz, Alan I., and Kyle L. Saunders. 1998. "Ideological Realignment in the U.S. Electorate." *Journal of Politics* 60: 634-652.
- Achen, Christopher. 1975. "Mass Political Attitudes and the Survey Response." *The American Political Science Review* 69: 1218-1231.
- Ansolabehere, Stephen, Jonathan Rodden, and James M. Snyder, Jr. 2008. "The Strength of Issues: Using Multiple Measures to Gauge Preference Stability, Ideological Constraint, and Issue Voting." *American Political Science Review* 102: 215-232.
- Conover, Pamela Johnston, and Stanley Feldman. 1981. "The Origins and Meaning of Liberal/Conservative Self-Identifications." *American Journal of Political Science* 25: 617-645.
- Carpini, Michael Delli, and Scott Keeter. 1996. *What Americans Know About Politics and Why It Matters*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Druckman, James N., Erik Peterson, and Rune Slothuus. 2013. "How Elite Partisan Polarization Affects Public Opinion Formation." *American Political Science Review* 107 (57-79).
- Feldman, Stanley. 1988. "Structure and Consistency in Public Opinion: The Role of Core Beliefs and Values." *American Journal of Political Science* 32: 416-440.
- Lenz, Gabriel S. 2012. *Follow the Leader? How Voters Respond to Politicians' Policies and Performance*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Lupia, Arthur, and Mathew D. McCubbins. 1998. *The Democratic Dilemma: Can Citizens Learn What They Need to Know?* New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Page, Benjamin I., and Robert Y. Shapiro. 1992. *The Rational Public: Fifty Years of Trends in Americans' Policy Preferences*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Stimson, James A. 1998. *Public Opinion in America: Moods, Cycles, and Swings*. 2nd Edition. 2nd ed. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1998.
- Zaller, John R. 2012. "What Nature and Origins Leaves Out." *Critical Review* 24 (4): 569-642.

Week 5 (2/16)

PARTICIPATION & ELECTIONS

Required

- Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes. 1960. *The American Voter*. New York: Wiley and Sons. Chapters 5, 11, 18-20.
- Riker, William H., and Peter C. Ordeshook. 1968. "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting." *The American Political Science Review* 62: 25-42.
- Sinclair, Betsy. 2012. *The Social Citizen: Peer Networks and Political Behavior*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1-3, 6.
- Lupia, Arthur. 1994. "Shortcuts versus Encyclopedias: Information and Voting Behavior in California Insurance Reform Elections." *American Political Science Review* 88 (1994).
- Brady, Henry E., Sidney Verba, and Kay Lehman Schlozman. 1995. "Beyond SES: A Resource Model of Political Participation." *American Political Science Review* 89 (2): 271-294.

Recommended

- Burns, Nancy, Kay Lehman Schlozman, and Sidney Verba. 1997. "The Public Consequences of Private Inequality: Family Life and Citizen Participation." *American Political Science Review* 91 (2): 373-389.
- Carmines, Edward G., and James A. Stimson. 1980. "The Two Faces of Issue Voting." *The American Political Science Review* 74: 78-91.
- Downs, Anthony. 1957. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. New York: Harper and Row.
- Fiorina, Morris P. 1981. *Retrospective Voting in American National Elections*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Michael S. Lewis-Beck, William G. Jacoby, Helmut Norpoth, and Herbert F. Weisberg. 2008. *The American Voter Revisited*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- MacKuen, Michael B., Robert S. Erikson, and James A. Stimson. 1992. "Peasants or Bankers: The American Electorate and the U.S. Economy." *American Political Science Review* 86: 597-611.
- McDonald, Michael P., and Samuel L. Popkin. 2001. "The Myth of the Vanishing Voter." *American Political Science Review* 95 (4): 963-974.
- Nickerson, David W. 2008. "Is Voting Contagious? Evidence from Two Field Experiments." *American Political Science Review* 102 (1).
- Putnam, Robert D. 1995. "Tuning In, Tuning Out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 28 (4): 664-683.
- Rogowski, Jon C. 2014. "Electoral Choice, Ideological Conflict, and Political Participation." *American Journal of Political Science* 58 (2): 479-494.
- Rosenstone, Steven J., and John Mark Hansen. 1993. *Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America*. New York, NY: Macmillan.
- Squire, Peverill, Raymond E. Wolfinger, and David P. Glass. 1987. "Residential Mobility and Voter Turnout." *American Political Science Review* 81 (1).

2/19 (Friday) — Capitol Hill Day. 9:00-1:00PM
Gold Room (2168), Rayburn House Office Building

Week 6 (2/23)

APPLICATION WEEK: USING EXPERIMENTS TO STUDY POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

Required

- Angrist, Joshua D., and Jörn-Steffen Pischke. 2008. *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapter 2.
- Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green, and Christopher W. Larimer. 2008. "Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment." *The American Political Science Review* 102 (1): 33-48.
- Ansolabehere, Stephen, Shanto Iyengar, Adam Simon, and Nicholas Valentino. 1994. "Does Attack Advertising Demobilize the Electorate?" *American Political Science Review* 88: 829-838.
- Druckman, James N. 2001. "On the Limits of Framing Effects: Who Can Frame?" *Journal of Politics* 63: 1041-1066.
- Kanthak, Kristin, and Jonathan Woon. 2015. "Women Don't Run? Election Aversion and Candidate Entry." *American Journal of Political Science* 59 (3): 595-612.
- Lassen, David Dreyer. 2005. "The Effect of Information on Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science* 49: 103-118.

Part III. Institutions

Week 7 (3/1)

CONGRESS

Required

- Mayhew, David R. 1974. *Congress: The Electoral Connection*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Fenno, Richard F. 1977. "U.S. House Members in Their Constituencies: An Exploration." *American Political Science Review* 71 (4): 883-917.
- Hall, Richard L. 1996. *Participation in Congress*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. Chapters 1-4. (GMU library provides online access to this book)

Recommended

- Adler, E. Scott, and John S. Lapinski. 1997. "Demand-Side Theory and Congressional Committee Composition: A Constituency Characteristics Approach." *American Journal of Political Science* 41(3): 895-918.
- Arnold, Douglas R. 1990. *The Logic of Congressional Action*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Binder, Sarah A. 1996. "The Partisan Basis of Procedural Choice: Allocating Parliamentary Rights in the House, 1789-1991." *The American Political Science Review* 90 (1): 8-20
- Cooper, Joseph, and David W. Brady. 1981. "Institutional Context and Leadership Style: The House from Cannon to Rayburn." *American Political Science Review* 75: 411-425.
- Cox, Gary W., and Mathew D. McCubbins. 1993. *Legislative Leviathan: Party Government in the House*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- Dion, Douglas. 1997. *Turning the Legislative Thumbscrew: Minority Rights and Procedural Change in Legislative Politics*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Fiorina, Morris P. 1977. *Congress: Keystone of the Washington Establishment*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Fenno, Richard F. 1966. *The Power of the Purse: Appropriations Politics in Congress*. Boston: Little, Brown.
- Fenno, Richard F. 1973. *Congressmen in Committees*. Boston, MA: Little, Brown.
- Gilligan, Thomas, and Keith Krehbiel. 1990. "Organization of Informative Committees by a Rational Legislature." *American Journal of Political Science* 34 (2): 531-564.
- Grimmer, Justin. 2013. *Representational Style in Congress: What Legislators Say and Why it Matters*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1991. *Information and Legislative Organization*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Lee, Frances E. 2009. *Beyond Ideology: Politics, Principles, and Partisanship in the U.S. Senate*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Polsby, Nelson W. 1968. "The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives." *American Political Science Review* 62 (1): 144-168.
- Poole, Keith, and Howard Rosenthal. 1997. *Congress: A Political-Economic History of Roll-Call Voting*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Shepsle, Kenneth, and Barry Weingast. 1987. "Institutional Foundations of Committee Power." *The American Political Science Review* 81: 85-103.
- Sinclair, Barbara. 1997. *Unorthodox Lawmaking: New Legislative Processes in the U. S. Congress*. Washington: CQ Press.

Week 8 (3/8)

SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS

Week 9 (3/15)

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Required

- Neustadt, Richard E. 1960. *Presidential Power*. New York: Wiley. Chapters 1, 3.
- Howell, William G. 2003. *Power without Persuasion: The Politics of Direct Presidential Action*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-4.
- Cameron, Charles M. 2000. *Veto Bargaining: Presidents and the Politics of Negative Power*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2.
- Wilson, James Q. 1989. *Bureaucracy: What Government Agencies Do and Why They Do It*. New York: Basic Books. Chapters 1-2, 4-5.
- Carpenter, Daniel P. 2001. *The Forging of Bureaucratic Autonomy: Reputations, Networks, and Policy Innovation in Executive Agencies*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Introduction, Chapters 1-2, Conclusion.

Recommended - Presidency

- Canes-Wrone, Brandice. 2001. *Who Leads Whom Presidents, Policy, and the Public*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Canes-Wrone, Brandice, and Kenneth W. Shotts. 2004. "The Conditional Nature of Presidential Responsiveness to Public Opinion." *American Journal of Political Science* 48 (4): 690-706.
- Canes-Wrone, Brandice, William G. Howell, and David E. Lewis. 2008. "Toward a Broader Understanding of Presidential Power: A Reevaluation of the Two Presidencies Thesis." *Journal of Politics* 70 (1): 1-16.
- Howell, William G., Saul P. Jackman, and Jon C. Rogowski. 2013. *The Wartime President: Executive Influence and the Nationalizing Politics of Threat*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Kernell, Samuel. 1993. *Going Public: New Strategies of Presidential Leadership*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.
- Lewis, David E. 2008. *The Politics of Presidential Appointments: Political Control and Bureaucratic Performance*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Moe, Terry M. 1985. "The Politicized Presidency." In *The New Direction in American Politics*, ed. John Chubb and Paul Peterson. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution.
- Mueller, John. 1973. *War, Presidents and Public Opinion*. New York: Wiley.
- Skowronek, Stephen. 1993. *The Politics Presidents Make: Leadership from John Adams to Bill Clinton*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Wildavsky, Aaron. 1966. "The Two Presidencies." *Transaction* 4: 7-14.

Recommended - Bureaucracy

- Allison, Graham. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review* 63 (3): 689-718.
- Carpenter, Daniel P. 2004. "The Political Economy Of FDA Drug Review: Processing, Politics, And Lessons For Policy." *Health Affairs* 23 (1): 52-63.
- Cohen, Michael, James March, and Johan Olsen. 1972. "A Garbage Can Model of Organizational Choice." *Administrative Science Quarterly* 17: 1-25.
- Epstein, David, and Sharyn O'Halloran. 1999. *Delegating Powers: A Transaction Cost Politics*

Approach to Policymaking Under Separate Powers. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Gailmard, Sean, and John W. Patty. 2007. "Slackers and Zealots: Civil Service, Policy Discretion, and Bureaucratic Expertise." *American Journal of Political Science* 51 (4): 873-889.
 - Hecl, Hugh. 1977. *A Government of Strangers: Executive Politics in Washington*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press.
 - Huber, John D., and Charles R. Shipan. 2002. *Deliberate Discretion? The Institutional Foundations of Bureaucratic Autonomy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 - Kaufman, Herbert. 1960. *The Forest Ranger: A Study in Administrative Behavior*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.
 - Lewis, David E. 2003. *Presidents and the Politics of Agency Design: Political Insulation in the United States Government Bureaucracy*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
 - Lindblom, Charles E. 1959. "The Science of Muddling Through." *Public Administration Review* 19: 79-88.
 - McCubbins, Mathew D., Roger G. Noll, and Barry R. Weingast. 1987. "Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control." *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization* 3 (2): 243-277.
 - Moe, Terry M. 1990. "The Politics of Structural Choice: Toward a Theory of Public Bureaucracy." In *Organization Theory: From Chester Barnard to the Present and Beyond*, ed. Oliver E. Williamson. New York: Oxford University Press.
 - Moe, Terry M. 1989. "The Politics of Bureaucratic Structure." In *Can the Government Govern?*, ed. John Chubb and Paul Peterson. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution.
 - Miller, Gary. 1993. *Managerial Dilemmas: The Political Economy of Hierarchy*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
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Week 10 (3/22)

INTERBRANCH RELATIONS AND SEPARATION OF POWERS

Required

- Mayhew, David R. 2005. *Divided We Govern: Party Control, Lawmaking, and Investigations, 1946-1990*. 2nd ed. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. All, but you can skim Chapter 3.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1998. *Pivotal Politics: A Theory of U.S. Lawmaking*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 2-3.
- Binder, Sarah A. 1999. "The Dynamics of Legislative Gridlock, 1947-96." *The American Political Science Review* 93 (3): 519-534.
- McCubbins, Mathew D., and Thomas Schwartz. 1984. "Congressional Oversight Overlooked: Police Patrols versus Fire Alarms." *American Journal of Political Science* 28 (Feb.): 165-179.

Recommended

- Aberbach, Joel D. 1990. *Keeping a Watchful Eye: The Politics of Congressional Oversight*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.
- Bailey, Michael, Brian Kamoie, and Forrest Maltzman. 2005. "Signals From the Tenth Jus-

- tice: The Political Role of the Solicitor General in Supreme Court Decision Making." *American Journal of Political Science* 49: 72-85.
- Balla, Steven J., and John R. Wright. 2001. "Interest Groups, Advisory Committees, and Congressional Control of the Bureaucracy." *American Journal of Political Science* 45 (4): 799-812.
 - Bergara, Mario, Barak Richman, and Pablo Spiller. 2003. "Modeling Supreme Court Strategic Decision Making: The Congressional Constraint." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 28: 247-280.
 - Cameron, Charles M. 2000. *Veto Bargaining: Presidents and the Politics of Negative Power*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
 - Canes-Wrone, Brandice. 2003. "Bureaucratic Decisions and the Composition of the Lower Courts." *American Journal of Political Science* 47 (Apr.): 205-214.
 - de Figueiredo Jr., Rui J. P., Tonja Jacobi, and Barry R. Weingast. 2008. "The New Separation-of-Powers Approach to American Politics." In *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy*, ed. Barry R. Weingast and Donald Wittman. Oxford University Press
 - Martin, Andrew D. 2001. "Congressional Decision Making and the Separation of Powers." *American Political Science Review* 95: 361-378.
 - Segal, Jeffrey A. 1997. "Separation-of-Powers Games in the Positive Theory of Congress and Courts." *American Political Science Review* 91: 28-44.
 - Shipan, Charles R. 2004. "Regulatory Regimes, Agency Actions, and the Conditional Nature of Congressional Influence." *The American Political Science Review* 98 (Aug.): 467-480.
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Week 11 (3/29)

THE COURTS

Required

- Dahl, Robert A. 1957. "Decision-Making in a Democracy: The Supreme Court as a National Policy-Maker." *Journal of Public Law* 6: 279-295.
- Rosenberg, Gerald N. 1991. *The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring about Social Change*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. Chapter 1.
- Segal, Jeffrey A., and Albert D. Cover. 1989. "Ideological Values and the Votes of Supreme Court Justices." *American Political Science Review* 83: 557-565.
- Epstein, Lee, and Jack Knight. 2000. "Field Essay: Toward a Strategic Revolution in Judicial Politics: A Look Back, A Look Ahead." *Political Research Quarterly* 53: 625-661.
- Segal, Jeffrey A. 1997. "Separation-of-Powers Games in the Positive Theory of Congress and Courts." *American Political Science Review* 91: 28-44.
- Bartels, Brandon L. 2009. "The Constraining Capacity of Legal Doctrine on the Supreme Court." *American Political Science Review* 103: 474-95.
- Moraski, Bryon J., and Charles R. Shipan. 1999. "The Politics of Supreme Court Nominations: A Theory of Institutional Constraints and Choices." *American Journal of Political Science* 43 (Oct.): 1069-1095.

Recommended

- Bailey, Michael, and Forrest Maltzman. 2008. "Does Legal Doctrine Matter: Unpacking Law and Policy Preferences on the U.S. Supreme Court." *American Political Science Review* 102: 369-384.
 - Black, Ryan C., and Ryan J. Owens. 2009. "Agenda Setting in the Supreme Court: The Collision of Policy and Jurisprudence." *Journal of Politics* 71: 1062-75.
 - Cameron, Charles M., Albert D. Cover, and Jeffrey A. Segal. 1990. "Senate Voting on Supreme Court Nominees: A Neoinstitutional Model." *The American Political Science Review* 84 (Jun.): 525-534.
 - Canes-Wrone, Brandice. 2003. "Bureaucratic Decisions and the Composition of the Lower Courts." *American Journal of Political Science* 47 (Apr.): 205-214.
 - Clark, Tom S., and Benjamin Lauderdale. 2010. "Locating Supreme Court Opinions in Doctrine Space." *American Journal of Political Science* 54 (4): 871-890.
 - Epstein, Lee, and Jack Knight. 1998. *The Choices Justices Make*. Washington, DC: CQ Press.
 - Maltzman, Forrest, James F. Spriggs II, and Paul J. Wahlbeck. 2000. *Crafting Law on the Supreme Court: The Collegial Game*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
 - Segal, Jeffrey A., and Harold J. Spaeth. 2002. *The Supreme Court and the Attitudinal Model Revisited*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3, 8.
 - Shapiro, Martin M. 1982. *Who Guards the Guardians?* Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.
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Week 12 (4/5)

PARTIES & INTEREST GROUPS

Required

- Aldrich, John H. 1995a. *Why Parties? The Origin and Transformation of Party Politics in America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1-3, 6-9.
- MacKuen, Michael B., Robert S. Erikson, and James A. Stimson. 1989. "Macropartisanship." *American Political Science Review* 83: 1125-1142.
- Fiorina, Morris P. 2002. "Parties and Partisanship: A 40-Year Retrospective." *Political Behavior* 24 (2): 93-115.
- Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Chapters 5-6.
- Lowery, David, and Virginia Gray. 1995. "The Population Ecology of Gucci Gulch, or the Natural Regulation of Interest Group Numbers in the American States." *American Journal of Political Science* 39 (1): 1-29.
- Hall, Richard L., and Frank W. Wayman. 1990. "Buying Time: Moneyed Interests and the Mobilization of Bias in Congressional Committees." *American Political Science Review* 84(3): 797-820.

Recommended - Parties and Partisanship

- American Political Science Association. 1950. *Toward a More Responsible Two-Party System*. Washington, D.C.: APSA. Summary of Conclusions and Proposals, and Part I (through pg.

36).

- Bartels, Larry M. 2000. "Partisanship and Voting Behavior, 1952-1996." *American Journal of Political Science* 44 (1): 35-30.
- Boehmke, Frederick J. 2002. "The Effect of Direct Democracy on the Size and Diversity of State Interest Group Populations." *Journal of Politics* 64: 827-844.
- Cohen, Marty, David Karol, Hans Noel, and John Zaller. 2008. *The Party Decides: Presidential Nominations Before and After Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Cox, Gary W., and Matthew D. McCubbins. 2005. *Setting the Agenda: Responsible Party Government in the US House of Representatives*. Cambridge, UK: University of Cambridge Press.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1993. "Where's the Party?" *British Journal of Political Science* 23 (Apr.): 235-266.
- Noel, Hans. 2014. *Political Ideologies and Political Parties in America*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Green, Donald, Bradley Palmquist, and Eric Schickler. 2002. *Partisan Hearts and Minds*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- MacKuen, Michael B., Robert S. Erikson, and James A. Stimson. 1989. "Macropartisanship." *American Political Science Review* 83: 1125-1142.
- Miller, Warren E. 1991. "Party Identification, Realignment, and Party Voting: Back to the Basics." *American Political Science Review* 85: 557-568.
- Patty, John W. 2008. "Equilibrium Party Government." *American Journal of Political Science* 52 (3): 636-655.
- Rohde, David W. 1991. *Parties and Leaders in the Postreform House*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Schattschneider, E. E. 1960. *The Semi-Sovereign People: A Realist's View of Democracy in America*. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.
- Snyder, Jr., James M., and Michael M. Ting. 2002. "An Informational Rationale for Political Parties." *American Journal of Political Science* 46(1): 90-110.
- Wolbrecht, Christina. 2000. *The Politics of Women's Rights: Parties, Positions, and Change*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Recommended - Interest Groups

- Ainsworth, Scott, and Itai Sened. 1993. "The Role of Lobbyists: Entrepreneurs with Two Audiences." *American Journal of Political Science* 37(3): 834-866.
- Ainsworth, Scott. 1993. "Regulating Lobbyists and Interest Group Influence." *Journal of Politics* 55 (1): 41-56.
- Baumgartner, Frank R., and Beth L. Leech. 1998. *Basic Interests: The Importance of Groups in Politics and in Political Science*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Boehmke, Frederick J. 2005. "Sources of Variation in the Frequency of Statewide Initiatives: The Role of Interest Group Populations." *Political Research Quarterly* 58 (4): 575-585.
- Caldeira, Gregory A., Marie Hojnacki, and John R. Wright. 2000. "The lobbying activities of organized interests in federal judicial nominations." *Journal of Politics* 62 (1): 51-69.
- Esterling, Kevin M. 2007. "Buying Expertise: Campaign Contributions and Attention to Policy Analysis in Congressional Committees." *American Political Science Review* 101 (01): 93-109.
- Lowery, David, and Virginia Gray. 1995. "The Population Ecology of Gucci Gulch, or the Natural Regulation of Interest Group Numbers in the American States." *American Journal of Political Science* 39 (1): 1-29.

- Hall, Richard L., and Alan V. Deardorff. 2006. "Lobbying as Legislative Subsidy." *The American Political Science Review* 100 (1): 69-84.
 - Key, V. O. 1964. *Politics, Parties, and Pressure Groups*. New York: Crowell.
 - Kollman, Ken. 1998. *Outside Lobbying*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 - Truman, David B. 1951. *The Governmental Process*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf.
 - Walker, Jack. 1983. "The Origins and Maintenance of Interest Groups in America." *American Political Science Review* 77: 390-406.
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Week 13 (4/12)

APPLICATION WEEK: RATIONAL CHOICE AND THE STUDY OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Required

- Shepsle, Kenneth A. 1989. "Studying Institutions: Some Lessons from the Rational Choice Approach." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 1 (2): 131-147.
 - Cameron, Charles M. 2000. *Veto Bargaining: Presidents and the Politics of Negative Power*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 3.
 - Green, Donald Philip, and Ian Shapiro. 1994. *Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory: A Critique of Applications in Political Science*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. Chapters 1-2.
 - Shipan, Charles R. 2004. "Regulatory Regimes, Agency Actions, and the Conditional Nature of Congressional Influence." *The American Political Science Review* 98 (Aug.): 467-480.
 - Canes-Wrone, Brandice, and Kenneth W. Shotts. 2004. "The Conditional Nature of Presidential Responsiveness to Public Opinion." *American Journal of Political Science* 48 (4): 690-706.
 - McGrath, Robert J., Jon C. Rogowski, and Josh M. Ryan. 2015. "Gubernatorial Veto Powers and the Size of Legislative Coalitions." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 40 (4): 571-598.
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Part IV. Representation and Policy

Week 14 (4/19)

REPRESENTATION

Required

- Miller, Warren E., and Donald W. Stokes. 1963. "Constituency Influence in Congress." *American Political Science Review* 57: 45-56.
- Lax, Jeffrey R., and Justin H. Phillips. 2009. "Gay Rights in the States: Public Opinion and Policy Responsiveness." *American Political Science Review* 103 (3).
- Mansbridge, Jane. 1999. "Should Blacks Represent Blacks and Women Represent Women? A Contingent 'Yes'." *Journal of Politics* 61 (3): 628-57.

- Anzia, Sarah F., and Christopher R. Berry. 2011. "The Jackie (and Jill) Robinson Effect: Why do Congresswomen Outperform Congressmen." *American Journal of Political Science* 55 (3): 478-93.
- Hill, Kim Quaile, and Jan E. Leighley. 1992. "The Policy Consequences of Class Bias in State Electorates." *American Journal of Political Science*: 351-365.
- Gilens, Martin. 2012. *Affluence and Influence: Economic Inequality and Political Power in America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapters 2-4.

Recommended

- Achen, Christopher H. 1977. "Measuring Representation: Perils of the Correlation Coefficient." *American Journal of Political Science* 21: 805-815.
- Anzia, Sarah F., and Christopher R. Berry. 2011. "The Jackie (and Jill) Robinson Effect: Why do Congresswomen Outperform Congressmen." *American Journal of Political Science* 55 (3): 478-93.
- Barreto, Matt A., Gary M. Segura, and Nathan D. Woods. 2004. "The Mobilizing Effect of Majority–Minority Districts on Latino Turnout." *American Political Science Review* 98 (1): 65-76.
- Bartels, Larry M. 2010. *Unequal Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Broockman, David E. 2014. "Distorted Communication, Unequal Representation: Constituents Communicate Less to Representatives not of their Race." *American Journal of Political Science* 58 (2): 307-21.
- Cameron, Charles, David Epstein, and Sharyn O'Halloran. 1996. "Do Majority-Minority Districts Maximize Substantive Black Representation in Congress?" *The American Political Science Review* 90 (4): 794-812.
- Chen, Jowei, and Jonathan Rodden. 2013. "Unintentional Gerrymandering: Political Geography and Electoral Bias in Legislatures." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 8: 239-269.
- Eulau, Heinz, John C. Wahlke, William Buchanan, and Leroy C. Ferguson. 1959. "The Role of the Representative: Some Empirical Observations on the Theory of Edmund Burke." *American Political Science Review* 53 (3): 742-756.
- Enns, Peter K., Nathan J. Kelly, Jana Morgan, Thomas Volscho, and Christopher Witko. 2014. "Conditional Status Quo Bias and Top Income Shares: How US Political Institutions have Benefited the Rich." *Journal of Politics* 76 (2): 289-303.
- Gay, Claudine. 2001. "The Effect of Black Congressional Representation on Political Participation." *American Political Science Review* 95: 589-602.
- Meier, Kenneth J. 1975. "Representative Bureaucracy: An Empirical Analysis." *American Political Science Review* 69 (2): 526-542.
- Page, Benjamin I., Robert Y. Shapiro, and Glenn Dempsey. 1987. "What Moves Public Opinion?" *American Political Science Review* 81.
- Pitkin, Hanna F. 1967. *The Concept of Representation*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Schuitt, Sophie, and Jon C. Rogowski. N.d., (forthcoming). "Race, Representation, and the Voting Rights Act." *American Journal of Political Science*.
- Stimson, James A., Michael B. MacKuen, and Robert S. Erikson. 1995. "Dynamic Representation." *American Political Science Review* 89: 543-565.
- Trounstein, Jessica. 2010. "Representation and Accountability in Cities." *Annual Review of Political Science* 13: 407-423.

Part V. Student-selected Articles

Week 15 (4/26)

MOCK CONFERENCE ASSIGNMENT

Readings to be populated after student assignments (due 4/1).

Additional Concerns

Syllabus

This syllabus is a *tentative* guide for the course. I reserve the right to make announced changes to this document and will distribute these changes in class and on the course website. Each student will be responsible for all announcements and materials covered in class.

Class Conduct

Class atmosphere will be quite relaxed. Just a few guidelines to make sure:

- Arriving a few minutes late is tolerated as long as you make an effort to minimize the disturbance for other students.
- Eating and drinking in class should be reduced to a minimum. It is not forbidden, but please make sure that you are not disturbing others.
- Turn off all cell phones (or don't even bring them).
- No email, IMs, or web browsing on computers during class.
- If you have to leave a class early, please let me know in advance. It is very rude to simply walk out in the middle of a discussion.

Disabilities and Accommodations

Please let me know within the first week of class if you require assistance or special consideration. I can make accommodations for those who need them but must be informed of the need in advance. Any requests for accommodation based on a disability must be arranged through the Office of Disability Services (ODS). <http://ods.gmu.edu/>

Academic Integrity

All work completed in your name must be yours and yours alone. Any work you borrow or ideas you gather from other sources must be cited properly. Please see me if you are concerned about proper citation style. Any attempt to present someone else's work as your own will be met with the harshest consequences. You will receive an F for the assignment and an F for the course. Furthermore, notification of, and supporting documentation for, the violation will be forwarded to the appropriate university administrators.

Enrollment Statement

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Scheduled adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes.

Last Day to Add: 1/26/16

Last Day to Drop: 2/19/16

Please note, after the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate Students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

Other Useful Campus Resources:

Writing Center

A114 Robinson Hall; (703) 993-1200; <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

University Libraries

<http://library.gmu.edu>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

703.993.2380; <http://caps.gmu.edu>

University Policies

The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu>. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.