This course introduces a wide selection of important and theoretically/methodologically diverse works in American politics. The reading list is intended as a resource for graduate students with American politics majors or minors; hence, other works on the same topic are listed below the required readings. The required readings are indicated with an asterisk. Each week, you are expected to read roughly the equivalent of one 300 page book. This may, in some weeks, leave you free to do some triage according to your own interests. But please try to read all the starred works when you are presenting.

There are three options for the major course project (the first two are preferred):
1. A research paper on a related broad topic, with my approval.
2. A critical bibliography on one of the topic areas or a question or subfield of your choice, with my approval. A critical bibliography takes a central question or problem and analyzes how (and how well) the literature has dealt with it. It resembles the first chapter of many books and most dissertations.
3. A 48-hour take home exam answering four out of seven broad questions.

In the first two options, a one-page prospectus (including questions to be asked and preliminary bibliography) must be turned in no later than the fifth week of class.

For practice in critical/analytical writing, and to raise questions for the class, students will share with me and the class each week a brief (1-2 pp.) critique (not a simple summary) connecting and commenting on the week's readings. These must be received by 6 pm the day before class day. You may skip, or be late, two times with these weekly papers (which does not exempt you from the readings). I will return these weekly critiques with comments. They will not be formally graded, but note will be taken of general quality and pattern of improvement. Your critiques will be also be distributed (electronically) to each member of the class and will provide questions for class discussion.

You will be the primary presenter for one or more classes (depending on the number in the class). Your presentation will take about 10 minutes and open the general discussion. In addition, on several weeks you will be the discussant, critiquing the presenter verbally. Weekly critiques and class participation will count for forty percent of the final grade; the paper or exam for 60 percent.

Starred (required) readings will be on Blackboard reserve; other listings will be provided as a resource for papers or A exams. Limited numbers of starred books may be available at the bookstore for purchase. All books will be on reserve in Olin 405. Students are on
their honor to use these books in 405 or nearby, and always to return the books to the shelf so others can find them.

First meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 22 (organizational)

I. State Structure and state development (Jan 29)

*Dave Robertson, The Constitution and America’s Destiny
*Clyde Barrow, Critical Theories of the State, 1-76 (or substitute Greenberg, "State Change", below, 11-34)

Suzanne Mettler, Dividing Citizens, ch. 1, 2, 6 (or read her article in Fall ’98 SAPD)
Rogers M. Smith, Civic Ideals
Samuel Kernell and Michael P. McDonald, "Congress and America's Political Development", American Journal of Political Science 43 (July 1999) 792-811
Richard Bensel, Yankee Leviathan (Cambridge U), ch. 1, and 106-14.
Paul Peterson, City Limits, (Chicago), pp 212-22
Gerald Friedman, State-Making and Labor Movements
Edward S. Greenberg, "State Change" in Greenberg and Thomas F. Mayer, Changes in the State, 11-34.
William Domhoff, "Corporate Liberal Theory and the Social Security Act" (plus Skocpol rejoinder), Politics and Society, 15 (86-87), 297-322.
Michael Schwartz, ed., The Structure of Power in America

II. Institutions

A. The National Legislature (Feb 5)
*Wendy Schiller, Partners and Rivals, 3-62, 149-73
*David A. Mayhew, America's Congress, ix-128.
*Julian E. Zelizer, Taxing America, 1-23, 179-211, 230-54, 270-82, 337-46
*Richard F. Bensel, Sectionalism and American Political Development, chapter 7

Gregory J. Wawro and Eric Schickler,, Filibuster
Charles Stewart III, Analyzing Congress
Sarah A. Binder, Minority Rights. Majority Rule; and Stalemate
R. Douglas Arnold, The Logic of Congressional Action
Keith T. Poole and Howard Rosenthal, Congress: A Political-Historical Analysis of Roll Call Voting
Gary W. Cox and Matthew D. McCubbins, Legislative Leviathan,
Stanley Berard, Southern Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives
D. Roderick Kiewiet and Matthew McCubbins, The Logic of Delegation
Keith Krehbiel, Information and Legislative Organization; and Pivotal Politics
David Mayhew, Divided We Govern; and Party Loyalty Among Congressmen.
Morris Fiorina, Representatives, Roll Calls and Constituencies.
Bruce Cain, John Ferejohn and Morris Fiorina., The Personal Vote: Constituency Service and Electoral Independence.

Richard Fenno, Home Style; and Congressmen in Committees; and Power of the Purse.
Walter Oleszek, Congressional Procedures and the Policy, Process, latest ed.
Charles O. Jones, Separate But Equal.

B. The President (Feb 12)

*William Grover, The President as Prisoner, pp. 1-61
*Stephen Skowronek, The Politics Presidents Make, pp. 3-58, then skim 61-266, and conclude with 287-446. (A short version of the paired presidents analyses can be found in "Presidential Leadership in Political Time," in Michael Nelson, ed., The Presidency and the Political System, 8th ed.)
Elvin Lim, "The Anti-Intellectual Presidency," 2003 APSA paper, at [http://pantheon.yale.edu/~el276/Anti-intellectual.pdf](http://pantheon.yale.edu/~el276/Anti-intellectual.pdf) (or ask me to send); book IP
Beth Fischer, The Reagan Reversal
Philip J. Cooper, By Order of the President
Thomas S. Langston, Ideologues and Presidents
George C. Edwards, On Deaf Ears
Matthew J. Dickinson, Bitter Harvest, esp 1-85, 158-235
Juan Linz and Arturo Valenzuela, eds., The Failure of Presidential Democracy, v. 1
Jose Antonio Cheibub, “Presidentialism, Electoral Identifiability, and Budget Balances in Democratic Systems,” APSR 100 (August 06), 353-68
James D. Barber The Presidential Character
Richard Neustadt, Presidential Power
Edward Corwin, The President: Office and Powers, revised and edited.
Fred I. Greenstein, The Hidden Hand Presidency; and The Presidential Difference
Louis Fisher, The Politics of Shared Power
Louis Fisher, Constitutional Conflicts Between Congress and the President
William E. Leuchtenberg, In The Shadow of FDR
Irving Janis, Groupthink (1984 ed)
Bruce Miroff, Pragmatic Illusions
Michael Nelson, ed., The Presidency and the Political System 8th ed.
Herbert Stein, Presidential Economics and the Fiscal Revolution in America
Lester G. Seligman and Cary R. Covington, The Coalitional Presidency
Sidney Milkis and Michael Nelson, The American Presidency: Origins and Development
Daniel Wirls, Build Up

C. Bureaucracy (Feb 19)

*James Q. Wilson, Bureaucracy (2000 ed.), 3-30 and at least two substantive chapters

Elizabeth Sanders, Roots of Reform, chs. 1, 11 (if you want to compare with Carpenter)
Jason Scott Smith, Building New Deal Liberalism
Joel Handler, Down from Bureaucracy: The Ambiguity of Privatization & Empowerment
Robert R. Alford and Roger Friedland, Powers of Theory, 112{135
Theodore J. Lowi, "The State and Politics" in Roger Noll, ed., Regulatory Policy and the
Social Sciences
William T. Gormley, Taming the Bureaucracy
William E. Odum, Fixing Intelligence
Donald Kettl, Leadership at the Fed
William Grieder, Secrets of the Temple
Aaron Wildavsky, The Politics of the Budgetary Process
Marver Bernstein, Regulating Business by Independent Commission

D. Executive-Legislative Relations (Feb 26)

*Charles M. Cameron, Veto Bargaining, 1-68, 83-177, 261-69
*Mathew McCubbins, Roger Noll, and Barry Weingast, "Administrative Procedures as
*Mathew McCubbins and Thomas Schwartz, "Congressional Oversight
*Barry R. Weingast and Mark J. Moran. 1983. "Bureaucratic Discretion or Congressional
   Control?" Journal of Political Economy 91 (Oct.): 765-800.

David Epstein and Sharyn O'Halloran. Delegating Powers: A Transaction Cost Politics
   Approach to Policy Making Under Separate Powers, esp 1-33, 47-162, 196-239.
   (esp. 83-177, 261-269).
Louis Fisher, The Politics of Shared Power
Arthur T. Denzau and Michael C. Munger, "Legislators and Interest Groups: How
Thomas Gilligan, William Marshall and Barry Weingast, "Regulation and the Theory of
   Legislative Choice: The Interstate Commerce Act of 1887," Journal of Law and
Barry Weingast and William Marshall, "The Industrial Organization of Congress."

E. The Judiciary (Mar 4)

*Jeffrey A. Segal and Harold J. Spaeth, "The Supreme Court and the Attitudinal Model
   Revisited." This is a long and imp. book. But can be read selectively. I suggest
you read cptr 1, skim cptrs. 2-3; then skim cptr. 4 to 165 but slow down through 165-77. skim cptr 5; read 252-78 in cptr. 6, and 312-50 in cptr 8; Then read 381-405 in cptr 9, and finish with 10-11.

*Ronald Kahn and Ken I. Kersch, eds., The Supreme Courts and American Political Development, chapters by Kahn, Tushnet, Gillman, and Kersch
*Keith Whittington, The Political Foundations of Judicial Supremacy

Frank B. Cross, Decision-Making in the U.S. Courts of Appeals
Thomas G. Hansford and James F. Spriggs II, The Politics of Precedent on the U.S. Supreme Court
   Glance at articles by Baum, Segal, and Epp (Skim 1-12, 201-214, 237-280 for contrast to Segal and Spaeth)
Ken I. Kersch, Constructing Civil Liberties (2006 Greenstone Prize)
Rogers M. Smith, Civic Ideals (an earlier version is found in APSR 87 [1993] 549-66)
Lee Epstein and Jack Knight, The Choices Justices Make, xi-50.
Robert A. Dahl, How Democratic is the American Constitution? 2nd ed.
Mark J. Richards and Herbert M. Kritzer, "Jurisprudential Regimes in Supreme Court Decision-Making," APSR 96 (June 2002), 305-20
C. Neal Tate and Torbjorn Vallinder, eds., The Global Expansion of Judicial Power, intro and articles by Vallinder and Shapiro, 1-66
Robert Carp and C.K. Rowland, Policymaking and Politics in the Federal District Courts
John B. Gates, The Supreme Court and Partisan Realignment (esp. 1-140, 180-83)
William E. Forbath, Law and Shaping of the American Labor Movement
Karen Orren, Belated Feudalism
John Manley and Kenneth Dolbeare, eds., The Case Against the Constitution
David A. Schultz, ed., Leveraging the Law
Donald Horowitz, The Courts and Social Policy
Robert McCloskey, The American Supreme Court; and The Modern Supreme Court
Henry J. Abraham, Justice and Presidents
Peter Irons, The New Deal Lawyers
Charles R. Epp, The Rights Revolution

III. Individual Calculation, Social Choices, Collective Action

A. Interests, Collective Action, and Civil Society (March 11)
*Mancur Olson, The Logic of Collective Action 1-65, 107-10, 122-54, 165-67 and skim 66-97 (on the need for large groups like labor orgs. to use coercion)
*Theda Skocpol, Diminished Democracy, 1-73 & tables; OR Skocpol et al., “Patriotic Partnerships,” in Ira Katznelson and Martin Shefter, Shaped by War and Trade
* John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, The Israel Lobby, 3-40, 258-62

Andrea Campbell, How Policies Make Citizens
Lawrence R. Jacobs and Benjamin I. Page, “Who Influences U.S. Foreign Policy?” APSR 99 (Feb. 2005), 1-17
Christina Wolbrecht and Rodney Hero, eds., The Politics of Democratic Inclusion
Suzanne Mettler, "Bringing the State Back In To Civic Engagement: Policy Feedback Effects...," APSR 96 (June 2002), 351-64
Arthur Denzau and Michael C. Munger, "Legislators and Interest Groups," APSR 80 (1986), 89-106
Theda Skocpol and Morris Fiorina, eds., Civic Engagement in American Democracy
John Gaventa, Power and Powerlessness
Theodore Lowi, The End of Liberalism, 2nd ed. (esp. 67-91)
Michael Schwartz, Radical Protest and Social Structure, 129-170
David Truman, The Governmental Process
Robert Dahl, A Preface to Democratic Theory, and Dilemmas of Pluralist Democracy
Robert Salisbury, Interest Group Politics in America
E.E. Schattsneider, The Semi-Sovereign People
Grant McConnell, Private Power and American Democracy (esp. cptr 5)
Bauer, Pool, and Dexter, American Business and Public Policy
V.O. Key, Politics, Parties and Pressure Grouts, pp. 24-182.
Kay L. Schlozman and John T. Tierney, Organized Interests and American Democracy
Virginia Sapiro, "When are Interests Interesting?" and rejoinder by Diamond and Hartsock, APSR 75 (1981), 701-22.
Hugh Heclo, "Issue Networks and the Executive Establishment" in Anthony King, ed.,
B. The Measurement and Significance of Public Opinion (March 25)

* Taeku Lee, Mobilizing Public Opinion: Black Insurgency and Racial Attitudes, 1-15 and 120-49; then scan cptr 4 for the flavor of the letters counted in cptr, and look at his critique of Zaller, Carmines, and others (the elite-led opinion model) pp. 22-34.
* Frederick M. Wirt, We Ain't What We Was, ch. 4 (more if poss)
* John Hurwitz and Mark Peffley, Perception and Prejudice (Yale) 1-57, 100-70 (articles by Hurwitz and Peffley; Sniderman et al.; Kuklinski and Cobb; Carmines and Layman; Stoker)
* Brian J. Gaines et al. “Same Facts, Different Interpretations…Opinions on Iraq,” JOP 69 (Nov. 2007), 957-74
* John Mark Hansen, "Individuals, Institutions, and Public Preferences over Public Finance," APSR 92 (Sept. 1998), 513-31

Jonathan Mermin, Debating Democracy
Timur Kuran, Private Truths, Public Lies, 45-59, 71-83, 137-54
Scott Althaus, Collective Preferences in Democratic Processes
Benjamin Page and Robert Shapiro, The Rational Public
Jeffrey Manza et al, eds., Navigating Public Opinion
Jennifer L. Hochchild, Facing Up to the American Dream
Micheal X. Delli Carpini and Scott Keeter, What Americans Know About Politics and Why It Matters
Donald R. Kinder, and Lynn M. Sanders, Divided by Color, 3-34

C. Parties and Electoral Systems (April 1)
*David R. Mayhew, Electoral Realignments: Critique of an American Genre (skim)
*Nolan McCarty, Keith T. Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Polarized America, cpts 1,3,4,6.
*Jeffrey M. Stonecash, Class and Party in American Politics, 1-42 (and skim tables and chapter conclusions if possible)
*Larry Bartels, “What’s the Matter with What’s the Matter with Kansas”? APSA, 2005

Earl and Merle Black, Divided America
David T. Canon, Race, Redistricting, and Representation: The Unintended Consequences of Black Majority Districts, pp. 1-97, 126-142.

Gary W. Cox and Matthew D. McCubbins, Setting the Agenda: Responsible Party Gov…
Lublin, David. The Paradox of Representation: Racial Gerrymandering and Minority Interests in Congress.
Douglas Rae, The Political Consequences of Election Laws
Mark Monmonier, Bushmanders and Bullwinkles: How Politicians Manipulate Electronic Maps and Census Data to Win Elections.
Maurice Duverger, Political Parties
Richard Bensel, Sectionalism and American Political Development, ch. 8

V.O. Key. Southern Politics
John Aldrich, Why Parties: Origin and Transformation of Political Parties in America


John C. Green and Daniel M. Shea, eds., The State of the Parties. 3rd ed.
Paul Frymer and John D. Skrentny, "Coalition Building and the Politics of Electoral Capture in the Nixon Administration," Studies in American Political Development. 12 (Spring '98), 131-161

Giovanni Sartori, Parties and Party Systems
Roberto Michels, Political Parties (or article in November 1927 APSR).

D. Voting Decisions and Outcomes (April 8)


*Gary Jacobson, the Politics of Congressional Elections (6th ed.), 23-51, 113-207. (Note: the 7th ed. is due out in early Feb. If it comes in time, we’ll use it instead)
Moderation at Midterm." APSR 96 (March): 141-157.  
V.O. Key, The Responsible Electorate  
Morris P. Fiorina, Retrospective Voting in American National Elections  
Walter Dean Burnham, "The Changing Shape of the American Political Universe," APSR  
(March 1965).  
G. Bingham Powell, Jr., "American Voter Turnout in Comparative Perspective," APSR  
80 (March 1986), 17-37.  
William Riker and Peter Ordeshook, "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting," APSR,  
Robert W. Jackman, "Elections and the Democratic Class Struggle," World Politics 39  
(October, 1986), 123-38.  
APSR 65, 131-145.  
Edward Tuft, Political Control of the Economy  
Douglas Hibbs, The American Political Economy, esp. ch. 6-7.  
Benjamin Ginsberg and Alan Stone, eds. Do Elections Matter?, 2nd ed.  

E. Social Movements (April 15)  
*David S. Meyer, The Politics of Protest, chapter 1  
*Doug McAdam, Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1-180  
*Dennis Chong, Collective Action and the Civil Rights Movement, pp. 1-37, 51-65,  
78-87, 164-72, 191-206, 220-29.  
*Mary Katzenstein, Faithful and Fearless, 3-22, 32-103  

William A. Gamson, the Strategy of Social Protest, 2nd ed.  
Robert Booth Fowler, Allen D. Hertzke, and Laura R. Olson, Religion and Politics in  
America. 3nd ed., chs. 1, 6 OR Kenneth D. Wald and Allison Calhoun-Brown,  
Religion and Politics in the United States (06), any two chapters  
George Marsden, Fundamentalism and American Culture OR Understanding  
Fundamentalism and Evangelicism  
Mark Lewis Taylor, Religion, Politics, and the Christian Right Post 9-11  
Anne-Marie Szymanski, Pathways to Prohibition  
Charles Tilly and Sidney Tarrow, Contentious Politics  
Sidney Tarrow, Power in Movement  
David S. Mayer, A Winter of Discontent  
Theda Skocpol et al, "Women's Associations and the Enactment of Mothers' Pensions in  
theU.S.," APSR 87 (Sept. 1993). 686-700 (or scan Protecting Soldiers and Mothers)  
Jane Mansbridge, Why We Lost the ERA,.
Anne N. Constain, Inviting Women’s Rebellion
Michael McCann, Taking Reform Seriously (Cornell U.), chs. 1, 4, 5.
Francis F. Piven and Richard Cloward, Poor People's Movements, esp. chs. 3-4.
Michael Goldfield, The Decline of Organized Labor in the U.S.
Lawrence Goodwyn, The Populist Moment
Jo Freeman, ed. Social Movements of the Sixties and Seventies.
Mary F. Katzenstein and Carol Mueller, Women's Movements of the U.S. and W. Europe
Anne M. Costain, Inviting Women's Rebellion
Allen Hertzke, Echoes of Discontent

F. Path Dependence and Policy History (April 22)

* Suzan W Mettler, Soldiers to Citizens (2006 double prize winner), 1-14, 106-20 (+)
* Marie Gottschalk, The Prison and the Gallows, cptrs 1, 5, 7, 10.
* Daniel Tichenor, Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America
* Frederik Logevall, Choosing War, ch. 1, 9-12

Paul Pierson, Dismantling the Welfare State
Theda Skocpol, Protecting Soldiers and Mothers
Frank Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones. Agendas and Instability in American Politics.

G. Reprisal: Grand Questions, promising methods (April 29)