

POLS G6210: Theories & Debates in American Politics
Tuesdays 2:10-4:00pm, Fall 2016

Professor Justin Phillips

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Office hours: Wednesdays 2:00-4:00pm and by appointment

This is the first of two semester-long courses that provide graduate students with an overview of the scholarly study of American politics. These two courses constitute the American politics “field survey.” The field survey is designed for students who intend to specialize in American politics, as well as for those students whose primary interests are comparative politics, international relations, or political theory, but who desire an intensive introduction to the “American” style of political science. During this first course, we will focus largely, but not exclusively, on American political institutions (at the national, state, and local levels). Reading assignments are drawn heavily from foundational contributions (i.e., the canons of the American politics literature). Sessions will aim to clarify and probe the puzzles, theories, methods, and evidence presented in the various texts and to assess the contributions they make to an understanding of American politics and the broader development of social and political science. I also hope to give you a sense of the trends in scholarship in various substantive areas, draw your attention to research design issues, and help you locate areas for future work. The class is conducted predominantly in a discussion format.

Course Requirements

Readings and discussion

The readings, though extensive, are not comprehensive. Students are required to have completed the assigned weekly reading by each class and to arrive thoroughly prepared to contribute actively to all discussions. You should expect to be called on to discuss any reading in any session. There are required readings followed by a selection of recommended readings. This list is not comprehensive, but gives a sense of *some* additional readings of note.

For each book or article, students should focus on the following:

- 1) What is the research question?
- 2) What is the argument?
- 3) What evidence does the author provide?
- 4) What conclusions are reached?
- 5) Are you convinced? Why or why not?
- 6) How might the author’s research be improved?
- 7) In what ways does this article/book contribute to our existing understanding of American politics?

Assignments

All students will write four analytic response papers during the course of the semester. These papers must be typed (standard 12 pt. Times New Roman or equivalent) and double-spaced. Use

“parenthetical citation” (Shapiro and Lax 2008, 435). As Shapiro and Lax (2008, 435) say, “use parenthetical notation.” There is also a final exam after the last class.

The **response papers** should be no more than five pages in length. You must choose, in advance, the four weeks for which you will write a paper. The purpose of these papers is not to determine whether you have completed and understood the readings. Rather, they are assigned to help you develop your skills in the art of scholarly argumentation. It is thus vital that you not waste space or time summarizing the works. What you should do is critically analyze one or more of the week’s readings from the perspective of theory, logic, design, method, or evidence, assessing conclusions, relationships to other works, or contribution to the development of political science. You should stake out a coherent position clearly and forcefully in the first paragraph, then press it relentlessly forward. Papers that fail to develop a forceful, compelling argument will receive a poor mark. They should be carefully edited and tight. They do not demand reading or research beyond the week’s assignments. When in doubt, substitute more thinking for additional reading or writing. One print copy of the response paper is due in Professor Phillips’ mailbox by 1pm on the day of class. Late papers will not be accepted except by specific arrangement in advance!

The take-home **final exam** is similar to a comprehensive exam, albeit shorter. You will answer two questions from a list that I provide. Timing to be determined.

Grading

Course grades will reflect effort and performance in class discussions, papers, and the final exam. Weighting of components is as follows: participation 25%; short papers 50%; and final exam 25%.

Readings

September 13th: Congress: Representation and Institutionalization

Required:

- Polsby, Nelson W. 1968. “The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives.” *American Political Science Review* 62: 144-68.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1991. *Information and Legislative Organization*. University of Michigan Press. Chapters 1-3.
- Mayhew, David R. 1974. *Congress: The Electoral Connection*. Yale University Press.
- Wawro, Gregory J., and Eric Schickler. 2006. *Filibuster: Obstruction and Lawmaking in the U.S. Senate*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-4, 11.
- Sinclair, Barbara 2011. *Unorthodox Lawmaking: New Legislative Processes in the U.S. Congress*, 4th ed. Washington D.C.: Congressional Quarterly.

Recommended:

- Weingast, Barry and William Marshall. 1988. “The Industrial Organization of Congress.” *Journal of Political Economy* 96: 132-63.
- Snyder, James M. Jr. 1992. “Committee Power, Structure-Induced Equilibria, and Roll Call Votes.” *American Journal of Political Science* 36: 1–30.

- Shepsle, Ken and Barry Weingast. 1994. "Positive Theories of Congressional Institutions." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 19(2): 149-179.
- Gailmard, Sean and Jeffery Jenkins. 2009. "Agency Problems, the 17th Amendment, and Representation in the Senate." *American Journal of Political Science* 53: 324-42.
- Carson, Jamie L. and Erik J. Engstrom. 2005. "Assessing the Electoral Connection: Evidence from the Early United States." *American Journal of Political Science* 49: 746-757.
- Miller, Warren E., and Donald E. Stokes. 1963. "Constituency Influence in Congress." *American Political Science Review* 57: 45-56.
- Wawro, Gregory and Eric Schickler. 2004. "Where's the Pivot? Obstruction and Lawmaking in the Pre-cloture Senate." *American Journal of Political Science* 48:758-774.
- Arnold, R. Douglas. 1990. *The Logic of Congressional Action*. Yale University Press.

September 20th: Congress: Parties, Polarization and Ideology

Required:

- Cox, Gary, and Mathew D. McCubbins. 2005. *Setting the Agenda: Responsible Party Government in the US House of Representatives*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1998. *Pivotal Politics: A Theory of U.S. Lawmaking*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1-6, 8.
- Rohde, David W. 1991. *Parties and Leaders in the Post Reform House*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Poole, Keith T., and Howard Rosenthal. 2007. *Ideology and Congress*. 2nd revised ed. Edison, NJ: Transaction Publishers. Chapters 1-5.

Recommended:

- Aldrich, John. 2011. *Why Parties? A Second Look*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1993. "Where's the Party?" *British Journal of Political Science* 39: 958-980.
- Snyder, James M., and Timothy Groseclose. 2000. "Estimating Party Influence in Congressional Roll Call Voting." *American Journal of Political Science* 44: 193-211.
- McCarty, Nolan, Keith Poole, and Howard Rosenthal. 2001. "The Hunt for Party Discipline in Congress." *American Political Science Review* 95: 673-688.
- Smith, Steven S. 2007. *Party Influence in Congress*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Clinton Joshua D., Jackman Simon, Rivers Douglas. 2004. "The Statistical Analysis of Roll Call Voting: A Unified Approach." *American Political Science Review* 98:355-70.

September 27th: Presidency

Required:

- Neustadt, David. 1990. *Presidential Power*. Free Press. Chapters 1-8.

- Kernell, Samuel. 2007. *Going Public: New Strategies of Presidential Leadership*, 4th edition. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Press. Chapters 1-6.
- Howell, William G., Saul P. Jackman, and Jon C. Rogowski. 2013. *The Wartime President: Influence and Nationalizing Politics of Threat*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Canes-Wrone, Brandice and Scott DeMarchi. 2002. "Presidential Approval and Legislative Success." *The Journal of Politics* 64(2): 491-509.

Recommended:

- Schlesinger, Arthur Jr. 1973. *The Imperial Presidency*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Skowronek, Stephen. 1997. *The Politics Presidents Make: Leadership from John Adams to Bill Clinton*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Skowronek S. 2008. *Presidential Leadership in Political Time: Reprise and Reappraisal*. Lawrence: University Press Kansas.
- Edwards, George C., III, 2009. *The Strategic Presidency*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Cohen, Jeffrey E. 2012. *The President's Legislative Policy Agenda, 1789-2002*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Howell, William G., with David Milton Brent. 2013. *Thinking About the Presidency: The Primacy of Power*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- King, Gary. "The Methodology of Presidential Research." *Researching the Presidency*. ed. Michael Nelson. University of Pittsburgh Press.
- Moe, Terry M., and William G. Howell. 1999. "Unilateral Action and Presidential Power: A Theory." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 29(4): 850-872.
- Howell, William G. 2003. *Power without Persuasion: The Politics of Direct Presidential Action*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Canes-Wrone, Brandice. 2006. *Who Leads Whom? Presidents, Policy and the Public*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

October 4th: Bureaucracy

Required:

- Epstein, David, and Sharyn O'Halloran. 1999. *Delegating Powers: A Transaction Cost Politics Approach to Policymaking under Separate Powers*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-5, 7, 9.
- McCubbins, Matthew D., Roger G. Noll, and Barry R. Weingast. 1987. "Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control." *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* 3(2): 243-277.
- McCubbins, Matthew D., Thomas Schwartz. 1984. "Congressional Oversight Overlooked: Police Patrols vs. Fire Alarms." *American Journal of Political Science* 28(1): 165-79.
- Ting, Michael M. 2003. "A Strategic Theory of Bureaucratic Redundancy." *American Journal of Political Science* 47(2): 274-292.
- Carpenter, Dan. 2001. *The Forging of Bureaucratic Autonomy*. Princeton University Press. Introduction, Chapters 1, 4, 10, and Conclusion.

Recommended:

- Simon, Herbert. 1947. *Administrative Behavior*. Free Press.
- Niskanen, William. 1971. *Bureaucracy and Representative Democracy*. Chicago, IL: Aldine-Atherton. Chapters 1, 7, 17 and 21.
- Wilson, James Q. 1991. *Bureaucracy: What Government Agencies Do and Why They Do It*. New York, NY: Basic Books. Chapters 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9.
- Moe, Terry. 1984. "The New Economics of Organization," *American Journal of Political Science* 28: 739-777.
- Allison, Graham T. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review* 63(4): 689-718.
- Bendor, Jonathan, and Thomas H. Hammond. 1992. "Rethinking Allison's Models." *American Political Science Review* 86(2): 301-322.
- Heimann, C. F. Larry. 1993. "Understanding the Challenger Disaster: Organizational Structure and the Design of Reliable Systems." *American Political Science Review* 87(2): 421-435.
- Moe, Terry M. 1985. "Control and Feedback in Economic Regulation: The Case of the NLRB." *American Political Science Review* 79(4): 1094-1116.
- Calvert, Randy, Mark Moran, and Barry Weingast. 1987. "Congressional Influence Over Policy Making: The Case of the FTC." *Congress: Structure and Policy*. eds. McCubbins and Sullivan.
- Lewis, David. 2002. "The Politics of Agency Termination: Confronting the Myth of Agency Immortality." *The Journal of Politics* 64(1): 89-107.
- Huber, John and Charles Shipan. 2002. *Deliberate Discretion? The Institutional Foundations of Bureaucratic Autonomy*. Cambridge University Press.
- Carpenter, Dan P. 1998. "The Corporate Metaphor and Executive Department Centralization in the United States, 1888-1928." *Studies in American Political Development* 12(1): 162-203.
- Gordon, Sanford C., and Catherine Hafer. 2005. "Flexing Muscle: Corporate Political Expenditures as Signals to the Bureaucracy." *American Political Science Review*. 99(2): 245-262.
- Ting, Michael M. 2002. "A Theory of Jurisdictional Assignments in Bureaucracies." *American Journal of Political Science* 46(2): 364-78.
- Epstein, David, and Sharyn O'Halloran. 1994. "Administrative Procedures, Information, and Agency Discretion" *American Journal of Political Science* 38(3): 697-722.
- Epstein, David, and Sharyn O'Halloran. 1996. "Divided Government and the Design of Administrative Procedures: A Formal Model and Empirical Test." *The Journal of Politics* 58(2): 373-397.
- Bendor, Jonathan and Adam Meirowitz. 2004. "Spatial Models of Delegation." *American Political Science Review* 98: 293-310.
- Brehm, John and Scott Gates. 1993. "Donut Shops and Speed Traps: Evaluating Models of Supervision on Police Behavior." *American Journal of Political Science* 37: 555-581

October 11th: Courts

Required:

- Segal, Jeffrey, and Harold Spaeth. 2002. *The Supreme Court and the Attitudinal Model Revisited*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3 and 7-8.
- 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(3): 369- 384.
- Clark, Tom S. 2009. "The Separation of Powers, Court Curbing, and Judicial Legitimacy." *American Journal of Political Science* 53(4): 971–989.
- Kastellec, Jonathan. 2011. "Hierarchical and Collegial Politics on the U.S. Courts of Appeals" *The Journal of Politics* 73(2): 345-61.
- Lax, Jeffrey R. 2007. "Constructing Legal Rules on Appellate Courts: Median Rules Without a Median Judge." *American Political Science Review*. 101(3): 591-604.

Recommended:

- Cameron, Charles M., Jeffrey A. Segal, and Donald Songer. 2000. "Strategic Auditing in a Political Hierarchy: An Informational Model of the Supreme Court's Certiorari Decisions." *American Political Science Review*. 94(1): 101-116.
- Dahl, Robert A. "Decision Making in a Democracy: The Supreme Court as a National Policy Maker." *Journal of Public Law* 6 (1958): 279-95.
- Fischman JB, Law DS. 2009. "What Is Judicial Ideology, and How Should We Measure It?" *Journal of Law and Policy* 29:133. [Introduction, Part I, Part II]
- Epstein, Lee, and Jack Knight. 1998. *Choices Justices Make*. CQ Press. Preface and Chapters 1-3.
- 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(3): 625-661.
- Rosenberg, Gerald N. 1995. "The Real World of Constitutional Rights: The Supreme Court and the Implementation of Abortion Decisions." *Contemplating Courts*. ed. Lee Epstein. Congressional Quarterly Press.
- Rosenberg, Gerald. N. 1991. *The Hollow Hope*. University of Chicago Press.
- Richards MJ, Kritzer HM. 2002. "Jurisprudential Regimes in Supreme Court Decision Making." *American Political Science Review* 96:305–20.
- Lax, Jeffrey R., and Kelly T. Rader. 2010. "Legal Constraints on Supreme Court Decision Making: Do Jurisprudential Regimes Exist?" *Journal of Politics*. Vol. 71-2 (April), 2010. [also see response and rejoinder]
- Kornhauser, Lewis. 1999. "Appeal and Supreme Courts." *Encyclopedia of Law and Economics*. University of Ghent. Available at <http://encyclo.findlaw.com/7200book.pdf>
- Jacobi, Tonja. 2006. "The Impact of Positive Political Theory on Old Questions of Constitutional Law and the Separation of Powers," *Northwestern Law Review* 100(1): 259.
- Epp, Charles. *The Rights Revolution*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 2-4.

- Baum, Larry. 1998. *The Puzzle of Judicial Behavior*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Friedman, Barry. 2006. "Taking Law Seriously." *Perspectives on Politics* 4(2): 261-76.
- McNollgast, N. 1995. "Politics and the Court: A Positive Theory of Judicial Doctrine and the Rule of Law." *Southern California Law Review* 68(6): 1631-1684.
- Clark, Tom S. 2011. *The Limits of Judicial Independence*. Cambridge University Press.

October 18th: State Politics

Required:

- Erikson, Wright, and McIver. 1993. *Statehouse Democracy: Public Opinion and Policy in the American States*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-4.
- Lax, Jeffrey R. and Justin H. Phillips. 2012. "The Democratic Deficit in the States." *American Journal of Political Science* 56: 148-166.
- Kousser, Thad, and Justin H. Phillips. *The Power of American Governors: Winning on Budgets and Losing on Policy*. 2012. Chapters 1-6, 8.
- Huber, Gregory A. and Sanford C. Gordon. 2004. "Accountability and Coercion: Is Justice Blind When It Runs for Office?" *American Journal of Political Science* 48(2): 247-63.
- Masket, Seth and Boris Shor. 2015. "Polarization Without Parties: Term Limits and Legislative Partisanship in Nebraska's Unicameral Legislature." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 15(1): 67-90.

Recommended:

- Chubb, John. 1988. "Institutions, the Economy, and the Dynamics of State Elections," *American Political Science Review* 82: 133-154.
- Wright, Gerald C., and Brian F. Schaffner. 2002. "The Influence of Party: Evidence from the State Legislatures." *American Political Science Review* 96(2): 367-79.
- Cox, Gary C., Thad Kousser, and Mathew McCubbins. 2010. "Party Power or Preferences? Quasi-Experimental Evidence from American State Legislatures," *The Journal of Politics* 72(3): 799-811.
- Squire, Peverill and Keith Hamm. *101 Chambers: Congress, State Legislatures, and The Future of Legislative Studies*. Columbus, OH: Ohio State University Press.
- Squire, Peverill. 1992. "The Theory of Legislative Institutionalization and the California Assembly," *The Journal of Politics* 54: 1026-1054.
- Berry, William, Michael Berkman, and Stuart Schneiderman. 2000. "Legislative Professionalism and Incumbent Reelection: The Development of Institutional Boundaries," *American Political Science Review* 94: 859-874.
- Malhotra, Neil. 2006. "Government Growth and Professionalism in U.S. State Legislatures," *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 31(4): 563-584.
- Lax, Jeffrey R., and Justin H. Phillips. 2009. "How Should We Estimate Public Opinion in the States?" *American Journal of Political Science* 53(1): 107-21.
- Lax, Jeffrey R., and Justin H. Phillips. 2009. "Gay Rights in the States: Public Opinion and Policy Responsiveness." *American Political Science Review* 103(3): 367-86.

- Butler, Daniel and David Nickerson. 2011. "Can Learning Constituent Opinion Affect How Legislator's Vote? Results from a Field Experiment." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 6: 55-83.
- Gray, Virginia and David Lowery. 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.
- Gibson, James L. 2008. "Challenges to the Impartiality of State Supreme Courts: Legitimacy Theory and 'New-Style' Judicial Campaigns," *American Political Science Review* 102(1): 59-75.
- Shor, Boris, and Nolan M. McCarty. 2011. "The Ideological Mapping of American Legislatures." *American Political Science Review* 105: 530-551.

October 25th: Urban Politics

- Steven P. Erie. 1990. *Rainbow's End: Irish-Americans and the Dilemmas of Urban Machine Politics, 1840-1985*. University of California Press.
- Bridge, Amy. 1997. "Textbook Municipal Reform," *Urban Affairs Review* 33(1): 97-119.
- Paul E. Peterson. 1981. *City Limits*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1-4, 11.
- Stone, Clarence. 1989. *Regime Politics: Governing Atlanta*. University Press of Kansas.

Recommended:

- Dahl, Robert. 1961. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an America City*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Bachrach, Peter and Morton Baratz. 1962. "Two Faces of Power," *American Political Science Review* 56(4): 947-52.
- Richard DeLeon (1992). *Left Coast City: Progressive Politics in San Francisco, 1976-1991*. University Press of Kansas.
- John R. Logan and Harvey L. Molotch. 1987. *Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place*. University of California Press.
- Caro, Robert. 1974. *The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York*. Alfred A. Knopf.
- Erie, Steve. 1992. "How the Urban West Was Won: The Local State and Economic Growth in Los Angeles, 1880-1932." *Urban Affairs Quarterly* 27(4): 519-54.
- Fuchs, Esther. 1992. *Mayors and Money: Fiscal Policy in New York and Chicago*. University of Chicago Press.
- Bridges, Amy. 1997. *Morning Glories: Municipal Reform in the Southwest*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Thomas J. Sugrue. 1998. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Browning, Rufus P. and David H. Tabb. 1986. *Protest is Not Enough: The Struggle of Blacks and Hispanics for Equality in Urban Politics*. University of California Press.
- Jones-Correa, Michael. 1998. *Between Two Nations: The Political Predicament of Latinos in New York City*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

- Gerber, Elisabeth and Daniel J. Hopkins. 2011. “When Mayors Matter: Estimating the Impact of Mayoral Partisanship on City Policy,” *American Journal of Political Science*. 55(2): 326-39.
- Hajnal, Zoltan. 2006. *Changing White Attitudes Toward Black Political Leadership*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

November 1st: Federalism and Fragmentation

- Tiebout, Charles M. 1956. “A Pure Theory of Local Expenditures,” *Journal of Political Economy* 64(5): 416-424.
- Berry, Chris. 2009. *Imperfect Union: Representation and Taxation in Multilevel Governments*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Volden, Craig. 2006. “States as Policy Laboratories: Emulating Success in the Children’s Health Insurance Program,” *American Journal of Political Science* 50(2): 294-312.
- Anzia, Sarah F. 20014. *Timing and Turnout: How Off-Cycle Elections Favor Organized Groups*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Recommended:

- Hamilton, A, Madison J, Jay J. 2009. *The Federalist Papers* (1787–1788), ed. I Shapiro. New Haven, CT: Yale Univ. Press.
- Riker, William H. 1964. *Federalism: Origin, Operation, Significance*. Boston: Little, Brown.
- Brennan G, Buchanan JM. 1980. *The Power to Tax: Analytical Foundations of a Fiscal Constitution*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Oates, William E. 1999. “An Essay on Fiscal Federalism.” *Journal of Economic Literature* 37(3): 1120–49.
- Rodden, Jonathan. 2006. *Hamilton’s Paradox: The Promise and Peril of Fiscal Federalism*. Cambridge University Press.
- Bednar, Jenna. 2008. *The Robust Federation: Principals of Design*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Scholz, John T. 1986. “Regulatory Enforcement in a Federalist System.” *American Political Science Review* 80:1249-1270.
- Walker, Jack. 1969. “The Diffusion of Innovations among the American States,” *American Political Science Review* 63: 880-899.
- Shipan, Charles R and Craig Volden. 2006. “Bottom-Up Federalism: The Diffusion of Anti-Smoking Policies from Cities to States.” *American Journal of Political Science* 50(4): 825-43.
- Volden, Craig, Michael M. Ting, and Daniel P. Carpenter. 2008. “A Formal Model of Learning and Policy Diffusion,” *American Political Science Review* 102(3): 319-32.
- Volden, Craig. 2002. “The Politics of Competitive Federalism: A Race to the Bottom in Welfare Benefits?” *American Journal of Political Science* 46:352-64.
- Miller, Gary. 1981. *Cities by Contract: The Politics of Municipal Incorporation*
- Burns, Nancy. 1994. *Formation of American Local Governments: Private Values in Public Institutions*

- Mullin, Megan. 2008. "The Conditional Effect of Specialized Governance on Public Policy," *American Journal of Political Science* 52(1): 125-141.

November 8th: University Holiday

November 15th: The Nature and Origins of American Public Opinion

Required:

- Converse, Phillip. 1964. "The Nature of Beliefs Systems in the Mass Public," (reprinted in *Critical Review* 2006, pages 1-74.
- Page, Benjamin and Robert Shapiro. 1992. *The Rational Public*. University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1, 2, 7-10.
- Zaller, John. 1992. *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-4, 12.
- Delli Carpini, Michael and Keeter. 1996. *What Americans Know about Politics and Why it Matters*. Yale University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 4, 6.
- Fiorina, Morris, Samuel J. Abrams, and Jeremy C. Pope. 2010. *Culture War? The Myth of a Polarized America*. Longman Publishers. 3rd Edition.

Recommended:

- Converse, Phillip. 1990. "Popular Representation and the Distribution of Information," in *Information and the Democratic Process*. ed. John Ferejohn and James Kuklinski. University of Illinois at Urbana Press.
- Gilens, Martin. 2001. "Political Ignorance and Collective Preferences," *American Political Science Review* 95: 379-396.
- Carsey, Thomas M. and Geoffrey C. Layman. 2006. "Changing Sides or Changing Minds? Party Identification and Policy Preferences in the American Electorate." *American Journal of Political Science* Vol. 50(2): 464-477.
- Althaus, Scott L. 2003. *Collective Preferences in Democratic Politics: Opinion Surveys and the Will of the People*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Erikson, Robert and Kent Tedin. 2011. *American Public Opinion*. 8th edition. Longman Publishers.
- Lupia, Arthur. 1994. "Shortcuts Versus Encyclopedias: Information and Voting Behavior in California Insurance Reform Elections," *American Political Science Review* 88: 63-76.
- Zaller, John. 1991. "Information, Values, and Opinions." *American Political Science Review*. 85(4): 1215-1237.

November 22nd: Public Opinion and Government Responsiveness

Required:

- Page, Benjamin I., and Robert Y. Shapiro. 1983. "The Effects of Public Opinion on Policy." *American Political Science Review* 77 (1): 175-90.
- Stimson, James A. 2004. *Tides of Consent*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

- Jacobs, Lawrence R. and Robert Shapiro. 2000. *Politicians Don't Pander: Political Manipulation and the Loss of Democratic Responsiveness*, 2nd edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Bafumi, Joseph and Michael C. Heron. 2010. "Leapfrog Representation and Extremism: A Study of American Voters and Their Members in Congress," *American Political Science Review* 104(3): 519-42.

Recommended:

- Erikson, MacKuen, and Stimson. 2002. *The Macro Polity*. Cambridge University Press.
- Stimson, James A., Michael B. MacKuen, and Robert S. Erikson. 1995. "Dynamic Representation." *American Political Science Review* 89: 543-65
- Soroka, Stuart and Christopher Wlezien. 2010. *Degrees of Democracy: Politics, Public Opinion and Policy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

November 29th: Policymaking

Required:

- Baumgartner, Frank R. and Bryan Jones. 2009. *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*, Second Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Cameron, Charles. 2000. *Veto Bargaining: Presidents and the Politics of Negative Power*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1, 3-6.
- Gerber, Elisabeth R. 1996. "Legislative Response to the Threat of Popular Initiatives." *American Journal of Political Science* 40: 99-128.
- Campbell, Andrea L. 2005. *How Policies Make Citizens: Senior Political Activism and the American Social Welfare State*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Recommended:

- Schattschneider, EE. 1960. *The Semi-Sovereign People: A Realist's View of Democracy in America*. Holt, Rinehart and Winston.
- Cobb, Roger W. and Charles D. Elder. 1975. *Participation in American Politics: The Dynamics of Agenda Building*. The Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Kingdon, John W. 1995. *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies*, 2nd edition. New York: Addison-Wesley.
- Carmines, Edward G. and James A. Stimson. 1989. *Issue Evolution: Race and the Transformation of American Politics*. Princeton, New Jersey. Princeton University Press.
- Mettler, Suzanne, and Joe Soss. 2004. "The Consequences of Public Policy for Democratic Citizenship: Bridging Policy Studies and Mass Politics." *Perspectives on Politics* 2(1): 55-73.
- Matsusaka, John. 2004. *For the Many or the Few: The Initiative, Public Policy, and American Democracy*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Gamble, Barbara. 1997. "Putting Civil Rights to a Popular Vote," *American Journal of Political Science* 41: 245-69.
- Gerber, Elisabeth R. 1999. *The Populist Paradox: Interest Group Influence and the Promise of Direct Legislation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

- Romer, Thomas and Howard Rosenthal. 1979. "Bureaucrats Versus Voters: On the Political Economy of Resource Allocation by Direct Democracy," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 93(4): 563-587.
- Groseclose, Tim and Nolan McCarty. 2001 "The Politics of Blame: Bargaining Before an Audience," *American Journal of Political Science* 45(1): 100-19.

December 6th: Inequality

Required:

- Gilens, Martin. 2012. *Affluence and Influence: Economic Inequality and Political Power in America*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-5, and 8.
- Carnes, Nicholas. 2013. *White-Collar Government: The Hidden Role of Class in Economic Policymaking*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Kalla, Joshua and David Broockman. Forthcoming. "Congressional Officials Grant Access to Individuals Because They Have Contributed to Campaigns: A Randomized Field Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science*.
- Gilens, Martin. 1996. "Race Coding and White Opposition to Welfare," *American Political Science Review* 90(3): 593-604.

Recommended:

- Butler, Daniel M. 2014. *Representing the Advantaged: How Politicians Reinforce Inequality*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Bartels, Larry M. 2008. *Unequal Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age*. Princeton University Press.
- Schlozman, Kay Lehman, Sidney Verba, and Henry E. Brady. 2012. *The Unheavenly Chorus*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Bhatti, Yosef, and Robert Erikson. How Poorly are the Poor Represented in the US Senate? (in *Who Gets Represented?*, Peter Enns and Christopher Wlezien, eds).
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