

Political Science W1201: Introduction to American Politics

Fall 2012

Monday and Wednesday, 10:10-11:25 am

Mathematics 207

Professor Justin Phillips

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733 International Affairs Building

Office Hours: Mondays 2-4 pm

& by appointment

TAs & Section Times:

Albert Fang

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Wednesday 1:10-2:00pm 402 Hamilton Hall

Wednesday 2:10-3:00pm 201D Philosophy Hall

Patricia Kirkland

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Friday 11:00-11:50am 201 80 Claremont Ave.

Friday 12:00-12:50pm 201 80 Claremont Ave.

Amber Spry

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Thursday 12:00-12:50pm 402 International Affairs Building

Thursday 1:10-2:00pm 402 International Affairs Building

Alissa Stollwerk

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Thursday 2:10-3:00pm 201 80 Claremont Ave.

Thursday 3:10-4:00pm 201 80 Claremont Ave.

Course Requirements:

Students must complete the assigned readings and attend class and discussion sections. Additionally, students are required to write three exams, each of which will consist of several short answer questions and one longer essay. Exams will cover material from both the lectures and assigned readings. Each exam will count for 30% of the course grade; participation in discussion section will count for the remaining 10%. All students *must* sit for their exams on the assigned day and at the assigned time. Only university-approved absences are allowed.

Note: All students must register for and attend a discussion section. You cannot take this course unless you are registered for a section.

Books to be purchased: (available from Book Culture)

The Logic of American Politics, 5th Edition (LOGIC)

Principles and Practices of American Politics: Classic and Contemporary Readings, 5th Edition (P&P)

P. Woll, *American Government: Readings and Cases*, 19th Edition (W)

Course Outline

1. Foundations

September 5th: Introduction & Overview of Course

- No assigned reading

September 10th & 12th: The Logic of Politics

- Chapter 1 (LOGIC)
- Mancur Olson, *The Logic of Collective Action* (P&P)
- Garrett Hardin, *The Tragedy of the Commons* (P&P)
- Bruce Ackerman, *The Citizenship Agenda* (P&P)

September 17th & 19th: The Founding & the Constitution

- Chapter 2 (LOGIC)
- Articles of Confederation (LOGIC; Appendix 1)
- The Constitution (LOGIC; Appendix 3)
- Roche, *The Founding Fathers: A Reform Caucus in Action* (P&P)
- Federalist 10, 51 (P&P)
- Anti-Federalist 3 (P&P)

September 24th & 26th: Federalism

- Chapter 3 (Logic)
- Federalist 16, 17, 39, 45 (W)
- United States v. Morrison (W)
- United States v. Raich (W)
- Donald F. Kettl, *Federalism: Sorting Out Who Does What* (P&P)
- Jonathan Roth, *A Separate Peace* (P&P)

October 1st: Civil Rights

- Chapter 4 (LOGIC)
- Anti-Federalist 84 (W)
- Plessy v. Ferguson (W)
- Brown v. Board of Education, 1954 & 1955 (W)

October 3rd: Civil Liberties

- Chapter 5 (LOGIC)
- Griswold v. Connecticut (W)
- Roe v. Wade (P&P)
- Gerald N. Rosenberg, *The Real World of Constitutional Rights: The Supreme Court and Implementation of the Abortion Decisions* (P&P)

- University of California Board of Regents v. Bakke (W)
- District of Columbia v. Heller (W)

October 8th: Exam #1

2. Institutions

October 10th & 15th: The Legislative Branch

- Chapter 6 (LOGIC)
- Federalist 53, 56, 57, 58, 62, 63 (W)
- Steven S. Smith, *The Troubled Institution* (P&P)
- John Aldrich and David W. Rhode, *Congressional Committees in a Continuing Partisan Era* (P&P)
- Sarah Binder, *The Politics of Legislative Stalemate* (P&P)

October 17th & 22nd: The Presidency

- Chapter 7 (LOGIC)
- Federalist 70 (W)
- Richard E. Neustadt, *Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents: The Politics of Leadership from Roosevelt to Reagan* (P&P)
- Samuel Kernell, *Going Public: New Strategies in Presidential Leadership* (P&P)
- *Winning in 2012: CQ Press's Guide to the Elections*

October 24th: The Bureaucracy

- Chapter 8 (LOGIC)
- Terry Moe, *The Politics of Bureaucratic Structure* (P&P)
- David E. Lewis, *The Politics of Presidential Appointments* (P&P)
- Mathew McCubbins, Roger Noll, and Barry Weingast, *Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control* (P&P)

October 29th & October 31st: The Judiciary

- Chapter 9 (LOGIC)
- Federalist 78 (P&P)
- Marbury v. Madison (W)
- Robert A. Carp, Ronald Stidham, and Kenneth L. Manning, *The Voting Behavior of Barack Obama's Judges* (P&P)
- Antonin Scalia, *A Matter of Interpretation, Federal Courts and the Law* (P&P)
- Stephen Breyer, *Active Liberty: Interpreting Our Democratic Constitution* (P&P)

November 5th: University Holiday

3. Political Behavior

November 7th: Public Opinion

- Chapter 10 (LOGIC)
- Herbert Asher, *Analyzing and Interpreting Polls* (P&P)
- Robert Putnam and David Campbell, *Religion in American Politics* (P&P)
- James Stimson, Michael MacKuen, and Robert Erikson, *Dynamic Representation* (P&P)
- James Wilson, *How Divided Are We?* (P&P)

November 12th: Exam #2

November 14th: Public Opinion continued...

November 19th: Voting, Campaigns, and Elections

- Chapter 11 (LOGIC)
- Samuel Popkin from *The Reasoning Voter* (P&P)
- Gary Jacobson, *No Compromise: The Electoral Origins of Legislative Gridlock* (P&P)
- Michael Schudson, *America's Ignorant Voters* (P&P)
- Paul Blumenthal, *Super PACs and Secret Money* (P&P)

November 21st: No Lecture

November 26th: Voting, Campaigns, and Elections continued...

November 28th: Political Parties

- Chapter 12 (LOGIC)
- John Aldrich from *Why Parties? The Origins and Transformation of Political Parties in America* (P&P)
- Larry Bartels, *Partisanship and Voting Behavior, 1952-1996* (P&P)
- Morris P. Fiorina, *Parties as Problem Solvers* (P&P)

December 3rd: Interest Groups

- Chapter 13 (LOGIC)
- Jeffrey M. Berry, *Madison's Dilemma* (W)
- E.E. Schattschneider, *The Scope and Bias of the Pressure System* (P&P)
- John Wright, *The Evolution of Interest Groups* (P&P)
- Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (W)

December 5th: The News Media

- Chapter 14 (LOGIC)
- James T. Hamilton, *The Market and the Media* (P&P)
- Mathew Baum and Tim Groeling, *War Stories* (P&P)
- Kirsten Purcell et al, *Understanding the Participatory News Consumer* (P&P)

December 10th: Exam #3