

**POLS 5300  
Fall 2019**

**American Government and Politics  
Tuesday 7:00 – 9:50 PM  
First Class Location: 428 Life Sciences Building  
Subsequent Class Location: 455 University Hall**

Instructor: Dr. Brent Boyea  
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E-mail: [boyea@uta.edu](mailto:boyea@uta.edu)  
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Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/brent-boyea>  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:15AM-12:00PM and by appointment

**I. Introduction:**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the theoretical and empirical issues explored in the study of American government and politics at the national and subnational levels. We will cover the gamut from American political development, political behavior, parties and interest groups, and institutional perspectives of American political offices. The course is a survey of important books and articles on various aspects of American politics with the intent to familiarize the student with core ideas and debates in the subfield.

The structure of the course material and objectives for the course are intended for a graduate student's first introduction to the subfield of American politics. Our focus will be on the institutions of American government, the behavior of those influencing those institutions, and how those institutions shape behavior. We will consider both the logic and nature of evidence supporting the arguments presented during the course.

**II. Required Text:**

There are several required books for this class, which will be available for purchase at the University Bookstore or through an on-line bookseller. If purchasing on-line, use expedited shipping as readings will begin immediately.

1. Bailey, Michael, and Forrest Maltzman. 2011. *The Constrained Court: Law, Politics, and the Decisions Justices Make*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (ISBN – 9780691151052)
  - Online copy available through university library
2. Baumgartner, Frank, and Brian Jones. 2009. *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*, Second Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (ISBN – 9780226039497)
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period
3. Cameron, Charles. 2000. *Veto Bargaining: Presidents and the Politics of Negative Power*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (ISBN - 9780521625500)
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period

4. Cohen, Marty, David Karol, Hans Noel, and John Zaller. 2008. *The Party Decides: Presidential Nominations Before and After Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (ISBN - 9780226112374)
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period
5. Cox, Gary, and Mathew McCubbins. 1993. *Legislative Leviathan: Party Government in the House*. Oakland: University of California Press. (ISBN – 9780520072206)
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period
6. Raymond La Raja and Brian Schaffner. 2015. *Campaign Finance and Political Polarization: When Purists Prevail*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press. (ISBN – 9780472052998).
  - Online copy available through university library
7. Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. (ISBN - 9780674537514)
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period
8. Schickler, Eric. 2001. *Disjointed Pluralism: Institutional Innovation and the Development of the U.S. Congress*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (ISBN - 9780691049267)
  - Online copy available through university library
9. Zaller, John. 1992. *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (ISBN – 9780521407861)
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period
10. Prepared Book Readings. UTA Libraries Online: Course Reserves. URL: [https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course\\_reserves/5793568570004911](https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves/5793568570004911)
11. Prepared Articles on Canvas. To access Canvas, visit <https://www.uta.edu/provost/Canvas/uta-canvas-login.php> or contact the Office of Information Technology Help Desk at 817-272-2208.

### III. Course Requirements:

1. Attendance and Participation – Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend each class and to arrive on time prepared to discuss the current week's readings. Class participation should reflect careful thinking about the readings. Each student will be assigned readings during several weeks of the semester; whereby, students will be responsible for discussing the articles for that week as an in-class leader. While all students are expected to complete the readings and to be prepared to discuss the week's readings, participation as the reading's leader will provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate their broader command of the week's subject. As noted in the schedule, some of the articles are posted on Canvas. Lastly, laptop computers or tablets should be used for class purposes only. While the benefits of laptops and tablets are numerous, they generally are inappropriate for graduate seminars.
2. Student Leader/Topic Papers – In three classes throughout the semester, students will be required to be a leader for that week's readings. For those classes, the student leaders will deliver to the class a four-page double-spaced paper that describes the theory, hypotheses, data/methodology, and conclusions of that week's readings. Connections between the readings must be made. Those papers should give careful attention to any additional student leader readings and describe how those readings tie to the larger subject area. Papers must be emailed to Dr. Boyea by 9AM of the morning of our class and will be distributed by Dr. Boyea in class readings. Weekly leader assignments will be distributed September 3rd. Late topic papers (i.e., those received after 9AM on class days) will not be accepted.

3. Research Paper – Each student is required to write a semester research paper related to one of the themes of the course (e.g., voter turnout, political party competition, legislative elections, judicial behavior, etc.). Research should be independent and include the general components of a research design, including a research question, literature review, and several well-stated and theoretically sound hypotheses. Further, introductory quantitative analysis is required as a component of the paper, meaning the use of data and state-level datasets to test theoretical assumptions using descriptive statistics and perhaps causal statistics (i.e., chi-squared test). A list of acceptable datasets will be distributed towards the beginning of the semester. A single-spaced one-page research proposal with a specific research question, several primary hypotheses, relevant non-class literature, the source of the data, and the justification for the topic is due on October 8th. A written and stapled version of the proposal must be submitted in class and not by email. Failure to turn in the prospectus will result in a two-grade penalty (20 points) on the final paper grade. Completed papers are due on November 26th. Late papers will *not* be accepted.
4. Final Examination – There will be a final examination that will include one broad essay question. Exams will be distributed on December 3rd. All students will take the examination at the assigned time with no make-up exam allowed except for situations such as medical emergencies, deaths in the family, etc. In such situations, students are expected to contact the instructor during the day of the exam and are required to present proof of a medical emergency. Failure to take an examination will result in a failing grade (0).

#### IV. Grading

Grades will be posted on Canvas. To access the extra-credit quizzes and your grades on Canvas, log in with your UTA email address and password at [uta.instructure.com](http://uta.instructure.com). If you have difficulty with Canvas, visit <https://www.uta.edu/provost/Canvas/uta-canvas-login.php> or contact the Office of Information Technology Help Desk at 817-272-2208. The grade components of the course are:

1. Attendance and Participation – 20%
2. Topic Papers – 30%
3. Research Paper – 30%
  - a. Prospectus Due on October 8th
  - b. Final Research Paper Due on November 26th
4. Final Examination – 20%

The grading scale is as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Policy on incomplete grades (I's): Given that an incomplete grade can be a permanent grade assignment, incompletes are strongly avoided. An incomplete grade will be assigned only in the most extreme cases of sickness that occur after the university's withdrawal deadline.

#### V. Class Schedule:

Week 1: August 27

Introduction to the Course and Review of Syllabus

Week 2: September 3

Studying American Institutions: Incentives and Decision-making

*Required Readings:*

- Hall, Peter, and Rosemary Taylor. 1996. Political Science and the Three New Institutionalisms. *Political Studies* 44: 936-957. (<https://search-ebSCOhost-com.ezproxy.uta.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=9705162186&site=ehost-live>)
- Polsby, Nelson. 1968. "The Institutionalization of the US House of Representatives." *APSR* 62: 144-168. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/1953331>)
- Weingast, Barry. 1979. "A Rational Choice Perspective on Congressional Norms." *AJPS* 23:245-262. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2111001>)
- Ragsdale, Lyn, and John Theis, III. 1997. "The Institutionalization of the American Presidency, 1924-92." *AJPS* 1280-1318. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2960490>)
- Walker, Thomas, Lee Epstein, and William Dixon. 1988. "On the Mysterious Demise of Consensual Norms in the United States Supreme Court." *JOP* 50: 361-389. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2131799>)

*Suggested Readings:*

- Riker, William. 1980. "Implications from the Disequilibrium of Majority Rule for the Study of Institutions." *APSR* 74: 432-458.
- Hibbing, John. 1988. "Legislative Institutionalization with Illustrations from the British House of Commons." *AJPS* 32: 681-712.
- March, James, and Johan Olsen. 1984. "The New Institutionalism: Organizational Factors in Politics." *APSR* 78: 734-749.
- North, Douglass C. 1990. *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*.
- Diermeier, Daniel, and Keith Krehbiel. 2003. "Institutionalism as a Methodology." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 15:123-144.

Week 3: September 10

Public Opinion

*Required Readings:*

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

*Suggested Readings:*

- Campbell, Angus, Philip Converse, Warren Miller, and Donald Stokes. 1960. *The American Voter*.
- Key, Jr., V.O. 1961. *Public Opinion and American Democracy*.
- Almond, Gabriel, and Sidney Verba. 1963. *The Civic Culture: Political Attitudes and Democracy in Five Nations*.

- Converse, Philip. 1964. "The Nature of Mass Belief Systems in Mass Publics." in *Ideology and Discontent*, ed. David Apter, pp. 206-261.
- Stimson, James. 1991. *Public Opinion in America: Moods, Cycles, and Swings*.
- Zaller, John, and Stanley Feldman. 1992. "A Simple Theory of the Survey Response: Answering Questions versus Revealing Preferences." *AJPS* 36: 579-616.
- Hibbing, John, and Elizabeth Theis-Morse. 2002. *Stealth Democracy*.
- Gaines, Brian, et al. 2007. "Same Facts, Different Interpretations: Partisan Motivation and Opinion on Iraq." *JOP* 69: 957-974.
- Prior, Markus. 2010. "You've Either Got It or You Don't? The Stability of Political Interest over the Life Cycle." *JOP* 72: 747-766.

Week 4: September 17  
Participation

*Required Readings:*

- Downs, Anthony. 1957. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. New York: Harper and Row.
- Will discuss access to book in class
  - One hardcopy on reserve through university library, 24-hour loan period
- Additional student leader reading: Gerber, Alan, Donald Green, and Christopher Larimer. 2008. "Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-scale Field Experiment." *APSR* 102: 33-48. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/27644496>)

*Suggested Readings:*

Voter Turnout

- Riker, William, and Peter Ordeshook. 1968. "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting," *APSR* 62: 25-42.
- Ansolabehere, Stephen, Shanto Iyengar, Adam Simon, and Nicholas Valentino. 1994. "Does Attack Advertising Demobilize the Electorate?" *APSR* 88: 829-838.
- Rosenstone, Steven, and John Mark Hansen. 1993. *Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America*.
- Geer, John. 2006. *In Defense of Negativity: Attack Ads in Presidential Campaigns*.

Voting Choice

- Fiorina, Morris. 1981. "Retrospective Voting in American National Elections: A Micro-Analysis." *AJPS* 22: 426-443.
- Popkin, Samuel. 1991. *The Reasoning Voter: Communication and Persuasion in Presidential Campaigns*.
- Lau, Richard, and David Redlawsk. 1997. "Voting Correctly." *APSR* 91: 585-97.
- Alford, John, Caroline Funk, and John Hibbing. 2005. "Are Political Orientations Genetically Transmitted?" *APSR* 99: 153-67.

Week 5: September 24  
Interest Groups

*Required Readings:*

- Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Additional student leader reading: Hall, Richard, and Frank Wayman. 1990. "Buying Time: Moneyed Interests and the Mobilization of Bias in Congressional Committees." *APSR* 84: 797-820. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/1962767>)

*Suggested Readings:*

- Truman, David. 1971 (1951). *The Governmental Process*.
- Shattschneider, E.E. 1960. *The Semisovereign People: A Realist's View of Democracy in America*.
- Walker, Jack. 1966. "A Critique of the Elitist Theory of Democracy." *APSR* 60: 287–95.
- Salisbury, Robert. 1969. "An Exchange Theory of Interest Groups." *Midwest Journal of Political Science* 13: 1-32.
- Lowi, Theodore. 1979. *The End of Liberalism*.
- Walker, Jack. 1983 "The Origins and Maintenance of Interest Groups in America." *APSR* 77: 390-406.
- Chong, Dennis. 1991. *Collective Action and the Civil Rights Movement*.
- Baumgartner, Frank, and Beth Leech. 1998. *Basic Interests: The Importance of Groups in Politics and in Political Science*.
- Baumgartner, Frank, et al. 2009. *Lobbying & Policy Change*.
- Schlozman, Kay, Sidney Verba, and Henry Brady. 2012. *The Unheavenly Chorus*.
- Hojnacki, Marie, et al. 2015. "Assessing Business Advantage in Washington Lobbying." *Interest Groups & Advocacy* 4: 205-224.

Week 6: October 1

Political Parties

*Required Readings:*

- Cohen, Marty, David Karol, Hans Noel, and John Zaller. 2008. *The Party Decides: Presidential Nominations Before and After Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

*Suggested Readings:*

Overview of Political Parties/Parties as Organizations

- APSA Committee on Political Parties. 1950. "Towards a More Responsible Two-Party System," *APSR* 64:1-96.
- Aldrich, John. 1995. *Why Parties?*
- Herrnson, Paul. 2009. "The Roles of Party Organizations, Party-Connected Committees, and Party Allies in Elections." *JOP* 71:1207-1224.

Polarization

- Hetherington, Marc. 2001. "Resurgent Mass Partisanship: The Role of Elite Polarization." *APSR* 3:619-631.
- Layman, Geoffrey, and Thomas Carsey. 2002. "Party Polarization and 'Conflict Extension' in the American Electorate." *AJPS* 46:786-802.
- McCarty, Nolan, Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal. 2006. *Polarized America: The Dance of Ideology Unequal Riches*.
- Abramowitz, Alan, and Kyle Saunders. 2008. "Is Polarization a Myth?" *JOP* 70: 542-555.
- Bartels, Larry. 2008. *Unequal Democracy*.
- McCarty, Nolan, Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal. 2009. "Does Gerrymandering Cause Polarization?" *AJPS* 53: 666-680.

Electoral Mobilization

- Huckfeldt, Robert, and John Sprague. 1992. "Political Parties and Electoral Mobilization: Political Structure, Social Structure, and the Party Canvass." *APSR* 86:70-86.

Week 7: October 8  
Congress

*Required Readings:*

- Cox, Gary, and Mathew McCubbins. 1993. *Legislative Leviathan: Party Government in the House*. Oakland: University of California Press.
- Additional student leader reading: Miller, Warren, and Donald Stokes. 1963. "Constituency Influence in Congress." *APSR* 57: 45-56. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/1952717>)

*Suggested Readings:*

Congressional Elections

- Jacobson, Gary. 1987. *The Politics of Congressional Elections*.

The Electoral Connection

- Mayhew, David. 1974. *The Electoral Connection*.
- Fenno, Jr., Richard. 1978. *Home Style: House Members in Their Districts*.
- Arnold, R. Douglas. 1990. *The Logic of Congressional Action*.
- Cox, Gary, and Jonathan Katz. 1996. "Why Did the Incumbency Advantage in U.S. House Elections Grow?" *AJPS* 40, No. 2: 478-497.
- Ferejohn, John. 1986. "Incumbent Performance and Electoral Control." *Public Choice* 50: 5-25.
- Ashworth, Scott. 2012. "Electoral Accountability: Recent Theoretical and Empirical Work." *ARPS* 15: 183-201.
- Grimmer, Justin, Solomon Messing, and Sean Westwood. 2012. "How Words and Money Cultivate a Personal Vote." *APSR* 106: 703-719.

Committees in Congress

- Fenno, Jr., Richard. 1973. *Congressmen in Committees*.
- Shepsle, Kenneth. 1979. "Institutional Arrangements and Equilibrium in Multidimensional Voting Models." *AJPS* 23: 27-59.
- Niou, Emerson, and Peter Ordshook. 1985. "Universalism in Congress." *AJPS* 29: 246-258.
- Hall, Peter. 1996. *Participation in Congress*.
- Baron, David, and John Ferejohn. 1989. "Bargaining in Legislatures," *APSR* 83:1181-1206.
- Shepsle, Kenneth, and Barry Weingast, eds. 1995. *Positive Theories of Congressional Institutions*.

Legislative Leadership and Political Parties

- Krehbiel, Keith. 1991. *Information and Legislative Organization*.
- Krehbiel, Keith. 1993. "Where's the Party?" *BJPS* 23: 235-266.
- Binder, Sarah. 1996. "The Partisan Basis of Procedural Choice: Parliamentary Rights in the House, 1789-1990." *APSR* 90: 8-20.
- Poole, Keith, and Howard Rosenthal. 1997. *Congress: A Political-Economic History of Roll Call Voting*.
- Schickler, Eric, and Andrew Rich. 1997. "Controlling the Floor: Parties as Procedural Coalitions in the House." *AJPS* 41: 1340-1375.
- Schickler, Eric. 2000. "Institutional Change in the House of Representatives, 1867-1998: A Test of Partisan and Ideological Power Balance Models." *APSR* 94: 269-288.
- Snyder, Jr., James, and Tim Groseclose. 2000. "Estimating Party Influence in Congressional Roll-Call Voting." *AJPS* 44: 193-211.

- McCarty, Nolan, Keith Poole, and Howard Rosensthal. 2001. "The Hunt for Party Discipline." *APSR* 95: 673-687.
- Gailmard, Sean, and Jeff Jenkins. 2007. "Negative Agenda Control in the Senate and House." *JOP* 69: 689-700.
- Smith, Steven. 2007. *Party Influence in Congress*.
- Butler, Daniel, and Eleanor Powell. 2014. "Understanding the Party Brand: Experimental Evidence on the Role of Valence." *JOP* 76: 492-505.

Ambitions and Institutional Structure

- Rohde, David. 1979. "Risk-Bearing and Progressive Ambition: The Case of Members of the United States House of Representatives." *AJPS* 23: 1-26.
- Hibbing, John. 1986. "Ambition in the House: Behavioral Consequences of Higher Office Goals Among U.S. Representatives." *AJPS* 30: 651-665.
- Schlesinger, Joseph. 1994. *Political Parties and the Winning of Office*.

Week 8: October 15

Research Day

Week 9: October 22

Congress II/American Political Development

*Required Readings:*

- Schickler, Eric. 2001. *Disjointed Pluralism: Institutional Innovation and the Development of the U.S. Congress*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

*Suggested Readings:*

American Political Development

- Hacker, Jacob. 1998. "The Historical Logic of National Health Insurance: Structure and Sequence in the Development of British, Canadian, and U.S. Medical Policy." *SAPD* 12: 57-130.
- Pierson, Paul. 2000. "Not Just What, but When: Timing and Sequence in Political Processes." *SAPD* 14: 72-92.
- Hacker, Jacob. 2001. *The Divided Welfare State: The Battle over Public and Private Social Benefits in the United States*.

Week 10: October 29

Divided Government and Realignment

*Required Readings:*

- Fiorina, Morris. 1992. "An Era of Divided Government." *Political Science Quarterly* 107: 387-410. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2152437>)
- Sigelman, Lee, Paul Wahlbeck, and Emmett Buell, Jr. 1997. "Vote Choice and the Preferences for Divided Government: Lessons of 1992." *AJPS* 41: 879-894. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2111678>)
- Sundquist, James. 1988. "Needed: A Political Theory for the New Era of Coalition Government in the United States." *Political Science Quarterly* 103: 613-635. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2150899>)
- Binder, Sarah. 1999. "The Dynamics of Legislative Gridlock, 1947-1996." *APSR* 93: 519-534. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/2585572>)



Mayhew, David R. 2000. "Electoral Realignments." *ARPS* 3: 449-74.  
(<http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.polisci.3.1.449>)  
Additional student leader reading: To be determined

*Suggested Readings:*

Causes of Divided Government

- Fiorina, Morris. 1996. *Divided Government*.  
Jacobson, Gary. 1990. *The Electoral Origins of Divided Government: Competition in U.S. House Elections, 1946-1988*.  
Garand, James, and Marcu Glascock Lichtl. 2000. "Explaining Divided Government in the United States." *BJPS* 30: 173-191.  
Segura, Gary, and Stephen Nicholson. 1995. "Sequential Choices and Partisan Transitions in U.S. Senate Delegations: 1972-1988." *JOP* 57: 86-100.

Consequences of Divided Government

- Mayhew, David. 1991. *Divided We Govern: Party Control, Lawmaking, and Investigations, 1946-1990*.  
Coleman, John. 1999. "Unified Government, Divided Government, and Party Responsiveness." *APSR* 93: 821-835.  
Krehbiel, Keith. 1998. *Pivotal Politics: A Theory of U.S. Lawmaking*.  
Jones, David. 2001. "Party Polarization and Legislative Gridlock." *PRQ* 54: 125-141.  
Saeki, Manabu. 2009. "Gridlock in the Government of the United States: Influence of Divided Government and Veto Players." *BJPS* 39: 587-607.

Realignments

- Key, V.O., Jr. 1955. "A Theory of Critical Elections." *JOP* 17:3-18.  
Burnham, Walter Dean. 1970. *Critical Elections and the Mainsprings of American Politics*.  
Sundquist, James. 1983. *Dynamics of the Party System: Alignment and Realignment of Political Parties in the United States*.  
Abramowitz, Alan, and Kyle Saunders. 1998. "Ideological Realignment in the U.S. Electorate." *JOP* 60: 634-52.  
Bartels, Larry. 1998. "Electoral Continuity and Change, 1868-1996." *Electoral Studies* 17: 301-326.  
Meffert, Michael, Helmut Norpoth, and Anirudh Ruhil. 2001. "Realignment and Macropartisanship." *APSR* 95: 953-62.  
Mayhew, David. 2002. *Electoral Realignments: A Critique of an American Genre*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Week 11: November 5

The Presidency

*Required Readings:*

- Cameron, Charles. 2000. *Veto Bargaining: Presidents and the Politics of Negative Power*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

*Suggested Readings:*

Presidential Power

- Barber, James David. 1985. *The Presidential Character*.  
Lowi, Theodore. 1985. *The Personal President: Power Invested, Promise Unfulfilled*.  
Neustadt, Richard. 1990. *Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents*.  
Skowronek, Stephen. 1993. *The Politics Presidents Make: Leadership from John Adams to*

*George Bush.*

Kelley, Christopher, and Bryan Marshall. 2008. "The Last Word: Presidential Power and the Role of the Signing Statement." *PSQ* 38: 248-267.

Canes-Wrone, Brandice, William Howell and David Lewis. 2008. "Toward a Broader Understanding of Presidential Power: A Reevaluation of the Two Presidencies Thesis." *JOP* 70: 1-16.

McCarty, Nolan. 2009. "Presidential Vetoes in the Early Republic: Changing Constitutional Norms or Electoral Reform?" *JOP* 71: 369-384.

#### Presidents and the Public

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

Kernell, Samuel. 2007. *Going Public: New Strategies of Presidential Leadership*.

Groseclose, Timothy, and Nolan McCarty. 2000. "The Politics of Blame: Bargaining before an Audience," *AJPS* 45: 100-119.

Howell, William. 2003. *Power Without Persuasion: The Politics of Direct Presidential Action*.

Canes-Wrone, Brandice. 2006 *Who Leads Whom? Presidents, Policy, and the Public*.

Edwards, George. 2003. *On Deaf Ears*.

#### Presidents in the Legislative Arena

Bond, Jon, and Richard Fleischer. 1990. *The President in the Legislative Arena*.

Lee, Frances. 2008. "Dividers, Not Unifiers: Presidential Leadership and Senate Partisanship, 1981-2004." *JOP* 70: 914-928.

Jacobson, Gary. 2011. "Legislative Success and Political Failure: The Public's Reaction to Barack Obama's Early Presidency." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 41: 220-243.

Cohen, Jeffrey, Jon Bond, and Richard Fleisher. 2013. "Placing Presidential-Congressional Relations in Context: A Comparison of Barack Obama and His Predecessors." *Polity* 45: 105-126.

#### Bureaucratic Entrepreneurship and Legislative Control

McCubbins, Matthew, and Thomas Schwartz. 1984. "The Congressional Oversight Overlooked: Police Patrols versus Fire Alarms." *AJPS* 28: 165-179.

Calvert, Randall, et al. 1989. "A Theory of Political Control and Agency Discretion." *AJPS* 33: 588-611.

Eisner, Marc Allen, and Kenneth Meier. 1990. "Presidential Control versus Bureaucratic Power: Explaining the Reagan Revolution in Antitrust." *AJPS* 34:269-287.

Carpenter, Daniel. 2001. *The Forging of Bureaucratic Autonomy: Networks, Reputations, and Policy Innovation in Executive Agencies, 1862-1928*.

Huber, John, et al. 2001. "Legislatures and Statutory Control of Bureaucracy." *AJPS* 45: 330-345.

Shipan, Charles. 2004. "Regulatory Regimes, Agency Actions, and the Conditional Nature of Congressional Influence." *APSR* 98:467-480.

Lewis, David. 2007. "Testing Pendleton's Premise: Do Political Appointees Make Worse Bureaucrats?" *JOP* 69:1073-1088.

#### Bureaucratic Preferences and Incentives

Allison, Graham. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *APSR* 63:689.

Wilson, James Q. 1989. *Bureaucracy: What Government Agencies Do and Why They Do It*.

Bendor, Jonathan, and Thomas Hammond. 1992. "Rethinking Allison's Models" *APSR* 86: 301-322.

Aberbach, Joel, and Bert Rockman. 1995. "The Political Views of U.S. Senior Federal Executives, 1970-1992." *JOP* 57:838-853.

Lewis, David. 2008. *The Politics of Presidential Appointments*.

## Delegation

- McCubbins, Mathew, Roger Noll, and Barry Weingast. 1987. "Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control." *JLEO* 3: 243-277.
- Carpenter, Daniel. 1996. "Adaptive Signal Processing, Hierarchy, and Budgetary Control in Federal Regulation." *AJPS* 90: 283-302.
- Bendor, Jonathan, A. Glazer, and Thomas Hammond. 2001. "Theories of Delegation." *ARPS* 4: 235-269

Week 12: November 12  
Judicial Politics

### *Required Readings:*

- Bailey, Michael, and Forrest Maltzman. 2011. *The Constrained Court: Law, Politics, and the Decisions Justices Make*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Additional student leader reading: Yates, Jeff, Damon Cann, and Brent Boyea. 2013. "Judicial Ideology and the Selection of Disputes for U.S. Supreme Court Adjudication." *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 4: 847-865. (<https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.ezproxy.uta.edu/doi/full/10.1111/jels.12030>)

### *Suggested Readings:*

#### Overviews of Judicial Decision-making

- Murphy, Walter. 1964. *Elements of Judicial Strategy*.
- Epstein, Lee, and Jack Knight. 1997. *The Choices Justices Make*.
- Baum, Lawrence. 2006. *Judges and Their Audiences*.

#### Separation of Powers

- Dahl, Robert. 1957. "Decision-Making in a Democracy: The Supreme Court as National Policy-Maker." *Journal of Public Law* 6: 279-295.
- Rosenberg, Gerald. 1991. *The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?*
- Baum, Larry. 2003. "The Supreme Court in American Politics." *ARPS* 6:161-180.
- Clark, Tom. 2009. "The Separation of Powers, Court-curbing and Judicial Legitimacy." *AJPS* 53: 971-989.

#### The Attitudinal Model and Legal Constraints on Decision-making

- Segal, Jeffrey, and Harold Spaeth. 2002. *The Supreme Court and Attitudinal Model Revisited*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Segal, Jeffrey, and Harold Spaeth. 1996. "The Influence of Stare Decisis on the Votes of United States Supreme Court Justices." *AJPS* 40: 971-1003.
- Knight, Jack, and Lee Epstein. 1996. "The Norm of Stare Decisis" *AJPS* 40: 1018-1035.
- Maltzman, Forrest, James Spriggs, II, and Paul Wahlbeck. 2000. *Crafting Law on the Supreme Court: The Collegial Game*.
- Richards, Mark, and Herbert Kritzer. 2002. "Jurisprudential Regimes in Supreme Court Decision Making." *APSR* 96: 305-320.
- Whittington, Keith. 2007. *The Political Foundations of Judicial Supremacy*.
- Bailey, Michael, and Forrest Maltzman. 2008. "Does Legal Doctrine Matter? Unpacking Law and Policy Preferences on the U.S. Supreme Court." *APSR* 102: 369-84.
- Bartels, Brandon. 2009. "The Constraining Capacity of Legal Doctrine on the U.S. Supreme Court." *APSR* 103: 474-495.
- Zink, James R., James Spriggs II, and John Scott. 2009. "Courting the Public: The Influence of Decision Attributes on Individuals' Views of Court Opinions." *JOP* 71: 909-925.

Black, Ryan, and Ryan Owens. 2009. "Agenda Setting in the Supreme Court: The Collision of Policy and Jurisprudence." *JOP* 71: 1062-1075.

#### Impact of Public Opinion

Mishler, William, and Reginald Sheehan. 1993. "The Supreme Court as a Counter-majoritarian Institution? The Impact of Public Opinion on Supreme Court Decisions" *APSR* 87: 87-101.

Flemming, Roy, and B. Dan Wood. 1997. "The Public and the Supreme Court: Individual Justice Responsiveness to American Policy Moods." *AJPS* 41: 468-498.

#### Judicial Selection

Goldman, Sheldon. 1997. *Picking Federal Judges*.

Week 13: November 19  
State/Subnational Politics

#### *Required Readings:*

La Raja, Raymond, and Brian Schaffner. 2015. *Campaign Finance and Political Polarization: When Purists Prevail*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.  
Additional student leader reading: Schaffner, Brian, Matthew Streb, and Gerald Wright. 2001. "Teams without Uniforms: The Nonpartisan Ballot in State and Local Elections." *PRQ* 54: 7-30. (<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uta.edu/stable/449205>)

#### *Suggested Readings:*

##### State Legislatures

Squire, Peverill. 1992. "The Theory of Legislative Institutionalization and the California Assembly." *JOP* 54: 1026-1054.

Kousser, Thad. 2005. *Term Limits and the Dismantling of State Legislative Professionalism*.

Squire, Peverill. 2014. *The Evolution of American Legislatures: Colonies, Territories, and States, 1619-2009*.

##### Governors

Dometrius, Nelson. 1979. "Measuring Gubernatorial Power." *JOP* 41: 589-610.

Kousser, Thad, and Justin Phillips. 2012. *The Power of American Governors: Winning on Budgets and Losing on Policy*.

##### State Courts

Hall, Melinda Gann. 1987. "Constituent Influence in State Supreme Courts: Conceptual Notes and a Case Study." *JOP* 49: 1117-1124.

Huber, Gregory, and Sanford Gordon. 2004. "Accountability and Coercion: Is Justice Blind when it Runs for Office?" *AJPS* 48:247- 263.

Brace, Paul, and Brent Boyea. 2008, "State Public Opinion, the Death Penalty and the Practice of Electing Judges." *AJPS* 52: 360-372.

Canes-Wrone, Brandice, Tom Clark, and Jason Kelly. 2014. "Judicial Selection and Death Penalty Decisions." *APSR* 108: 23-39.

Hall, Melinda Gann, and Chris Bonneau. 2008. "Mobilizing Interest: The Effects of Money on Citizen Participation in State Supreme Court Elections." *AJPS* 52: 457-470.

Gibson, James. 2008. "Challenges to the Impartiality of State Supreme Courts: Legitimacy Theory and 'New-Style' Judicial Campaigns." *APSR* 102:59-75.

Hall, Melinda Gann. 2014. *Attacking Judges: How Campaign Advertising Influences State Supreme Court Elections*.

##### Elections/Voting

Key, Jr., V.O. 1984 (1949). *Southern Politics in State and Nation, A New Edition*.

- Atkeson, Lonna, and Randall Partin, 1995. "Economic and Referendum Voting: A Comparison of Gubernatorial and Senatorial Elections." *APSR* 89: 99-107.
- Carsey, Thomas, and Gerald Wright, 1998. "State and National Factors in Gubernatorial and Senatorial Elections." *AJPS* 42: 994-1002.
- Berry, William, Michael Berkman, and Stuart Schneiderman. 2000. "Legislative Professionalism and Incumbent Reelection: The Development of Institutional Boundaries." *APSR* 94: 859-874.

#### Public Opinion

- Erikson, Robert, Gerald Wright, and John McIver. 1993. *Statehouse Democracy: Public Opinion and Policy in the American States*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Berry, William. et al. 1998. "Measuring Citizen and Government Ideology in the American States, 1960-93." *AJPS* 42: 327-348.
- Gelman, Andrew. 2008. *Red State, Blue State, Rich State, Poor State: Why Americans Vote the Way They Do*.
- Caughey, Devin, and Christopher Warshaw. 2016. "The Dynamics of State Policy Liberalism, 1936–2014." *AJPS* 60: 899-913.

#### Interest Groups

- Lowery, David, and Virginia Gray. 1995. "The Population Ecology of Gucci Gulch, or the National Regulation of Interest Group Numbers in the American States." *AJPS* 39: 1-29.

#### Political Parties

- Gibson, James, Cornelius Cotter, John Bibby, and Robert Huckshorn. 1983. "Assessing Party Organizational Strength." *AJPS* 27: 193-222.
- Wright, Gerald, and Brian Schaffner. 2002. "The Influence of Party: Evidence from the State Legislatures." *APSR* 96: 367-370.

#### Local Government

- Dahl, Robert. 1960. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City*.
- Peterson, Paul. 1981. *City Limits*.

#### Federalism/Public Policy

- Peterson, Paul. 1995. *The Price of Federalism*.
- Berry, William, Richard Fording, and Russell Hanson. 2003. "Reassessing the 'Race to the Bottom' in State Welfare Policy." *AJPS* 65: 327-349.
- Lax, Jeffrey, and Justin Phillips. 2009. "Gay Rights in the States: Public Opinion and Policy Responsiveness." *APSR* 103: 367-386.

Week 13: November 26

Policymaking

#### *Required Readings:*

- Baumgartner, Frank, and Brian Jones. 2009. *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*, Second Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

#### *Suggested Readings:*

##### Nature of Public Policy

- Lindblom, Charles. 1959. "The Science of 'Muddling Through'." *Public Administration Review* 19:79-88.
- Lowi, Theodore. 1964. "American Business, Public Policy, Case Studies, and Political Theory." *World Politics* 16:679.
- Tiebout, Charles. 1956. "A Pure Theory of Local Expenditures." *Journal of Political Economy*

64: 416-424.

#### Policy Diffusion

Walker, Jack. 1969. "The Diffusion of Innovations Among American States." *APSR* 63: 880-899.

Boushey, Graeme. 2010. *Policy Diffusion Dynamics in America*.

#### Policy Subsystems and Policy Agendas

Cobb, Roger, and Charles Elder. 1983. *Participation in American Politics: The Dynamics of Agenda Building*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

Kingdon, John. 2010. *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policy*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.

Jones, Bryan, Tracy Sulkin, and Heather Larsen. 2003. "Policy Punctuations in American Political Institutions." *APSR* 97:151-169.

Cashore, Benjamin, and Michael Howlett. 2007. "Punctuating Which Equilibrium Understanding Thermostatic Policy Dynamics in Pacific Northwest Forestry." *AJPS* 51: 532-551.

Week 14: December 3

Exam Distribution and Semester Wrap-up

Final Examination: December 10

#### **Journal Key:**

*American Journal of Political Science* - *AJPS*

*American Political Science Review* – *APSR*

*American Politics Quarterly* - *APQ*

*American Politics Research* – *APR*

*Annual Review of Political Science* – *ARPS*

*Journal of Law, Economics and Organizations* - *JLEO*

*Journal of Politics* – *JOP*

*Journal of Public Law* - *JPL*

*Legislative Studies Quarterly* - *LSQ*

*Political Research Quarterly* – *PRQ*

*Presidential Studies Quarterly* – *PSQ*

*State Politics and Policy Quarterly* – *SPPQ*

*Studies in American Political Development* - *SAPD*

*Western Political Quarterly* – *WPQ*

#### **VI. A Note on the Readings**

From time to time, the website links in the schedule will change or stop working. Remember that publication links are provided as a courtesy. Each of the articles not posted in Canvas can be found through online databases managed by the university, including JSTOR and Worldwide Political Science Abstracts. If you have questions about searching for an article or would like a tutorial on database research, please contact the university library. The library's liaison to the Department of Political Science is Andy Herzog (<https://library.uta.edu/staff/andy-herzog>).

Remember that links often work best when physically at the university. Otherwise, I advise using an off-campus connection that utilizes a virtual private network (VPN), which makes off-campus downloads easier. VPN software can be downloaded through UTA's Office of Information Technology (see <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/software/vpn/index.php>).

## VII. Special Notes:

1. Correspondence – Occasionally, students may be contacted about course changes and other events. Correspondence will be directed to university email addresses rather than personal email addresses, given UTA officials are not permitted to contact students via their non-university email addresses. Failure by a student to check their university email may result in missed assignments and grade penalties.
2. Cell Phones and Electronic Devices – Students are instructed to turn off their cell phones prior to class. See the comments about cell phone usage in the Citizenship section. Usage of a cell phone or other non-permitted electronic device during an examination or quiz will result in a grade of zero on that examination or quiz.
3. Test Conduct – All materials must be removed from one’s desk during an examination or quiz. Additionally, headwear (e.g., hats), sunglasses, and earphones are not permitted during an examination.
4. Academic Integrity - All students are expected to obey the civil and penal statutes of the State of Texas and the United States, the Regents’ Rules and Regulations of The University of Texas System, the rules and regulations of the University, and the orders or instructions issued by an administrative official of the University or U.T. System in the course of his/her duties, and to observe standards of conduct that are compatible with the University’s function as an educational institution. Any student found to engage in cheating, plagiarism, or collusion will be sanctioned.
5. Inclement Weather – If a class is canceled due to inclement weather, its subject will be delayed until the following class. Similarly, all tests canceled because of inclement weather will be delivered during the following class. For information related to weather related class cancellations please call (972) 601-2049.
6. Emergency Exit Procedures - Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which can be found to the left and right behind the lecture podium. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator, but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.
7. Campus Carry - Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>.
8. Students with Disabilities - Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to speak with the instructor during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential.
9. Discrimination Policy – The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).
10. Title IX Policy - The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be

tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).

11. Student Support Services - The University of Texas at Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. Among the support services on campus, the IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593. For more information, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).
12. Syllabus Changes – The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus at any time during the semester.