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Spring 2-1-1998

## PSC 531.01: American Government

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
Department of Political Science

PSc 531 American Core Readings  
Spring 1998  
Dr. Laslovich

Office: LA 415  
Hrs: MWF 1:00-2:00  
and by app't (4901)

Course Requirements - Students will be evaluated upon the following basis:

Seminar Participation ..... 50%  
Writing Assignments ..... 50%

Writing Assignments

Students will prepare one-page outlines of their assigned volume for each seminar to be distributed to fellow students and the instructor. The outline should summarize the author's key points. Weekly seminars will consist of student summaries of their respective assignments and discussion.

Students will then submit a five-page critical essay identifying major themes (limited to one or two) addressed in their assigned volume and critically evaluating the book's strengths and weaknesses. Critical essays are due one week after each seminar.

Seminar Readings - readings will be assigned by the instructor:

Introduction - Feb. 4

Federalism - Feb. 11

Bennett, Walter H. American Theories of Federalism. University, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 1966.

Elazar, Daniel. American Federalism: A View From the States. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1966.

Grodzins, Morton. A Nation of States: Essays on the American Federal System. Chicago: Rand McNally, 1974.

Riker, William H. Federalism: Origin, Operation, Significance. Boston: Boston: Little Brown, 1964.

Oates, Wallace E. The Political Economy of Fiscal Federalism. Lexington, Mass.: D.C. Heath, 1977.

Wheare, K.C. Federal Government. London: Oxford University Press, 1946, 1964.

Political Parties - Feb. 18 and 25

Burns, James M. The Deadlock of Democracy: Four-Party Politics in America. 1963.

Crotty, William J. and Gary C. Jacobson. American Parties in Decline. 1980.

Key, V.O.. Southern Politics in State and Nation. New York: A.A. Knopf, 1949.

Political Parties (continued)

- Polsby, Nelson. Consequences of Policy Reform. New York: Oxford University Press, 1983.
- Sabato, Larry J. The Party's Just Begun: Shaping Political Parties for America's Future. Glenview, Illinois: Scott, Foresman, 1988.
- Schattschneider, E.E. Party Government. New York: Farrar and Rinehart, 1942.
- Wattenberg, Martin. The Decline of American Political Parties, 1952-1980. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1984.

Elections - March 4

- Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren Miller, and Donald E. Stokes. The American Voter. New York: Wiley, 1960.
- Burnham, Walter Dean. Critical Elections and the Mainsprings of American Politics. New York: W.W. Norton, 1970.
- Key, Jr., V.O. The Responsible Electorate: Rationality in Presidential Voting, 1936-1960. New York: Harvard University Press, 1966.
- Lazarsfeld, Paul F., Bernard Berelson, and Hazel Gaudet. The People's Choice: How the Voter Makes Up His Mind in a Presidential Election. New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1944.
- Piven, Frances Fox and Richard A. Cloward. Why Americans Don't Vote. New York: Pantheon Books, 1988.
- Rae, Douglas. The Political Consequences of Electoral Laws. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1967.
- Teixeira, Ruy A. The Disappearing American Voter. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1992.

Interest Groups - March 11

- Berry, Jeffrey M. The Interest Group Society. Glenview, Illinois: Scott, Foresman, 1989.
- Dahl, Robert, Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1961.
- Fiorina, Morris. The Decline of Collective Responsibility in American Politics. 1980.
- Madison, James. "Federalist Paper," Number 10.
- McConnell, Grant. Private Power and American Democracy. 1966.
- Olson, Mancur, Jr. The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1965.
- Ranney, Austin, Curing the Mischiefs of Factions. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1975.
- Schattschneider, E.E., The Semisovereign People: A Realist's View of Democracy in America. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1960.
- Truman, David, The Governmental Process, Political Interests and Public Opinion. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1951.

Executive Branch - March 25 and April 1

- Cronin, Thomas E. The State of the Presidency. Boston: Little, Brown, 1980.
- Herring, Pendleton. Presidential Leadership. 1940.
- Neustadt, Richard. Presidential Power and The Modern Presidents. New York: The Free Press, 1960 or other edition.
- Reedy, George E. The Twilight of the Presidency. New York: World Publication, 1970.
- Rossiter, Clinton. The American Presidency. rev. ed. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1960.
- Schlesinger, Arthur M. Jr. The Imperial Presidency. 1973.
- Seligman, Lester G. and Cary R. Covington. The Coalitional Presidency. Chicago: The Dorsey Press, 1989.

Congress - April 8 and 15

- Arnold, R. Douglas. The Logic of Congressional Action. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1990.
- Davidson, Roger H. and Walter J. Oleszek. Congress Against Itself. 1977.
- Fenno, Richard, Jr. Congressmen in Committees. Boston: Little, Brown, 1973.
- \_\_\_\_\_, Home Style, House Members in Their Districts. Boston: Little Brown, 1978.
- Fiorina, Morris P., Congress: The Keystone of the Washington Establishment. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977.
- MacNeil, Neil. Forge of Democracy: The House of Representatives. New York: D. McKay, 1983.
- Mayhew, David, Congress: The Electoral Connection. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1974.
- Wilson, Woodrow. Congressional Government. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, 1889.

The Judiciary - April 22 and 29

- Bickel, Alexander M. The Least Dangerous Branch: The Supreme Court at the Bar of Politics. 1962.
- Bork, Robert H. The Tempting of America: The Political Seduction of the Law. 1990.
- Choper, Jesse H. Judicial Review and the National Political Process. 1980.
- Murphy, Water E. Elements of Judicial Strategy. 1964.
- O'Brien, David M. Storm Center: A Study in Judicial Politics and Values, (1937-1947). 1947.
- Peltason, Jack W. Fifty-Eight Lonely Men, Southern Federal Judges and School Desegregation. 1961.
- Shapiro, Martin M. Who Guards the Guardians? 1988.
- Tribe, Laurence, H. God Save This Honorable Court. (1985).

Bureaucracy - April 6

- Aberbach, Joel D., Robert D. Putnam, and Bert A. Rockman.  
Bureaucrats And Politicians in Western Democracies. Cambridge,  
Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1981.
- Allison, Graham T. Essence of Decision. Boston: Little, Brown,  
1971.
- Benveniste, G. The Politics of Expertise. Berkeley and London:  
The Glendessary Press and Croom Helm, 1972.
- Downs, Anthony Inside Bureaucracy. Boston: Little, Brown, 1967.
- Goodsell, Charles T. The Case For Bureaucracy. 2nd edition.  
Chatham, N.J.: Chatham House, 1985.
- Hyneman, C.S. Bureaucracy in a Democracy. New York: Harper and  
Row, 1950.
- Patterson, Jr., Bradley H. The Ring of Power: The White House  
Staff and Its Expanding Role in Government. 1988.