The U. S. Congress

General Information

Lectures and class discussions will be conducted under the assumption that students have read the assigned materials by the date indicated. There will be a midterm and final examination. The midterm will be divided into two parts, one done in class without books or notes, one done as a take-home exam in which books and notes may be used. Each part of the midterm will count for 25% of the grade; the final exam will count for 50%. The midterm will be on Friday October 21. The final will on Wednesday, December 7, 8-11:00 am. No exceptions.

The following books will be used extensively and are available for purchase in the bookstore. Be sure to use the specified edition:

Steven Smith, Jason Roberts, and Ryan Vander Weilen, *The American Congress Reader*

Readings

I. Congress: Constitutional Basis
   September 26: Smith, et al., 4 and 5

II. Members, Constituents, and Elections
   October 3: Smith, et al., 6 and 10.
   October 10: Jacobson, chs.1-4, Smith et al., 8
   October 17: Jacobson. chs 5-6.

III. Parties and Leadership
   October 24: Smith, et al., 14, 15, and 16.

IV. Committees
   October 31: Smith, et al., 17, 18, and 19.

V. Congress and the Executive
   November 7: Smith, et al., 28-32

VI. Making Policy
   November 14: Smith, et al., 20-26, 36-37.

VII. Conclusions