Introduction to Political Science: American Politics

General Information

All assigned readings should be completed by the date listed; lectures will be based on the assumption that students have completed the reading. There will be midterm and final examinations. The midterm will be divided into two parts, one done in class, one done as a take-home exam. Each part of the midterm will count for 20% of the grade; the final exam will count for 50%; participation in section will count for the remaining 10%. **The midterm will be on February 10. The final is on Friday, March 19, 8:00-11:00. No exceptions.**

Books to be purchased:


In addition, every student is expected to read the political news daily in at least one major newspaper (e.g., *New York Times, Los Angeles Times, San Diego Union-Tribune, Washington Post*; all have free on-line editions.).

Readings

I. The Foundations of American Politics

January 11 Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, chs. 3-5; Kernell and Smith, chs. 3-5.

II. The Modern National Government

January 20  Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 6; Kernell and Smith, ch. 6.2.
January 25  Kernell and Smith, chs. 6.1, 6.2.
February 1  Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 7; Kernell and Smith, ch. 7.
February 8  Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 8; Kernell and Smith, ch 8.
February 17 Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 9; Kernell and Smith, ch. 9.

III. The Public in Politics