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, all essay questions. 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 8. The final is on Wednesday, March 21, 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 but NYT have free on-line editions.).

Readings

I. The Foundations of American Politics

   January 18   Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, chs. 3-5; Kernal and Smith, chs. 3-5.

II. The Modern National Government

   January 23   Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 6; Kernal and Smith, ch. 6.2.
   January 30   Kernal and Smith, chs. 6.1, 6.3.
   February 6   Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 7; Kernal and Smith, ch. 7.
   February 13  Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 8; Kernal and Smith, ch 8.
   February 22  Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, ch. 9; Kernal and Smith, ch. 9.

III. The Public in Politics

   February 27  Kernell, Jacobson, and Kousser, chs. 10-11; Kernal and Smith, chs. 10-11.