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 Wednesday February 6. The final will be on Wednesday, March 20, 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:

Lawrence Dodd and Bruce Oppenheimer (eds.), *Congress Reconsidered* (10th Edition).

Readings

I. Congress: Introduction and Constitutional Basis
   January 8: CR 1 (Sinclair) and 2 (Dodd and Oppenheimer)

II. Members, Constituents, and Elections
    January 14: Jacobson chs. 1-5; optional: CR 4 (Erikson and Wright) and 5 (Jacobson)
    January 23: Jacobson, chs. 6-7, CR 6 (Bernhard and Sulkin)

III. Parties and Leadership
     January 28: CR 7 (Smith and Gamm) and 9 (Koger).

IV. Committees
    February 4: CR 3 (Pearson) 8 (Aldrich, Perry, and Rohde) and 10 (Volden and Wiseman)

V. Making Policy
    February 20: CR 13 (Thurber) and 14 (Rudder)

VI. Congress and the Executive
    February 25: CR 11 (Binder and Maltzman), 12 (Oppenheimer) and 15 (Kriner and Howell)

VII. Evaluations of Congress
     March 4: CR 16 (Cooper) and 17 (Dodd and Schraufnagel)
     March 11: CR 18 (Dodd and Oppenheimer)