

VOTING, ELECTIONS, AND THE AMERICAN ELECTORAL PROCESS
(POLITICAL SCIENCE 5010)
SPRING 2013

INSTRUCTOR:

Professor Melanie J. Springer

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Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE TIME AND LOCATION:

Tuesdays 2:30-4:30pm

Seigle Hall 205

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a graduate seminar intended to familiarize you with the extensive literature on voting and elections in the United States. The readings required in this course represent a combination of the classic work on voting behavior and elections, and contemporary studies presenting the latest theories and empirical innovations on the topic. The course material also deals with public opinion, campaigns, and the institutional factors that influence and structure elections. After completing this course, you will have a comprehensive understanding of the most influential research on voting and elections in American politics and a sense about the directions the field is currently heading.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

CLASSES will be comprised of student presentations and group discussions. You will be expected to read *all* of the required material for the week *before* attending class, and actively participate in class discussions. On a regular basis students will be assigned to lead class discussions on specific research questions or substantive debates, and individual students will be asked to report on selected readings.

THOUGHT PAPERS: Each student is required to write **three** thought papers based on the readings for the week. These are intended to be short (about 4 pages) and are reasonably unstructured. They are due *before class* on the day the readings are discussed. The first thought paper is due before February 13th; the second thought paper is due before March 27th; the third thought paper is due before April 17th.

RESEARCH PAPER: Each student must write an original research paper for this course. The paper should develop one or more testable hypotheses based on a thorough review of the relevant literature(s), and test these hypotheses using either an existing dataset or an original dataset that you construct. The data can be quantitative or qualitative in nature. The subject matter is open, except that the paper should have something to do with an aspect of elections or electoral behavior that was covered in this course. The paper should be approximately 25 pages in length.

All students will share the results of their research during the final seminar on April 23rd. To facilitate a productive discussion, students should prepare a 2-3 page summary of their paper for distribution in class on April 16th. At our last meeting, all students are expected to comment on the research presented by your classmates. **The final research papers are due by 12:00pm on Monday, May 6th**.

YOUR FINAL COURSE GRADE WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- CLASS PARTICIPATION: 20%
- THREE THOUGHT PAPERS: 30% (10% each)
- RESEARCH PAPER: 50%

CLASS SCHEDULE

JANUARY 15: INTRODUCTION AND COURSE OVERVIEW

JANUARY 22: THE STUDY OF VOTING AND ELECTIONS

JANUARY 29: EARLY (PSYCHOLOGICAL ATTACHMENT) MODELS OF VOTING

FEBRUARY 5: PARTISANSHIP

FEBRUARY 12: EXPLAINING VOTE CHOICE

FEBRUARY 19: *CLASS CANCELED*

FEBRUARY 26: CAMPAIGN DYNAMICS AND POLITICAL INFORMATION

MARCH 5: EXPLAINING ELECTION OUTCOMES

MARCH 12: *CLASS CANCELED (SPRING BREAK)*

MARCH 19: SPATIAL MODELS OF THE VOTE: DOWNS AND BEYOND

MARCH 26: VOTER TURNOUT

APRIL 2: ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS AND ELECTORAL REFORM

APRIL 9: CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS I

APRIL 16: CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS II

APRIL 23: *PRESENTATION OF STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS*

COURSE READINGS:

- Abramson, Paul, John Aldrich, and David Rohde. 2010. *Change and Continuity in the 2008 Elections*. Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Blais, André. 2000. *To Vote or Not to Vote: The Merits and Limits of Rational Choice Theory*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburg Press.
- Campbell, Angus, Philip Converse, Warren Miller, and Donald Stokes. 1980 (reprint edition). *The American Voter*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Downs, Anthony. 1957. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. Harper and Row.
- Erikson, Robert, Michael MacKuen, and James Stimson. 2002. *The Macro Polity*. Cambridge University Press.
- Fenno, Richard. 1978. *Home Style: House Members in their Districts*. Longman Publishers.
- Jacobson, Gary. 2009 (7th edition). *The Politics of Congressional Elections*. New York: Longman.
- Nie, Norman, Sidney Verba, and John Petrocik. 1979. *The Changing American Voter*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Niemi, Richard G. and Herbert F. Weisberg. 2001 (4th edition). *Controversies in Voting Behavior*. Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Rosenstone, Steven J., and John Mark Hansen. 2003. *Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America* NY: Longman.
- Wattenberg, Martin P. 2002. *Where Have All the Voters Gone?* Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Wolfinger, Raymond and Steven Rosenstone. 1980. *Who Votes?* New Haven: Yale University Press.

ADDITIONAL BOOKS ON RESERVE AT OLIN LIBRARY:

- Alesina, Alberto and Howard Rosenthal. 1994. *Partisan Politics, Divided Government, and the Economy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Althaus, Scott L. 2003. *Collective Preferences in Democratic Politics: Opinion Surveys and the Will of the People*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Alvarez, R. Michael. 1999. *Information and Elections*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Ansolabehere, Stephen, Shanto Iyengar. 1997. *Going Negative: How Attack Ads Shrink and Polarize the Electorate*. New York: Free Press.
- Bensel, Richard. 2004. *The American Ballot Box in the Mid-Nineteenth Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

- Brown, Clifford, Lynda Powell, and Clyde Wilcox. 1995. *Serious Money: Fundraising and Contributing in Presidential Nomination Campaigns*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Cain, Bruce, John Ferejohn, Morris Fiorina. 1987. *The Personal Vote: Constituency Service and Electoral Independence*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Campbell, Angus et al. 1967. *Elections and the Political Order*. New York: Wiley.
- Campbell, James and James Garand (eds). 2000. *Before the Vote: Forecasting American National Elections*. Sage Publications.
- Cox, Gary W. 1997. *Making Votes Count: Strategic Coordination in the World's Electoral Systems*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Delli Carpini, Michael, and Scott Keeter. 1996. *What Americans Know about Politics and Why it Matters*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Erikson, Robert and Kent Tedin. 2005 (7th edition). *American Public Opinion: Its Origin, Contents, and Impact*. New York: Longman.
- Erikson, Robert, Gerald Wright, and John McIver. 1993. *Statehouse Democracy: Public Opinion and the American States*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Geer, John G. 2006. *In Defense of Negativity: Attack Ads in Presidential Campaigns*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Hillygus, D. Sunshine and Todd G. Shields. 2008. *The Perusable Voter: Wedge Issues in Presidential Campaigns*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Hinich, Melvin J. and Michael C. Munger. 1997. *Analytical Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Johnston, Richard, Michael G. Hagen and Kathleen Hall Jamieson. 2004. *The 2000 Presidential Election and the Foundations of Party Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Keech, William. 1995. *Economic Politics: The Costs of Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Keyssar, Alexander. 2000. *The Right to Vote: The Contested History of Democracy in the United States*. New York: Basic Books.
- MacKuen, Michael and George Rabinowitz (eds). 2003. *Electoral Democracy*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Manza, Jeff, Fay Lomax Cook, and Benjamin Page (eds.). 2002. *Navigating Public Opinion: Polls, Policy, and the Future of American Democracy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Morton, Rebecca. 2006. *Analyzing Elections*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.
- Mueller, Dennis (ed.). 1996. *Perspectives on Public Choice: A Handbook* New York: Cambridge University Press.

- Niemi, Richard and Herbert Weisberg. 1993. *Classics in Voting Behavior*. Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Niemi, Richard, Herbert Weisberg, and David Kimball. 2011 (5th edition). *Controversies in Voting Behavior*. Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Norrander, Barbara and Clyde Wilcox. 2002 (2nd edition). *Understanding Public Opinion*. Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Page, Benjamin and Robert Shapiro. 1992. *The Rational Public*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Patterson, Thomas E. 2002. *The Vanishing Voter: Public Involvement in an Age of Uncertainty*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf (Distributed by Random House).
- Piven, Frances Fox and Richard A. Cloward. 2000. *Why Americans Still Don't Vote and Why Politicians Want it that Way*. Boston: Beacon Press.
- Popkin, Samuel. 1991. *The Reasoning Voter: Communication and Persuasion in Presidential Campaigns*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Putnam, Robert. 2000. *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York: Simon and Schuster.
- Rosenthal, Alan. 1997. *The Decline of Representative Democracy: Process, Participation, and Power in State Legislatures*. Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Teixeira, Ruy A. 1992. *The Disappearing American Voter*. Washington DC: Brookings Institution Press.
- Thompson, Dennis F. 2002. *Just Elections: Creating a Fair Electoral Process in the United States*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Verba, Sidney, Kay Lehman Schlozman, and Henry Brady. 1995. *Voice and Equality: Civic Voluntarism in American Politics*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Zaller, John. 1992. *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

WEEKLY READING ASSIGNMENTS

JANUARY 15: INTRODUCTION AND COURSE OVERVIEW

JANUARY 22: THE STUDY OF VOTING AND ELECTIONS

Required:

1. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies* (either edition). Chapter 1.
2. Converse, Philip. 2006. "Researching Electoral Politics." *American Political Science Review* 100(4): 605-612.
3. Fiorina, Morris. Chapter 18 "Voting Behavior" in Dennis Mueller (ed.), *Perspectives on Public Choice: A Handbook*.

JANUARY 29: EARLY (PSYCHOLOGICAL ATTACHMENT) MODELS OF VOTING

Required:

1. Campbell et al. *The American Voter*. Chapters 1-4, 6-10, 12-14.
2. Nie, Verba, and Petrocik. *The Changing American Voter*. Chapters 1-10, 12, Appendix 4.

FEBRUARY 5: PARTISANSHIP

Required:

1. Bartels, Larry. 2000. "Partisanship and Voting Behavior, 1952-1996." *American Journal of Political Science* 44(1): 35-50.
2. Fiorina, Morris. 2002. "Parties and Partisanship: A 40 Year Retrospective." *Political Behavior* 24(2): 93-115.
3. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies*. Chapters 17-20.
4. MacKuen, Michael, Robert Erikson, and James Stimson. 1989. "Macropartisanship." *American Political Science Review* 83:1125-1142.
5. Green, Donald and Bradley Palmquist. 1990. "Of Artifacts and Partisan Instability." *American Journal of Political Science* 34:872-902.
6. Green, Donald and Bradley Palmquist. 1994. "How Stable is Party Identification?" *Political Behavior* 16:437-466.
7. Green, Donald, Bradley Palmquist, and Eric Shickler. 1998. "Macropartisanship: A Replication and Critique." *American Political Science Review* 92:883-899.
8. Erikson, Robert, Michael Mackuen, and James Stimson. 1998. "What Moves Macropartisanship? A Response to Green, Palmquist, and Schickler." *American Political Science Review* 92:901-912.

Recommended:

1. Abramson, et al. *Change and Continuity in the 2008 Elections*. Chapter 8.
2. Abramowitz, Alan. 1994. "Issue Evolution Reconsidered: Racial Attitudes and Partisanship in the U.S. Electorate." *American Journal of Political Science* 38(1): 1-24.
3. Gerber, Elisabeth and John Jackson. 1993. "Endogenous Preferences and the Study of Institutions." *American Political Science Review* 87(3): 639-656.
4. Hetherington, Mark. 2001. "Resurgent Mass Partisanship: The Role of Elite Polarization." *American Political Science Review* 95(3): 619-631.
5. Niemi and Weisberg. *Classics*. Chapters 21-22, 24, 31.

FEBRUARY 12: EXPLAINING VOTE CHOICE

Required:

1. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies*. Chapters 10-13.
2. De Boef (Linn), Suzanna and Jonathan Nagler. 2005. "Do Voters Really Care Who Gets What?: Economic Growth, Economic Distribution, and Presidential Popularity." *Working paper*.
3. Fiorina, Morris. 1978. "Economic Retrospective Voting in American National Elections: A Micro-Analysis." *American Journal of Political Science* 22(2): 426-443.
4. Kinder, Donald and D. Roderick Kiewiet. 1979. "Economic Discontent and Political Behavior: The Role of Personal Grievances and Collective Economic Judgments in Congressional Voting." *American Journal of Political Science* 23(3): 495-527.
5. Kramer, Gerald H. 1971. "Short-term Fluctuations in U.S. Voting Behavior, 1896-1964." *American Politics Science Review* 65: 131-143.
6. Stigler, George. 1973. "General Economic Conditions and National Elections." *The American Economic Review* 63: 160-167.

Recommended:

1. Abramson, et al. *Change and Continuity in the 2008 Elections*. Chapter 5-7.
2. Achen 1973. "Mass Political Attitudes and Survey Response." *APSR* 69: 1218-1231.
3. Alesina, Alberto and Howard Rosenthal. *Partisan Politics, Divided Government, and the Economy*. Chapter 7.
4. Cain, Bruce John Ferejohn, Morris Fiorina. *The Personal Vote: Constituency Service and Electoral Independence*.
5. Erikson, Robert S. 1979. "The SRC Panel Data and Mass Political Attitudes." *British Journal of Political Science* 9(1): 89-114.
6. Finkel, Steven. 1993. "Reexamining the 'Minimal Effects' Model in Recent Presidential Elections." *JOP* 55(1), 1-21.
7. Fiorina, Morris. 1981. *Retrospective Voting in American National Elections*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
8. Key, V.O. 1966. *The Responsible Electorate: Rationality in Presidential Voting, 1936-1960*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
9. Kiewiet, Roderick. 1983. *Macroeconomics and Micropolitics: the Electoral Effects of Economic Issues*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
10. Knight, Kathleen. 1985. "Ideology in the 1980 Election: Ideological Sophistication Does Matter." *Journal of Politics* 47(August): 828-853.
11. MacKuen and Rabinowitz. *Electoral Democracy*. Chapter 5.
12. Niemi and Weisberg. *Classics*. Chapters 9-10, 12-14.
13. Rabinowitz, George and Stuart Elaine Macdonald. 1989. "A Directional Theory of Issue Voting." *American Political Science Review* 83(1): 93-121.
14. Westholm, Anders. 1997. "Distance vs. Direction: The Illusory Defeat of the Proximity Theory of Electoral Choice." *American Political Science Review* 91(4): 865-883.

FEBRUARY 19: CLASS CANCELED

FEBRUARY 26: CAMPAIGN DYNAMICS AND POLITICAL INFORMATION

Required:

1. Alvarez, R. Michael. *Information and Elections*. Chapters 1-3, 9-11.

2. Bartels, Larry. 1996. "Uninformed Voters: Information Effects in Presidential Elections." *American Journal of Political Science* 40(1): 194-230.
3. Huckfeldt, Robert, John Sprague, and Jeffrey Levine. 2000. "The Dynamics of Collective Deliberation in the 1996 Election: Campaign Effects on Accessibility, Certainty, and Accuracy." *American Political Science Review* 94(3): 641-651.
4. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies*. Chapters 6-9.

Recommended:

1. Althaus, Scott. *Collective Preferences in Democratic Politics*. Chapter 4.
2. Converse (1962) "Information Flow and the Stability of Partisan Attitudes." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 26(4).
3. Erikson, Robert and Christopher Wlezien. 1999. "Presidential Polls as a Time Series: The Case of 1996." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 63(2): 163-177.
4. Franklin, Charles H. 1991. "Eschewing Obfuscation? Campaigns and the Perception of US Senate Incumbents." *American Political Science Review* 85(4):1193-1214.
5. Gelman, Andrew and Gary King. 1993. "Why are American Presidential Election Campaign Polls so Variable When Votes Are so Predictable?" *British Journal of Political Science* 23(4) 409-451.
6. Hillygus, D. Sunshine and Simon Jackman. 2003. "Voter Decision Making in Election 2000: Campaign Effects, Partisan Activation, and the Clinton Legacy." *American Journal of Political Science* 47(4): 583-596.
7. Hinich and Munger. *Analytical Politics*. Chapter 6.
8. Holbrook, Allyson et al. 2001. "Attitudes toward Presidential Candidates and Political Parties: Initial Optimism, Inertial First Impressions, and a Focus on Flaws." *American Journal of Political Science* 45(4): 930-950.
9. Johnston, Richard, Michael G. Hagen and Kathleen Hall Jamieson. *The 2000 Presidential Election and the Foundations of Party Politics*.
10. Lavine, Howard. 2001. "The Electoral Consequences of Ambivalence toward Presidential Candidates." *American Journal of Political Science* 45(4): 915-929.
11. Nie, Verba, and Petrocik. *The Changing American Voter*. Chapters 17-18.
12. Popkin, Samuel. *The Reasoning Voter*. Chapters 2-3.
13. Shaw, Daron R. 1999. "The Effect of TV Ads and Candidate Appearances on Statewide Presidential Votes, 1988-96." *American Political Science Review* 93(2): 345-361.
14. Wlezien, Christopher and Robert Erikson. 2002. "The Timeline of Presidential Election Campaigns." *The Journal of Politics* 64(4): 969-993.
15. Zaller, John. *The Nature and Origins of Mass Public Opinion*.

MARCH 5: EXPLAINING ELECTION OUTCOMES

Required:

1. Erikson, MacKuen, and Stimson. *The Macro Polity*. Chapters 1-5, 7, 10.
2. Erikson and Tedin. *American Public Opinion*. Chapter 9.
3. Hetherington, Marc. 1999. "The Effect of Political Trust on the Presidential Vote, 1968-96." *American Political Science Review* 93(2): 311-326.
4. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies*. Chapters 21-23.

Recommended:

1. Campbell, James and James C. Garand (eds.). *Before the Vote*. Intro and Chapter 1.
2. Keech, William. *Economic Politics*. Chapter 6.
3. Lewis-Beck, Michael and Mary Stegmaier. 2000. "Economic Determinants of Electoral Outcomes." *Annual Review of Political Science* 3(June): 183-219.

4. Page and Shapiro. *The Rational Public*. Chapter 10.

MARCH 12: CLASS CANCELED (SPRING BREAK)

MARCH 19: SPATIAL MODELS OF THE VOTE: DOWNS AND BEYOND

Required:

1. Blais. *To Vote or Not to Vote*. Entire
2. Downs. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. Entire.
3. Hinich and Munger. *Analytical Politics*. Chapters 1-4, 8.
4. Riker, William and Peter Ordeshook. 1968. "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting." *American Political Science Review* 62(1): 25-42.
5. Aldrich, John. 1993. "Rational Choice and Turnout." *American Journal of Political Science* 37(1): 246-278.

Recommended:

1. Aragones, Enriqueta and Thomas Palfrey. 2002. "Mixed Equilibrium in a Downsian Model with a Favored Candidate." *Journal of Economic Theory* 103(1): 131-161.
2. Erikson, Robert and David Romero. 1990. "Candidate Equilibrium and the Behavioral Model of the Vote." *American Political Science Review* 84(4): 1103-1126.
3. Groseclose, Tim. 2001. "A Model of Candidate Location When One Candidate Has a Valence Advantage." *American Journal of Political Science* 45(4): 862-886.
4. Morton, Rebecca. *Analyzing Elections*. Chapter 3.
5. Wright, Gerald, and Michael Berkman. 1986. "Candidates and Policy in United States Senate Elections." *American Political Science Review* 80(2):567-588.

MARCH 26: VOTER TURNOUT

Required:

1. Ansolabehere, Stephen and Shanto Iyengar, et al. 1994. "Does Attack Advertising Demobilize the Electorate?" *American Political Science Review* 88(4): 829-838.
2. Geer. *In Defense of Negativity*. Entire.
3. McDonald, Michael, and Samuel Popkin. 2001. "The Myth of the Vanishing Voter." *American Political Science Review* 95 (4): 963-974.
4. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies*. Chapters 2-5.
5. Rosenstone and Hansen. *Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America*. Entire.

Recommended:

1. Abramson, et al. *Change and Continuity in the 2008 Elections*. Chapter 4.
2. Ansolabehere, Stephen and Shanto Iyengar. *Going Negative: How Attack Ads Shrink and Polarize the Electorate*.
3. Citrin, Jack, Eric Schickler, and John Sides. 2003. "What if Everyone Voted? Simulating the Impact of Increased Turnout in Senate Elections." *American Journal of Political Science* 47(1):75-90.
4. Finkel, Steven and John Geer. 1998. "A Spot Check: Casting Doubt on the Demobilizing Effect of Attack Advertising." *American Journal of Political Science* 42(2): 573-595.
5. Gerber, Alan, and Donald Green. 1999. "Does Canvassing Increase Voter Turnout: A Field Experiment." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 96(19): 10939-10942.
6. Gerber, Alan, and Donald Green. 2000. "The Effect of Canvassing, Direct Mail, and Telephone Contact on Voter Turnout: A Field Experiment." *American Political Science Review* 94: 653-663.

7. Green, Donald and Ron Shachar. 2000. "Habit-formation and Political Behavior: Evidence of Consuetude in Voter Turnout." *British Journal of Political Science* 30: 561-573.
8. Niemi and Weisberg. *Classics*. Chapters 2-3.
9. Oliver, J. Eric and Raymond Wolfinger. 1999. "Jury Aversion and Voter Registration." *American Political Science Review* 93(1): 147-152.
10. Patterson, Thomas. *The Vanishing Voter: Public Involvement in an Age of Uncertainty*.
11. Putnam, Robert. *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*.
12. Teixeira, Ruy. *The Disappearing American Voter*.
13. Verba, et al. *Voice and Equality: Civic Voluntarism in American Politics*.
14. Wattenberg. *Where Have All the Voters Gone?*
15. Wattenberg, Martin and Craig Leonard Briens. 1999. "Negative Campaign Advertising: Demobilizer or Mobilizer?" *American Political Science Review* 93(4): 891-899.

APRIL 2: ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS AND ELECTORAL REFORM

Required:

1. Berinsky, Adam. 2005. "The Perverse Consequences of Electoral Reform in the United States." *American Politics Research*. 33: 471-491
2. Mitchell, Glenn and Christopher Wlezien. 1995. "The Impact of Legal Constraints on Voter Registration, Turnout, and the Composition of the American Electorate." *Political Behavior* 17: 179-202.
3. Timpone, Richard. 1998. "Structure, Behavior, and Voter Turnout in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 92: 145-58.
4. Rigby, Elizabeth, and Melanie Springer. 2011. "Does Electoral Reform Increase (or Decrease) Political Equality?" *Political Research Quarterly* 64: 420-434.
5. Wolfinger and Rosenstone. *Who Votes?* Entire.

Recommended:

1. Bense, Richard. *The American Ballot Box in the Mid-Nineteenth Century*.
2. Boyd, Richard W. 1981. "Decline of US Voter Turnout: Structural Explanations." *American Politics Quarterly* 9: 133-59.
3. Fitzgerald, Mary. 2005. "Greater Convenience but not Greater Turnout." *American Politics Research* 33: 842-67.
4. Hanmer, Michael. *Discount Voting: Voter Registration Reforms and their Effects*.
5. Keyssar, Alexander. *The Right to Vote: The Contested History of Democracy in the United States*.
6. Knack, Stephen. 1995. "Does Motor Voter Work? Evidence from State-Level Data." *The Journal of Politics* 57: 796-811.
7. Piven, Frances Fox and Richard A. Cloward. *Why Americans Still Don't Vote and Why Politicians Want it that Way*.
8. Rhine, Staci L. 1995. "Registration Reform and Turnout Change in the American States." *American Politics Quarterly* 23(4): 409-426.
9. Thompson, Dennis. *Just Elections: Creating a Fair Electoral Process in the United States*.

APRIL 9: CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS I

Required:

1. Cox, Gary and Jonathan Katz. 1996. "Why Did the Incumbency Advantage in US. House Elections Grow?" *American Journal of Political Science* 40(2): 478-497.
2. Erikson, Robert. 1988. "The Puzzle of Midterm Loss." *The Journal of Politics* 50(4) 1011-1029.
3. Fenno, Richard. *Home Style*. Entire

4. Jacobson, Gary. *The Politics of Congressional Elections*. Entire.
5. Miller, Warren and Donald Stokes. 1963. "Constituency Influence in Congress." *American Political Science Review* 57(1): 45-56.
6. Niemi and Weisberg. *Controversies*. Chapters 14-16.

Recommended:

1. Abramson, et al. *Change and Continuity in the 2008 Elections*. Chapter 9-11.
2. Ansolabehere, Stephen, James M. Snyder, Jr., and Charles Stewart. 2001. "Candidate Positioning in U.S. House Elections." *American Journal of Political Science* 45(1): 136-159.
3. Ansolabehere, Stephen, Alan Gerber, and Jim Snyder. 2002. "Equal Votes, Equal Money: Court-Ordered Redistricting and Public Expenditures in the American States." *American Political Science Review* 96(4): 767-777.
4. Erikson, Robert S. and Lee Sigelman. 1995. "Poll-Based Forecasts of Midterm Congressional Elections: Do the Pollsters get it Right?" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 59 (Winter) 589-605.
5. Mayhew, David. 1975. *Congress: The Electoral Connection*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
6. Morton, Rebecca. *Analyzing Elections*. Chapter 6.
7. Niemi and Weisberg. *Classics*. Chapters 15-20.

APRIL 16: CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS II

Required:

1. Jacobson, Gary C. 1978. "The Effects of Campaign Spending in Congressional Elections." *American Political Science Review* 72(2): 469-491.
2. Green, Donald and Jonathan Krasno. 1988. "Salvation for the Spendthrift Incumbent: Reestimating the Effects of Campaign Spending in House Elections." *American Journal of Political Science* 32:884-907.
3. Jacobson, Gary C. 1990. "The Effects of Campaign Spending in House Elections: New Evidence for Old Arguments." *American Journal of Political Science* 34(May): 334-362.
4. Green, Donald, and Jonathan Krasno. 1990. "Rebuttal to Jacobson's 'New Evidence for Old Arguments.'" *American Journal of Political Science* 34:363-372.
5. Gerber, Alan. 1998. "Estimating the Effect of Campaign Spending on Senate Election Outcomes Using Instrumental Variables." *American Political Science Review* 92(2): 401-411.
6. Erikson, Robert and Thomas Palfrey. 2000. "Equilibria in Campaign Spending Games: Theory and Data." *American Political Science Review* 94(3): 595-609.

Recommended:

1. Brown, Powell, and Wilcox. *Serious Money*. Chapters 1, 3-4.
2. Erikson, Robert S. and Thomas Palfrey. 1998. "Campaign Spending and Incumbency: An Alternative Simultaneous Equations Approach." *The Journal of Politics* 60(2): 355-373.
3. Morton, Rebecca and Charles Cameron. 1992. "Elections and Theory of Campaign Contributions: A Survey and Critical Analysis." *Economics and Politics* 4:79-108.

APRIL 23: PRESENTATION OF STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS

Required:

1. Student research paper summaries.