

Political Science 202

Fall 2016

Lectures on Mondays and Wednesdays (and occasional Fridays), 11:15-12:25

Recitations on Thursdays or Fridays

Argument in Political Science

Professor Gerald Gamm
Harkness Hall 319
585-275-8573
gerald.gamm@rochester.edu
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(1996).

5. Ira Katznelson, *When Affirmative Action Was White* (2005).

6. David Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection* (1974). **Any edition is fine.**

Course website

Blackboard contains lots of information essential to the course. It also contains selected student papers, supplemental readings for discussion in your recitation, and links to all required readings not in the books listed above. To access these readings off-campus, you will need to need to download and run VPN (so that your computer can be viewed as part of the University's network). You can find VPN at

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Unit CÑ Democratic Tyranny

Sept.19 Lecture
Sept.21 Lecture
Sept.22/23 Recitation

Paper due Sep20. What does Tocqueville see as the chief threats posed by democratic rule to individual liberty--threats emanating from society generally, from majority rule in government, from public opinion, and from the general sway of democratic and egalitarian ideals? Analyze the basis of Calhoun's fear of democratic rule (in particular, government by the numerical majority) and the institutional solution proposed by Calhoun to address this fear.

Alexis de Tocqueville Democracy in America ed. J. P. Mayer and transl. George Lawrence xivii 9-20, 5060, 173, 1969, 205-8, 231-35, 24661, 433-36, 5039, 535-38, 66774, 690705.

John C. Calhoun, excerpt from A Disquisition on Government

Unit DÑ Democratic Liberty

Sept.26 Lecture
Sept.28 Lecture
Sept.29/30 Recitation

Paper due Sept. 27 What are the norms, behavior

Unit EÑ Social Choice and the Origins of American Political Parties

Oct. 3 No classÑ Rosh Hashanah
Oct. 5 Lecture
Oct. 7 Lecture
Oct. 10 Lecture
Oct. 12 No classÑ Yom Kippur
Oct. 13/14 Recitation

Paper due at the start of class Monday, October 10. According to Aldrich, how did dissatisfaction with vote tradingÑ such as what we presume occurred in the room where it happenedÑ please Hamilton, then, later, Madison and Jefferson, to organize the nationÑs first political parties? Answering this question, show how Aldrich draws on social choice theory for his analysis. Also, discuss how AldrichÑs emphasis on the "great principle" differs from MadisonÑs (admittedly, partisan) view () 4 6 (5ue)0T Qg

Unit GÑ Collective Action, Ambition, and Two Party Politics

Oct. 24 Lecture

Oct. 26 Lecture

Oct. 27/28 Recitation

Paper due Oct. 25. How do Holt and Aldrich each account for the collapse of the Whig party and the rise of the Republicans in the 1850s? Are their explanations similar or fundamentally different?

John Aldrich, Why Parties? 43-64, 102-59.

Michael F. Holt, "The Politics of Impatience: The Origins of Know Nothingism," *Journal of American History* 60 (1973), 30

Unit KÑ Reform and the Rise of Polarized Politics
Nov. 21 Lecture
Nov. 23 No class Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 25 No class