

University of Rochester Political Science

Psc

1. A 1-2 page paper on each of the ten readings below marked with **
These short papers should summarize what the main question is that the reading asks, how the reading answers this question, and how effective the argument of the reading is. These short papers are due at the beginning of class. Late work will not be accepted, but I will drop the lowest score from the papers over the course of the semester. (40%)

2. An in-class midterm on a date to be announced. (30%)

Topic 4 Cyclical Majorities, Agenda Control, and Voting Paradoxes and Applications to Political Development

- Shepsle & Bonchek, Chapter 4, pp. 49–62
- selections from Aldrich, *Why Parties?*

Topic 5 Thinking Abstractly about Voting: Arrow and May

- Shepsle & Bonchek, Chapter 4, pp. 63–81

Topic 6 The Spatial Model of Voting

- Shepsle & Bonchek, Chapter 5
- Duncan Black, "On the Rationale of Group Decision-making," *Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 56, No. 1. (Feb., 1948), pp. 23-34. (JSTOR)

Topic 7 Applications of Spatial Voting: The Setter Model and Models of Legislatures, Diplomacy, Bush v. Gore

- Shepsle & Bonchek, Chapter 5, pp. 115–136
- ** Putnam, "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games," *International Organization*, Vol. 42, No. 3. (1988), pp. 427-460. (JSTOR)
- Abramowicz and Stearns, *Beyond Counting Votes: The Political Economy of Bush v. Gore*, 2001, George Mason Law and Economics Research Paper No. 01-09. (link)

Topic 8 Measuring Voting Power

- Shapley and Shubik, "A Method for Evaluating the Distribution of Power in a Committee System," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 48, No. 3. (1954), pp. 787-792. (JSTOR)
- Steven Brams, *Game Theory and Politics*, Ch. 5

Topic 9 Models of Diversity

Topic 10 Utility Theory and Applications to Voting, Cheating, and Surprise

- Shepsle & Bonchek, Chapter 2, pp. 31–35

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Prof. Mark Fey

Syllabus

Spring 2007

- Shepsle & Bonchek, Chapter 16 (pp. 432–456)
- Michael Laver, *Private Desires, Political Action*, Ch. 7

Topic 22 Games and Information and Applications to Voting and War

- Dixit & Skeath, Chapter 9
- ** James D. Fearon, "Rationalist Explanations for War", *International Organization*, Vol. 49, No. 3 (Summer), 1995: 379-414. (JSTOR)