

Political Science 218/218W/518 and History 377W/477  
Spring 2015  
Mondays, 12:30–3:15

Gerald Gamm  
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Office hours: Friday mornings, 9:00-10:00

Through reading and research, this course examines major issues in congressional history and legislative organization. This course is appropriate for graduate students as well as qualified undergraduates with permission of the instructor.

Students are expected to read and discuss the assigned readings. The course will be held in a seminar format. (Yale University Library) [www.yalebooks.com](http://www.yalebooks.com) is a good source for the readings. Assignments will be given and discussed.

David R. Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1974).

Sarah A. Binder, *Minority Rights, Majority Rule: Partisanship and the Development of Congress* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997).

Richard F. Fenno, Jr., *Congressmen in Committees* (1973; rpt. Berkeley: Institute of Governmental Studies Press, 1995).

Ira Katznelson, *When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2005).

David W. Rohde, *Parties and Leaders in the Postreform House* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991).

Barbara Sinclair, *Party Wars: Polarization and the Politics of National Policy Making* (Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 2006).

Morris P. Fiorina with Samuel J. Abrams, *Disconnect: T*

### Track One: Graduate Students and Upper-level Writing Undergraduates

Informed participation in weekly discussions (35%). Students are required to attend all scheduled class meetings, having read all assigned material; students who do not attend regularly will not receive credit for the course. Students are encouraged to listen attentively to others, to draw others into class discussions, and to take risks by asking questions and throwing out new ideas.

Three short papers (25% total). In 3-

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*Introduction*

Jan. 19 No class Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Jan. 26 The Electoral Connection

David R. Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1974).

Michael Les Benedict, "The Party, Going Strong: Congress and Elections in the Mid-19th Century," *Congress & the Presidency* (1981-82), 37-60.

William T. Bianco, David B. Spence, and John D. Wilkerson, "The Electoral Connection in the Early Congress: The Case of the Compensation Act of 1816," *American Journal of Political Science* 40 (1996), 145-71.

Justin Grimmer, Solomon Messing, and Sean J. Westwood, "How Words and Money

Feb. 16 Leaders, Followers, and Insurgents  
With Kenneth A. Shepsle (Harvard University)

Cl L a a s d O. J s , f s p | G. C  
Journal of Politics 30 (1968), 1-16  
Joseph Cooper and David W. Brady, "Institutional Context and Leadership Style: The House  
from Cannon to Rayburn," *American Political Science Review* 75 (1981), 411-25.  
D a v d . R d a d  
R p s s : R s a *Congressional Government*, s  
Congress & the Presidency (1987), 111-33.  
Gerald Gamm and Kenneth A. Shepsle, "Emergence of Legislative Institutions: Standing  
Committees in the House and Senate, 1810-1825," *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 14  
(1989), 39-66.  
Randall ET Q q 0.24 0 0 0.24 350.54y40 0 Tm /TTgislati475 544.92cm BT 50 0 0 50 032 (m) 0.2 (i) 0.2 (t)

*Mar. 9 No Class—Spring Recess*

M 6 16 R g d s Si

Ira Katznelson, *When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth*

William H. Riker, "The Senate and American Federalism," *American Political Science Review* 49 (1955), 452-69.

Charles Stewart III and Barry R. Weingast, "Stacking the Senate, Changing the Nation: Republican Rotten Boroughs, Statehood Politics, and American Political Development," *Studies in American Political Development* 6 (1992), 223-71.

Sean Gailmard and Jeffrey A. Jenkins, "Agency Problems, the 17th Amendment, and Representation in the Senate," *Journal of Politics* 68 (2006), 345-57.

Sean Gailmard and Jeffrey A. Jenkins, "Agency Problems, the 17th Amendment, and Representation in the Senate," *American Journal of Political Science* 53 (2009), 324-42.

Sean Gailmard and Jeffrey A. Jenkins, "The 17th Amendment and Representation in the Senate," *Journal of Politics* 75 (2013), 835-47.

A Partisan Polarization in American Politics  
With Morris Fiorina (Stanford University)

Gary C. Jacobson, "Partisan Polarization in American Politics: A Background Paper,"  
*Presidential Studies Quarterly* 43 (2013), 688-708.

Alan I. Abramowitz, "The Electoral Roots of America's Dysfunctional Government,"  
*Presidential Studies Quarterly* 43 (2013), 709-31.

Morris P. Fiorina with Samuel J. Abrams, *Disconnect: The Breakdown of Representation in  
American Politics* (Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 2009), 1-161.