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Fall 2004, Mondays 2:00 - 4:40
Office Hours: Tuesday 1-3 and by appt.
www.rochester.edu/College/PSC/primo

PSC 231/231W: Money in Politics

Course Description

This seminar will examine the role of money in the U.S. political process. Topics include the historical development of campaign finance law, the electoral effects of campaign spending, the effects of campaign contributions on public policy outcomes, and various reform proposals (including the 2002 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act). The institutions responsible for the creation, enforcement, and interpretation of campaign finance law will also be analyzed. Students will be asked to think critically about concepts such as equality, liberty, and representation, which drive the questions and debates in this area.

Course Requirements

Class Participation. 20 percent of your grade will be based on participation in class discussions. It is essential for the success of the seminar that you come to class prepared and ready to discuss the readings. You are expected to attend each class, and you should let me know when you will not be attending. If you remain silent during the semester and/or come to class unprepared, your class participation grade will suffer.

Take-Home Essays. 40 percent of your grade will be based on **two** 750-1,000 word essays that

Readings

There are three required books for this course; all other readings are available in a course packet available at the copy center in Meliora Hall. When appropriate, I will make available, either online or in class, additional short readings based on ongoing events in campaign finance.

Magleby, David, ed. 2002. *Financing the 2000 Election*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press.

Smith, Bradley A. 2003. *Unfree Speech: The Folly of Campaign Finance Reform*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

West, Darrell M., and Burdett A. Loomis. 1999. *The Sound of Money: How Political Interests Get What They Want*. New York: Norton.

Course Website

<http://www.lib.rochester.edu/index.cfm?page=11&searchtype=rcl&TheClass=6538>

If this link does not work, go the main library web page, click on course resources, and follow

September 13: Introduction and Overview

September 20: Federal Campaign Finance Law, Past and Present; Liberty vs. Equality

Malbin, Michael J. 2003. "Thinking About Reform." In *Life After Reform*, ed. Michael J. Malbin. Washington, DC: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 3-20.

Corrado, Anthony. 2003. "The Legislative Odyssey of BCRA." In *Life After Reform*, ed. Michael J. Malbin. Washington, DC: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 21-39.

Excerpt from Potter, Trevor. 2003. "The Current State of Campaign Finance Law."
(Note: Potter's analysis of *McConnell* summarizes the appeals court decision, not the Supreme Court decision.)

Briffault, Richard. 2004. "*McConnell v. FEC*

October 11: Presidential Elections

First Take-Home Essay Handed Out; Paper Topics Due

Wildavsky, Aaron, and Nelson W. Polsby. 2004. *Presidential Elections*. 11th edition. New York: Chatham House, ch. 3.

Green, John C., and Nathan S. Bigelow. 2002. "The 2000 Presidential Nominations: The Costs of Innovation." In *Financing the 2000 Election*, ed. David B. Magleby. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, pp. 49-78.

Corrado, Anthony. 2002. "Financing the 2000 Presidential General Election." In *Financing the 2000 Election*, ed. David B. Magleby. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, pp. 79-105.

Corrado, Anthony. 2000. *Campaign Finance Reform*. New York: Century Foundation Press, ch. 5.

Green, John C., and Anthony Corrado. 2003. "The Impact of BCRA on Presidential Campaign Finance." In *Life After Reform*, ed. Michael J. Malbin. Washington, DC: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 175-197.

Campaign Finance Institute. 2003. *Participation, Competition, Engagement*. Washington, DC: Campaign Finance Institute, Executive Summary.

October 25: Does Money Influence Policy Outcomes? I

First Take-Home Essay Due at 2 PM

West and Loomis (all)

Hall, Richard L., and Frank W. Wayman. 1990. "Buying Time: Moneyed Interests and the Mobilization of Bias in Congressional Committees." *American Political Science Review* 84:797-820.

November 1: Does Money Influence Policy Outcomes? II

Ansola-behere, Stephen, John M. de Figueiredo, and James M. Snyder, Jr. 2003. "Why is There So Little Money in U.S. Politics?"

November 29: Challenges to the System

Smith, chs. 3-5.

Cohen, Joshua. 2001. "Money, Politics, and Political Equality." In *Fact and Value*, ed. Alex Byrne, Robert Stalnaker, and Ralph Wedgwood. Cambridge: MIT Press, pp. 48-80.

Ackerman, Bruce, and Ian Ayres. 2002. *Voting With Dollars*. New Haven: Yale University Press, chs. 1, 6.

Selection From *Designing Democratic Institutions*

- Ayres, Ian. 2000. "Disclosure Versus Anonymity in Campaign Finance." In *Designing Democratic Institutions*, ed. Ian Shapiro and Stephen Macedo. New York: New York University Press, pp. 19-54.
- Brennan, Geoffrey, and Alan Hamlin. 2000. "Paying for Politics." In *Designing Democratic Institutions*, ed. Ian Shapiro and Stephen Macedo. New York: New York University Press, pp. 55-74. **hen g8 4**