

**POLI 102C**

**AMERICAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT: AKA "REFORM AND THE SEARCH FOR A COMMUNITY OF INTEREST"**

Tu Th 2-4:50 SOLIS 111

NOTE: FINAL -- SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 11:30-2:29 Room TBA

**Note: minor changes may be made to this syllabus throughout the quarter. You are responsible for any changes mentioned in class, even if you are absent.**

**Instructor: Peter F. Galderisi** Office Hours: W 10-12, SSB 448

Email: [pgalderisi@ucsd.edu](mailto:pgalderisi@ucsd.edu)--please feel free to email me with questions/concerns at any time.

I generally read my emails each morning and continue through early evening

**Grader: Lindsay Nielson**

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U.S. politics and institutions have changed greatly since the founding of this country. Most doubt that the Constitutional framers would even recognize the system they launched in the 18th Century. On the other hand, some of the questions and concerns over the nature of that system have continued to be asked, answered, and asked again over 200+ years of history. In five weeks, we can't hope to cover all of this "change and continuity" of U.S. political and institutional debate. Although the specific *topics* we will discuss are far from a complete set, we will focus on two basic and recurrent *themes* in U.S. governance:

1. What should be the nature of democracy and representation and how do we resolve potential conflicts between the two? In particular, how do we define the "community of interest" that should determine what or who gets represented?
2. How do we answer the first question within a context of continuing ambivalence towards governmental power?

The course will progress through four stages of development, each covering a major era of reform: Constitutional origins and their aftermath; party development; Progressivism—including current reforms; voting rights and the reapportionment revolution.

The class assumes a basic knowledge of U.S. government. It also assumes agreement on a common premise: reforms aren't all they initially seem to be—not even for the reformers themselves.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

A. **Attendance**--in both body and mind. Please don't ask me if it's OK to take a week or two off.

B. **Readings**--should be completed before class discussion (a prerequisite for the second condition in A). Of course, I can't enforce that rule on the first day or two. A tentative schedule of readings begins on the back page of this handout. I'll mention the readings required each class as the lectures progress.

One book is required for this class, available for purchase in the campus bookstore or through online book sellers:

Wirls and Wirls: *The Invention of the U.S. Senate*

In addition, in order to reduce costs, two other sets of readings are required:

1. A course reader is/will be available for purchase from University Readers the first week of class (Order online at <http://www.universityreaders.com/students>-- the first few selections (20%) will be available through an online link if the reader is not yet available for purchase).
2. In addition, several other essays (marked with an \* ) of various lengths will be required and will be available online directly or through the UCSD library server (access on campus or at home through a proxy server--<http://webproxy.ucsd.edu/proxy.pl> – directions for different platforms/operating systems at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/Blink/External/Topics/Policy/0,1162,24528,00.html> )

C. **Exams**--One take-home midterm (35-40%) and one in-class final (60-65%) are scheduled for this course, each consisting of a choice of short and (for the final) long essays (I'll explain how that works later). All will be designed to test your ability to think about, integrate, and logically organize the course readings and lectures. The midterm is scheduled to be turned in Thursday, July 16, at the *beginning* of class and through the "TurnItIn" WebCt link for this class. The questions will be distributed July 9. The final (in-class) will be administered August 1. A list of possible exam questions will be distributed July 23.

(Please note: any requests to review exam grades must be made in writing (typed) with a full and detailed justification for the request.)

**POLICY ON CHEATING**

Failure--no exceptions. "Cheating" includes working together on the in-class exam or the take home midterm. You can help each other with general questions about basic concepts, facts, readings, lectures, citation style, etc. In fact, I strongly suggest you do so on a regular basis. On the other hand, collaborating on the essays or take home themselves, either in preparation or final production, is strictly forbidden. If you are not sure about the distinction, please ask me to clarify.

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is the intentional use of another's words (by direct transcription) or ideas (by paraphrasing) without attribution. University prohibitions against plagiarism are rather clear. Again, if you are not sure about the meaning of plagiarism, please ask me to clarify.

## TENTATIVE OUTLINE OF READINGS – dates are *suggestive* only

### I. A. Democracy and Representation in U.S. Political Development( June 30- July 2)

\*Kurland and Lerner (1987), *The Founders' Constitution*—selected readings available free online

Thomas Paine, *Dissertation on the First Principles of Government*

<http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s40.html>

John Adams to James Sullivan 26 May 1776 <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s10.html>

*Federal Farmer*, no. 9 <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s24.html>

Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist*, no. 35 <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s25.html>

Edmund Burke, *Speech to the Electors of Bristol* <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s7.html>

Debate in House of Representatives 15 Aug. 1789 <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s39.html>

*Federal Farmer*, no. 7 <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch13s22.html>

James Madison, *Federalist*, no. 10 <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch4s19.html>

Records of the Federal Convention 6 June <http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch4s12.html>

James Morone (1998), *The Democratic Wish*, Chapter 1 (general overview of reform movements)

### I.B. The First Reform—the U.S. Constitution (July 2-7)

Wirls and Wirls, Chapters 1-6

### I.C. Constitutional Reform in Practice: the Washington Community and the Development of Political Community (July 9)

James Sterling Young, (1966), *The Washington Community*, selections

Wirls and Wirls, Chapters 7-8

### II.A.. Democratic Reform and Party Development-Part 1 (July 14)

Chilton Williamson (1960), *American Suffrage from Property to Democracy*, Chapters 1 and 7

William N. Chambers and Philip C. Davis (1978), "Party, competition, and mass participation: the case of the democratizing party system, 1824-1852"

## MIDTERM DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS, July 16 and through TurnItIn

### II.B. The "Shrine of Party": Party as Community (July 16)

Joel H. Silbey, "Party Organization in Nineteenth-Century America"

William Crotty, "Urban Political Machines"

### III. "Progressive Reform" in the North and South (July 16-21)

Arthur Link and Richard McCormick (1983), *Progressivism*, Chapter 2 ("A transformation of politics and government")

Leon Epstein (1986), *Political Parties in the American Mold*, Chapter 6 ("Parties as public utilities") – available separately at university readers.com

J. Morgan Kousser (1974), *The Shaping of Southern Politics*, Chapter 2 and 3

### IV.A. Redefining Voting Equality and Community—the Institutionalization of the U.S. Congressional Community, the Reapportionment Revolution and Redistricting (July 23-30)

\*Nelson W. Polsby (1968), "The institutionalization of the U.S. house of representatives" (*APSR*, vol. 62, no. 2)

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1953331.pdf>

\*Lyons and Galderisi (1995), "Incumbency, reapportionment, and U. S. House redistricting" (*Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 48, No. 4 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/448978.pdf>)

David T. Canon, "Race, Redistricting, and the Courts"

\*Bruce Cain (1985), "Assessing the partisan effects of redistricting" (*APSR*, vol. 79: no. 2)

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1956652.pdf>

J. Morgan Kousser, "Reapportionment Wars: Party, Race, and Redistricting in California, 1991-1992"

Gary C. Jacobson, "All Quiet on the Western Front"

### IV. B. Alternative Electoral Systems—Redefining "Communities of Interest" (July 30)

Richard L. Engstrom, "Missing the Target"