

POS 6207
Political Behavior
Spring 2016

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Required texts:

Robert S. Erikson and Kent L. Tedin, *American Public Opinion: Its Origins, Content, and Impact*, 9th ed. (Pearson 2014).

Benjamin I. Page and Lawrence R. Jacobs, *Class War? What Americans Really Think about Economic Inequality* (University of Chicago Press, 2009).

Note: Erikson-Tedin is not a required text *per se*. It is listed here more as a reference that provides general background material on many of the topics covered in this course.

Other books that you might find useful:

Paul R. Abramson, John H. Aldrich, Brad T. Gomez, and David W. Rohde, *Change and Continuity in the 2012 and 2014 Elections* (CQ Press, 2016).

Russell J. Dalton, *Citizen Politics: Public Opinion and Political Parties in Advanced Western Democracies*, 6th ed. (CQ Press, 2014).

Christopher Ellis and James A. Stimson, *Ideology in America* (Cambridge University Press, 2012).

Richard G. Niemi, Herbert F. Weisberg, and David C. Kimball, eds., *Controversies in Voting Behavior*, 5th ed. (CQ Press, 2011).

Most book titles listed throughout this syllabus have been placed on 2-hour reserve at Smathers Library, though a few may only be available only as e-books. Most articles are available via the Smathers Library e-journal link (www.uflib.ufl.edu), or off-campus with your gatorlink account at www.uflib.ufl.edu/ufproxy.html. Selected book chapters can be accessed through UF e-Learning Support Services at <https://elearning.ufl.edu>.

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the (mostly) academic literature and major controversies regarding public opinion, voting behavior, and political participation – primarily, though not exclusively, in the United States. For example: How much do ordinary citizens know about politics and government? How complete is their understanding of important issues, and to what extent do preferences on those issues guide their voting choices? Is the public as ideologically polarized along liberal-conservative lines as the popular media often makes it out to be? Why don't more Americans participate in politics, either at the polls or in other ways? Do low participation rates mean that the United States is less “democratic” than its citizens would like to believe? Why have Americans become increasingly mistrustful of their governmental leaders and institutions? These are only a few of the questions that will be examined over the next few months.

Your grade will be determined according to the following criteria:

Part I. Attendance and participation (25 percent). Attendance matters, since you cannot participate if you're not in class. However, the largest portion of this grade will reflect whether students make an *informed* (showing familiarity with assigned readings) contribution to class discussions.

Part II. Weekly essays (25 percent). Each student will complete six essays (each approximately 500 words in length) based on the last twelve topics (#3 through #14) outlined below. These essays should do one of the following:

- provide a theoretical overview linking several (though not necessarily all) of the week's readings;

- identify a question left unanswered by the week's readings, and briefly suggest what kind of research might be done to fill in the blanks;
- provide a methodological critique of one or more of the week's readings; or
- discuss findings from studies of U.S. political behavior in a comparative context and/or vice versa.

Don't lose track of where you stand (in terms of meeting the quota of six) because there will be no opportunities for extra credit at the end.

Note: It is expected that all essays will represent original work by students (or, when the work of others is referenced, be properly cited). To ensure that this is the case, essays must be submitted to an online plagiarism service called turnitin.com. Here is how it works:

The first step is that you need to create a student profile:

1. go to www.turnitin.com
2. click on create user profile
3. fill in your personal email address
4. fill in your personal password
5. type of user: choose student
6. enter class ID (11333293) and password (behavior)
7. follow instructions

To log in after creating profile:

1. enter your personal email and password in the box on the upper right hand corner of the home page www.turnitin.com
2. click on Political Behavior (Graduate)
3. from there you can submit your paper, just like adding an attachment to an email.
4. be sure to get an electronic receipt; this will ensure that you are not penalized in the event that your essay is not properly logged in (something that doesn't happen often – but it happens).

Each essay has its own assignment folder. The procedure that you should follow is to (1) give me a hard copy of your essay during class on the specified date; and (2) submit an electronic copy to turnitin.com before 8 p.m. that same day. Any assignment that is late (either hard copy or electronic) will be docked a minimum of one letter grade. Any assignment that does not constitute original work by the author will be subject to penalties consistent with the UF Code of Student Conduct.

Part III. Paper/Exam/Teach/Memo. Each student also is required to do any two of the following (25 percent each, for a combined total of 50 percent):

- Write a term paper, approximately 12-15 pages in length, that reviews some topic of your own choosing (selected in consultation with me), develops interesting hypotheses relating to that topic, and provides the outline of a research project appropriate for testing those hypotheses. The paper is due at noon on Friday, April 22. (Note: For some of you, especially the ph.d. types, the paper you do here can serve as the first stage of a project that you will further develop – and perhaps actually execute – in another seminar or at the dissertation stage. With that possibility in mind, you should feel free to consult with other professors about your topic, as appropriate.)
- Complete a written take-home exam, based on material covered in class and/or in your readings. There will be two questions similar to what students might see on a ph.d. qualifying exam in political behavior. Questions will be sent to students via email at noon on Wednesday, April 20, and answers are due by noon on Friday, April 22.

- Teach a seminar (ph.d. students only), with performance evaluated on the basis of thoroughness, clarity, and insights provided on the topic of the day. Those who wish to pursue this option must (a) declare by Tuesday, January 19 which seminar they would like to lead; and (b) give me an outline of the presentation by noon on the day of the seminar.
- Prepare a campaign memo (campaigning students only), approximately 12-15 pages in length, that explains in layman's terms how the political behavior literature informs some aspect of campaign strategy, tactics, or message. The idea here is to tell the candidate, *for example*, how the academic literature can help you (as general consultant) to (a) anticipate how certain kinds of people are likely to vote, and suggest ways of tilting the distribution of that vote in your favor; (b) understand or predict voter turnout, and how that might affect your campaign; (c) make smart decisions about how to utilize scarce resources (including but not limited to money); (d) shape your message for maximum impact; (e) deal with events, expected or unexpected, that might occur during the campaign; or (f) understand how the candidate's strategic position (e.g., partisanship, incumbency, issues, primary challenge) affects his/her probability of success. This memo is due at noon on Friday, April 22.

Note: All term papers, take-home exams, and campaign memos must be submitted in both hard (to me) and electronic copy (to turnitin.com) by the date and time specified above. Failure to comply will result in a penalty of at least one letter grade, depending on the severity of the offense.

Students are bound by the UF Student Code of Conduct. Anyone who commits an act of academic dishonesty, such as cheating on exams or committing plagiarism on written assignments, will suffer appropriate sanctions and be referred to university authorities for further action.

Any student with a handicap or special need should notify me (and coordinate with Student Services at 202 Peabody Hall) as soon as possible at the beginning of the semester. Every effort will be made to accommodate your situation within the guidelines set forth by the university.

A class listserv has been established so that I can send you occasional announcements and keep you informed about any changes that might occur in the schedule. You are automatically on the list by virtue of being enrolled in this course. You must, however, be sure either to check the email in your gatorlink account on a regular basis, or to forward all gatorlink messages to an account that you use more frequently.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 (Jan 5): Introduction

“Politics is more difficult than physics.” (Albert Einstein)

Assigned Readings:

Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapter 1.

Week 2 (Jan 12): The American Electorate: Early Impressions . . . and They Weren't Pretty

Assigned Readings:

Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapter 2.

D. Sunshine Hillygus, “The Practice of Survey Research: Changes and Challenges” in Adam J. Berinsky, ed., *New Directions in Public Opinion* (2012).

- Bernard Berelson et al., "Democratic Practice and Democratic Theory," in Susan Welch and John Comer, eds., *Public Opinion: Its Formation, Measurement, and Impact* (1975; reprinted from Berelson et al., *Voting*, 1954).
- Philip E. Converse, "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Publics," in David E. Apter, ed., *Ideology and Discontent* (1964).
- Herbert McClosky, "Consensus and Ideology in American Politics," *American Political Science Review* (June 1964).

Recommended Readings:

- Glen Bolger and John Anzalone, "The Demise of Polling Has Been Greatly Exaggerated," *Campaigns and Elections* (2013), <http://www.campaignsandelections.com/magazine/1753/the-demise-of-polling-has-been-greatly-exaggerated>
- Nate Silver, "Is the Polling Industry in Stasis or in Crisis?" (8/25/14), <http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/is-the-polling-industry-in-stasis-or-in-crisis/>; "Polling is Getting Harder But It's a Vital Check on Power" (6/3/15), <http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/polling-is-getting-harder-but-its-a-vital-check-on-power/>
- Bernard R. Berelson et al., *Voting* (1954).
- Angus Campbell et al., *The American Voter* (1960 unabridged).
- Angus Campbell et al., *Elections and the Political Order* (1966), Chapters 4, 5, 8.
- Gabriel Almond and Sidney Verba, *The Civic Culture* (1963).
- Philip E. Converse, "Of Time and Partisan Stability," *Comparative Political Studies* (July 1969).
- V. O. Key, Jr., *The Responsible Electorate* (1966).
- Anthony Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (1957).
- Richard A. Brody and Benjamin I. Page, "Comment: The Assessment of Policy Voting," *American Political Science Review* (June 1972).
- David Easton and Jack Dennis, *Children in the Political System* (1969).
- M. Kent Jennings and Richard G. Niemi, *The Political Character of Adolescence* (1974).
- Robert E. Lane, *Political Ideology: Why the American Common Man Believes What He Does* (1962).
- Samuel A. Stouffer, *Communism, Conformity, and Civil Liberties* (1955).
- James W. Prothro and Charles M. Grigg, "Fundamental Principles of Democracy: Bases of Agreement and Disagreement," *Journal of Politics* (May 1960).
- John L. Sullivan et al., "An Alternative Conceptualization of Political Tolerance: Illusory Increases 1950s-1970s," *American Political Science Review* (September 1979).

Week 3 (Jan 19): Voter Competence: How Stupid Are We?

Assigned Readings:

- Jason Barabas et al., "The Question(s) of Political Knowledge," *American Political Science Review* (November 2014).
- Scott L. Althaus, "Information Effects in Collective Preferences," *American Political Science Review* (September 1998).
- Richard R. Lau et al., "Correct Voting Across Thirty-Three Democracies: A Preliminary Analysis," *British Journal of Political Science* (April 2014).
- Anthony Fowler and Michele Margolis, "The Political Consequences of Uninformed Voters," *Electoral Studies* (June 2014).
- Jennifer Hochschild and Katherine Levine Einstein, "'It Isn't What We Don't Know that Gives Us Trouble, It's What We Know that Ain't So': Misinformation and Democratic Politics," *British Journal of Political Science* (July 2015).
- Charles S. Taber and Milton Lodge, "Motivated Skepticism in the Evaluation of Political Beliefs," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2006).

Recommended Readings:

- Martin Gilens, "Two-Thirds Full? Citizen Competence and Democratic Governance," Chapter 3 in Adam J. Berinsky, ed., *New Directions in Public Opinion* (2012).
- Stephen C. Craig and Michael D. Martinez, "Voter Competence," in Stephen C. Craig and David B. Hill, eds., *The Electoral Challenge: Theory Meets Practice*, 2nd ed., (2011), including response by Mark Blumenthal.
- Jennifer Jerit and Jason Barabas, "Partisan Perceptual Bias and the Information Environment," *Journal of Politics* (July 2012).
- Jennifer Jerit, "Understanding the Knowledge Gap: The Role of Experts and Journalists," *Journal of Politics* (April 2009).
- Richard R. Lau et al., "An Exploration of Correct Voting in Recent U. S. Presidential Elections," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2008).

Week 4 (Jan 26): Ideology: Beyond Red vs. Blue

Assigned Readings:

- Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapter 3.
- Pamela Conover and Stanley Feldman, "The Origins and Meaning of Liberal/Conservative Self-Identifications," *American Journal of Political Science* (November 1981).
- Christopher Ellis and James A. Stimson, "Pathways to Conservative Identification: The Politics of Ideological Contradiction in the United States," in Paul M. Sniderman and Benjamin Highton, eds., *Facing the Challenge of Democracy: Explorations in the Analysis of Public Opinion and Political Participation* (2011).
- William J. M. Claggett et al., "The Evolution of Mass Ideologies in Modern American Politics," *The Forum* (issue 2, 2014).
- William G. Jacoby, "Is There a Culture War? Conflicting Value Structures in American Public Opinion," *American Political Science Review* (November 2014).
- Jon Hurwitz and Mark Peffley. "How Are Foreign Policy Attitudes Structured? A Hierarchical Model," *American Political Science Review* (December 1987).
- Stanley Feldman and John Zaller, "The Political Culture of Ambivalence: Ideological Responses to the Welfare State," *American Journal of Political Science* (February 1992).

Recommended Readings:

- James A. Stimson, *Tides of Consent: How Public Opinion Shapes American Politics*, 2nd ed. (2015). [Smathers Library e-book]
- Christopher Ellis and James A. Stimson, *Ideology in America* (2012).
- Shawn Treier and D. Sunshine Hillygus, "The Nature of Political Ideology in the Contemporary Electorate," *Public Opinion Quarterly* (Winter 2009).
- David E. RePass, "Searching for Voters along the Liberal-Conservative Continuum: The Infrequent Ideologue and the Missing Middle," *The Forum* (issue 2, 2008).
- Christopher Claassen et al., "Ideological Labels in America," *Political Behavior* (June 2015).
- Simon Zshimt, "The Origins and Meaning of Liberal/Conservative Self-Identifications Revisited," *Political Behavior* (December 2011).
- Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, "Beyond Red vs. Blue: The Political Typology," report released June 26, 2014; <http://www.people-press.org/2014/06/26/the-political-typology-beyond-red-vs-blue/>
- Stephen C. Craig et al., "Sometimes You Feel Like a Nut, Sometimes You Don't: Citizens' Ambivalence about Abortion," *Political Psychology* (June 2002).

Week 5 (Feb 2). Partisanship: It's My Party and I'll Cry If I Want To

Assigned Readings:

- Morris P. Fiorina, *Retrospective Voting in American National Elections* (1981), Chapter 5.

- Donald Green et al., *Partisan Hearts and Minds: Political Parties and the Social Identities of Voters* (2002), Chapter 2.
- David B. Magleby and Candice Nelson, "Independent Leaners as Policy Partisans: An Examination of Party Identification and Policy Views," *The Forum* (issue 3, 2012).
- Benjamin Highton and Cindy D. Kam, "The Long-Term Dynamics of Partisanship and Issue Orientations," *Journal of Politics* (January 2011).
- Daniel Stevens et al., "Fair's Fair? Principles, Partisanship, and Perceptions of the Fairness of Campaign Rhetoric," *British Journal of Political Science* (January 2015).
- Paul Goren et al., "Source Cues, Partisan Identities, and Political Value Expression," *American Journal of Political Science* (October 2009).
- Leonie Huddy et al., "Expressive Partisanship: Campaign Involvement, Political Emotion, and Partisan Identity," *American Political Science Review* (February 2015).

Recommended Readings:

- Richard Johnston, "Party Identification: Unmoved Mover or Sum of Preferences," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2006).
- Paul Allen Beck and M. Kent Jennings, "Family Traditions, Political Periods, and the Development of Partisan Orientations," *Journal of Politics* (August 1991).
- Elias Dinas, "Does Choice Bring Loyalty? Electoral Participation and the Development of Party Identification," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2014).
- Thomas M. Carsey and Geoffrey C. Layman, "Changing Sides or Changing Minds? Party Identification and Policy Preferences in the American Electorate," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2006).
- Logan Dancey and Paul Goren, "Party Identification, Issue Attitudes, and the Dynamics of Political Debate," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2010).
- Justin Reedy et al., "How Voters Become Misinformed: An Investigation of the Emergence and Consequences of False Factual Beliefs," *Social Science Quarterly* (December 2014).
- Peter K. Hatemi et al., "Is There a 'Party' in Your Genes?" *Political Research Quarterly* (September 2009).

Week 6 (Feb 9). Political Learning: What Shapes/Moves Public Opinion?

Assigned Readings:

- Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapters 4, 5, 8.
- M. Kent Jennings et al., "Politics across Generations: Family Transition Reexamined," *Journal of Politics* (July 2009).
- James N. Druckman et al., "A Source of Bias in Public Opinion Stability," *American Political Science Review* (May 2012).
- Elias Dinas, "Opening 'Openness to Change': Political Events and the Increased Sensitivity of Young Adults," *Political Research Quarterly* (December 2013).
- Adam J. Berinsky, "Public Opinion and the Iraq War," in Barbara Norrander and Clyde Wilcox, eds., *Understanding Public Opinion*, 3rd ed. (2010).
- Matthew Levendusky, "Why Do Partisan Media Polarize Viewers?" *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2013).
- Thomas E. Nelson and Donald R. Kinder, "Issue Frames and Group-Centrism in American Public Opinion," *Journal of Politics* (November 1996).

Recommended Readings:

- John R. Zaller, *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion* (1992).
- Kevin Arceneaux and Martin Johnson, *Changing Minds or Changing Channels? Partisan News in an Age of Choice* (2013).

- Elias Dinas, "Why Does the Apple Fall Far from the Tree? How Early Political Socialization Prompts Parent-Child Dissimilarity," *British Journal of Political Science* (October 2014).
- Michael MacKuen and Courtney Brown, "Political Context and Attitude Change," *American Political Science Review* (June 1987).
- Diana C. Mutz and Jeffery J. Mondak, "The Workplace as a Context for Cross-Cutting Political Discourse," *Journal of Politics* (February 2006).
- Tim Groeling and Matthew A. Baum, "Crossing the Water's Edge: Elite Rhetoric, Media Coverage, and the Rally-Round-the-Flag Phenomenon," *Journal of Politics* (October 2008).
- John G. Bullock, "Elite Influence on Public Opinion in an Informed Electorate," *American Political Science Review* (August 2011).
- Benjamin Highton, "Updating Political Evaluations: Policy Attitudes, Partisanship, and Presidential Assessments," *Political Behavior* (March 2012).
- Danny Hayes and Matt Guardino, "The Influence of Foreign Voices on U. S. Public Opinion," *American Journal of Political Science* (October 2011).

Week 7 (Feb 16). Social Groups: Demography Is Destiny . . . Or Not

Assigned Readings:

- Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapter 7.
- Pamela Johnston Conover, "The Influence of Group Identifications on Political Perception and Evaluation," *Journal of Politics* (August 1984).
- Virginia Sapiro and Shauna L. Shames., "The Gender Basis of Public Opinion," in Barbara Norrander and Clyde Wilcox, eds., *Understanding Public Opinion*, 3rd ed. (2010).
- Michael Tesler, "The Return of Old-Fashioned Racism to White Americans' Partisan Preferences in the Early Obama Era," *Journal of Politics* (January 2013).
- Brian D. McKenzie and Stella M. Rouse, "Shades of Faith: Religious Foundations of Political Attitudes among African Americans, Latinos, and Whites," *American Journal of Political Science* (January 2013).
- Stephen P. Nicholson and Gary M. Segura, "Who's the Party of the People? Economic Populism and the U.S. Public's Beliefs About Political Parties," *Political Behavior* (June 2012).
- Jeffrey M. Stonecash, "The 2014 House Elections: Political Analysis and the Enduring Importance of Demographics," *The Forum* (issue 4, 2014).

Recommended Readings:

- Robert D. Putnam and David E. Campbell, *American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us* (2010).
- Clem Brooks et al., "Cleavage-Based Voting Behavior in Cross-National Perspective: Evidence from Six Postwar Democracies," *Social Science Research* (March 2006).
- Cindy D. Kam and Donald R. Kinder, "Ethnocentrism as a Short-Term Force in the 2008 American Presidential Election," *Journal of Politics* (April 2012).
- Jane Junn et al., "Asian American Public Opinion," in Robert Y. Shapiro et al., eds., *The Oxford Handbook of American Public Opinion and the Media* (2011).
- Paul M. Kellstedt et al., "The Macro Politics of a Gender Gap," *Public Opinion Quarterly* (Fall 2010).
- John A. Garcia, "Latino Public Opinion: Identity Politics and Policy Preferences," in Barbara Norrander and Clyde Wilcox, eds., *Understanding Public Opinion*, 3rd ed. (2010).
- David E. Campbell et al., "A Jump to the Right, A Step to the Left: Religion and Public Opinion," in Adam J. Berinsky, ed., *New Directions in Public Opinion* (2012).
- Kenneth D. Wald and David C. Leege, "Culture, Religion, and American Political Life," in Corwin E. Smidt et al., eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and American Politics* (2009).

Week 8 (Feb 23). Voting Behavior: Just Another Pretty Face?

Assigned Readings:

- Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapter 9.
- John H. Aldrich et al., "Foreign Affairs and Issue Voting: Do Presidential Candidates 'Waltz Before a Blind Audience?'" *American Political Science Review* (March 1989).
- Stephen Ansolabehere et al., "The Strength of Issues: Using Multiple Measures to Gauge Preference Stability, Ideological Constraint, and Issue Voting," *American Political Science Review* (May 2008).
- Gabriel S. Lenz and Chappell Lawson, "Looking the Part: Television Leads Less Informed Citizens to Vote Based on Candidates' Appearance," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2011).
- Walter J. Stone and Elizabeth N. Simas, "Candidate Valence and Ideological Positions in U.S. House Elections," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2010).
- Allyson L. Holbrook et al., "Attitudes toward Presidential Candidates and Political Parties: Initial Optimism, Inertial First Impressions, and a Focus on Flaws," *American Journal of Political Science* (October 2001).

Recommended Readings:

- Samuel L. Popkin, *The Reasoning Voter: Communication and Persuasion in Presidential Campaigns*, 2nd ed. (1994).
- Richard R. Lau and David P. Redlawsk, *How Voters Decide: Information Processing during Election Campaigns* (2006).
- Patrick J. Egan, *Partisan Priorities: How Issue Ownership Drives and Distorts American Politics* (2013).
- Paul R. Abramson et al., *Change and Continuity in the 2012 and 2014 Elections* (2016). Chapters 6, 8.
- Jon A. Krosnick, "Government Policy and Citizen Passion: A Study of Issue Publics in Contemporary America," *Political Behavior* (March 1990).
- D. Sunshine Hillygus and Todd G. Shields, "Moral Issues and Voter Decision Making in the 2004 Presidential Election," *PS: Political Science & Politics* (April 2005).
- Michael S. Lewis-Beck and Richard Nadeau, "Split-Ticket Voting: The Effects of Cognitive Madisonianism," *Journal of Politics* (February 2004).
- Michael D. Henderson et al., "'Sour Grapes' or Rational Voting? Voter Decision Making among Thwarted Primary Voters in 2008," *Public Opinion Quarterly* (Fall 2010).
- Thomas E. Mann and Raymond E. Wolfinger, "Candidates and Parties in Congressional Elections," *American Political Science Review* (September 1980).
- Danny Hayes, "Trait Voting in U. S. Senate Elections," *American Politics Research* (November 2010).

Week 9 (Mar 8). Retrospective Voting: It's (Usually) the Economy, Stupid

Assigned Readings:

- Paul R. Abramson et al., *Change and Continuity in the 2012 and 2014 Elections* (2016), Chapter 7.
- Andrew Healy and Neal Malhotra, "Retrospective Voting Reconsidered," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2013).
- Michael B. MacKuen et al., "Peasants or Bankers? The American Electorate and the U. S. Economy," *American Political Science Review* (September 1992).
- Diana C. Mutz and Jeffery J. Mondak, "Dimensions of Sociotropic Behavior: Group-Based Judgments of Fairness and Well-Being," *American Journal of Political Science* (January 1997).
- Thomas J. Rudolph and J. Tobin Grant, "An Attributional Model of Economic Voting: Evidence from the 2000 Presidential Election," *Political Research Quarterly* (December 2002).
- Thomas M. Holbrook et al., "Bringing the President Back In: The Collapse of Lehman Brothers and the Evolution of Retrospective Voting in the 2008 Presidential Election," *Political Research Quarterly* (June 2012).

Recommended Readings:

- Morris P. Fiorina, *Retrospective Voting in American National Elections* (1981).
- Gabriel S. Lenz, *Follow the Leader? How Voters Respond to Politicians' Policies and Performance* (2012).

- John R. Wright, "Unemployment and the Democratic Electoral Advantage," *American Political Science Review* (November 2012).
- Alan S. Gerber and Gregory A. Huber, "Partisanship, Political Control, and Economic Assessments," *American Journal of Political Science* (January 2010).
- Pamela Johnston Conover and Stanley Feldman, "Emotional Reactions to the Economy: I'm Mad as Hell and I'm Not Going to Take It Anymore," *American Journal of Political Science* (February 1986).
- Brown, Adam R. 2010. "Are Governors Responsible for the State Economy? Partisanship, Blame, and Divided Federalism." *Journal of Politics*. 72 (July): 605-615.
- James E. Campbell et al., "The Theory of Conditional Retrospective Voting: Does the Presidential Record Matter Less in Open-Seat Elections?" *Journal of Politics* (October 2010).
- Christopher J. Anderson, "Economic Voting and Political Context: A Comparative Perspective," *Electoral Studies* (June 2000).

Week 10 (Mar 15). Polarization/Realignment: Can't We All Just Get Along?

Assigned Readings:

- Morris P. Fiorina, "America's Missing Moderates: Hiding in Plain Sight"; also Alan I. Abramowitz (with a reply by Fiorina), "Polarized or Sorted? Just What's Wrong With Our Politics Anyway," *The American Interest* (March/April 2013).
- Matthew S. Levendusky and Jeremy C. Pope, "Red States Vs. Blue States: Going Beyond the Mean," *Public Opinion Quarterly* (2011).
- Lilliana Mason, "'I Disrespectfully Agree': The Differential Effects of Partisan Sorting on Social and Issue Polarization," *American Journal of Political Science* (January 2015).
- Seth J. Hill and Chris Tausanovitch, "A Disconnect in Representation? Comparison of Trends in Congressional and Public Polarization," *Journal of Politics* (October 2015).
- Douglas J. Ahler, "Self-Fulfilling Misperceptions of Public Polarization," *Journal of Politics* (July 2014).
- Shanto Iyengar and Sean J. Westwood, "Fear and Loathing across Party Lines: New Evidence on Group Polarization," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2015).
- Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, "Political Polarization in the American Public: How Increasing Ideological Uniformity and Partisan Antipathy Affect Politics, Compromise and Everyday Life," report released June 12, 2014; <http://www.people-press.org/files/2014/06/6-12-2014-Political-Polarization-Release.pdf>

Recommended Readings:

- Morris P. Fiorina, with Samuel J. Abrams and Jeremy C. Pope, *Culture War? The Myth of a Polarized America*, 3rd ed. (2011).
- Alan I. Abramowitz, *The Disappearing Center: Engaged Citizens, Polarization, and American Democracy* (2010).
- Matthew Levendusky, *The Partisan Sort: How Liberals Became Democrats and Conservatives Became Republicans* (2009); *How Partisan Media Polarize America* (2013).
- Andrew Gelman et al., *Red State, Blue State, Rich State, Poor State: Why Americans Vote the Way They Do*, expanded edition (2010).
- Markus Prior, "Media and Political Polarization," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2013).
- Jeffrey M. Berry and Sarah Sobieraj, *The Outrage Industry: Political Opinion Media and the New Incivility* (2014); Diana C. Mutz, *In-Your-Face Politics: The Consequences of Uncivil Media* (2015).
- Joseph Daniel Ura, and Christopher R. Ellis, "Partisan Moods: Polarization and the Dynamics of Mass Party Preferences," *Journal of Politics* (January 2012).
- Geoffrey C. Layman et al., "Activists and Conflict Extension in American Party Politics," *American Political Science Review* (May 2010).

- James M. Druckman et al., "How Elite Partisan Polarization Affects Public Opinion Formation," *American Political Science Review* (February 2013).
- Patrick R. Miller and Pamela Johnston Conover, "Red and Blue States of Mind: Partisan Hostility and Voting in the United States," *Political Research Quarterly* (June 2015).
- Kenneth Mulligan, "Variability or Moderation? The Effects of Ambivalence on Political Opinions," *Political Behavior* (September 2013).

Week 11 (Mar 22). Campaign Effects: Playing to Win

Assigned Readings:

- John Sides and Jake Haselswerdt, "Campaigns and Elections," in Adam J. Berinsky, ed., *New Directions in Public Opinion* (2012).
- Andrew Gelman and Gary King, "Why Are American Presidential Election Campaign Polls So Variable When Votes Are So Predictable?" *British Journal of Political Science* (October 1993).
- Peter K. Enns and Brian Richman, "Presidential Campaigns and the Fundamentals Reconsidered," *Journal of Politics* (July 2013).
- Daron R. Shaw, "A Study of Presidential Campaign Event Effects from 1952 to 1992," *Journal of Politics* (May 1999).
- R. Michael Alvarez et al., "Mobilizing Pasadena Democrats: Measuring the Effects of Partisan Campaign Contacts," *Journal of Politics* (January 2010).
- Larry M. Bartels, "Remembering to Forget: A Note on the Duration of Campaign Advertising Effects," *Political Communication* (2014).
- See Week #13 for additional readings on the effects of voter mobilization and campaign advertising.

Recommended Readings:

- Robert S. Erikson and Christopher Wlezien, *The Timeline of Presidential Elections: How Campaigns Do (and Do Not) Matter* (2012).
- Sasha Issenberg, *The Victory Lab: The Secret Science of Winning Campaigns* (2012).
- D. Sunshine Hillygus and Todd G. Shields, *The Persuadable Voter: Wedge Issues in Presidential Campaigns* (2008).
- Kyle Mattes and David P. Redlawsk, *The Positive Case for Negative Campaigning* (2014).
- Daron R. Shaw, "The Effect of TV Ads and Candidate Appearances on Statewide Presidential Votes, 1988-96," *American Political Science Review* (June 1999).
- Kim L. Fridkin et al., "Capturing the Power of a Campaign Event: The 2004 Presidential Debate in Tempe," *Journal of Politics* (August 2007).
- Gregory A. Huber and Kevin Arceneaux, "Identifying the Persuasive Effects of Presidential Advertising," *American Journal of Political Science* (October 2007).
- Eitan D. Hersh and Brian F. Schaffner, "Targeted Campaign Appeals and the Value of Ambiguity," *Journal of Politics* (April 2013).
- Travis N. Ridout et al., "Sponsorship, Disclosure, and Donors: Limiting the Impact of Outside Group Ads," *Political Research Quarterly* (March 2015).
- Kim L. Fridkin and Patrick J. Kenney, "Variability in Citizens' Reactions to Different Types of Negative Campaigns," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2011).
- John Sides and Andrew Karch, "Messages that Mobilize? Issue Publics and the Content of Campaign Advertising," *Journal of Politics* (April 2008).
- Christopher Weber and Matthew Thornton, "Courting Christians: How Political Candidates Prime Religious Considerations in Campaign Ads," *Journal of Politics* (April 2012).
- Ryan D. Enos and Eitan D. Hersh, "Party Activists as Campaign Advertisers: The Ground Campaign as a Principle-Agent Problem," *American Political Science Review* (May 2015).

Week 12 (Mar29). Issue Opinions . . . Are a Dime a Dozen

Assigned Readings:

- Benjamin I. Page and Lawrence R. Jacobs, *Class War? What Americans Really Think about Economic Inequality* (2009).
- Mitchell Killian and Clyde Wilcox, "Do Abortion Attitudes Lead to Party Switching?" *Political Research Quarterly* (December 2008).
- Dettrey, Bryan J. and James E. Campbell. 2013. "Has Growing Income Inequality Polarized the American Electorate? Class, Party, and Ideological Polarization." *Social Science Quarterly* (December 2013).
- Nicholas A. Valentino and David O. Sears, "Old Times There Are Not Forgotten: Race and Partisan Realignment in the Contemporary South," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2005).
- Marc J. Hetherington, and Elizabeth Suhay, "Authoritarianism, Threat, and Americans' Support for the War on Terror," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2011).
- Stephen C. Craig et al., "Core Values, Value Conflict, and Citizens' Ambivalence about Gay Rights," *Political Research Quarterly* (March 2005).

Recommended Readings:

- Leslie McCall, *The Undeserving Rich: American Beliefs about Inequality, Opportunity, and Redistribution* (2013).
- Adam J. Berinsky, "Silent Voices: Social Welfare Policy Opinions and Political Equality in America," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2002).
- Clyde Wilcox and Patrick Carr, "The Puzzling Case of the Abortion Attitudes of the Millennial Generation," in Barbara Norrander and Clyde Wilcox, eds., *Understanding Public Opinion*, 3rd ed. (2010).
- Nancy Burns and Katherine Gallagher, "Public Opinion on Gender Issues: The Politics of Equity and Roles," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2010).
- Christopher Tarman and David O. Sears, "The Conceptualization and Measurement of Symbolic Racism," *Journal of Politics* (August 2005).
- David P. Redlawsk et al., "Voters, Emotions, and Race in 2008: Obama as the First Black President," *Political Research Quarterly* (December 2010).
- Jens Hainmueller and Daniel J. Hopkins, "Public Attitudes Toward Immigration," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2014).
- Darren W. Davis, "Public Opinion, Civil Liberties, and Security in the Post-9/11 Context," in Barbara Norrander and Clyde Wilcox, eds., *Understanding Public Opinion*, 3rd ed. (2010).

Week 13 (Apr 5). Turnout and Participation: How to Be a Good Citizen

Assigned Readings:

- Sidney Verba et al., "Citizen Activity: Who Participates? What Do They Say?" *American Political Science Review* (June 1993).
- Thomas G. Hansford and Brad T. Gomez, "Estimating the Electoral Effects of Voter Turnout," *American Political Science Review* (May 2010).
- Jon C. Rogowski, "Electoral Choice, Ideological Conflict, and Political Participation," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2014).
- Barry C. Burden and Amber Wichowsky, "Economic Discontent as a Mobilizer: Unemployment and Voter Turnout," *Journal of Politics* (October 2014).
- Nicholas A. Valentino et al., "Election Night's Alright for Fighting: The Role of Emotions in Political Participation," *Journal of Politics* (January 2011).
- David W. Nickerson et al., "Partisan Mobilization Campaigns in the Field: Results from a Statewide Turnout Experiment in Michigan," *Political Research Quarterly* (March 2006).

Recommended Readings:

- Sidney Verba and Norman H. Nie, *Participation in America* (1972); also see Verba et al., *Political Participation and Political Equality* (1978).
- Sidney Verba et al., *Voice and Equality: Civic Volunteerism in American Politics* (1995).
- Paul Allen Beck and M. Kent Jennings, "Pathways to Participation," *American Political Science Review* (March 1982).
- Cindy D. Kam and Carl L. Palmer, "Reconsidering the Effects of Education on Political Participation," *Journal of Politics* (July 2008).
- Alan S. Gerber et al., "Personality Traits and Participation in Political Processes," *Journal of Politics* (July 2011).
- Lauren E. Smith and Lee Demetrius Walker, "Belonging, Believing, and Group Behavior: Religiosity and Voting in American Presidential Elections," *Political Research Quarterly* (June 2013).
- Alan S. Gerber and Todd Rogers, "Descriptive Social Norms and Motivation to Vote: Everybody's Voting and So Should You," *Journal of Politics* (January 2009).
- Paul Freedman et al., "Campaign Advertising and Democratic Citizenship," *American Journal of Political Science* (October 2004).
- Jonathan S. Krasno and Donald P. Green, "Do Televised Presidential Ads Increase Voter Turnout? Evidence from a Natural Experiment," *Journal of Politics* (January 2008).
- Yanna Krupnikov, "When Does Negativity Demobilize? Tracing the Conditional Effect of Negative Campaigning on Voter Turnout," *American Journal of Political Science* (October 2011).
- Michael D. Martinez and Jeff Gill, "The Effects of Turnout on Partisan Outcomes in U. S. Presidential Elections, 1960-2000," *Journal of Politics* (November 2005).
- Jack Citrin et al., "What If Everyone Voted? Simulating the Impact of Increased Turnout in Senate Elections," *American Journal of Political Science* (January 2003).
- Brad T. Gomez et al., "The Republicans Should Pray for Rain: Weather, Turnout, and Voting in U. S. Presidential Elections," *Journal of Politics* (August 2007).

Week 14 (Apr 12). Representation and Linkage: The Rulers and the Ruled

Assigned Readings:

- Erikson and Tedin, *American Public Opinion*, Chapter 6, 10, 11.
- Benjamin I. Page and Robert Y. Shapiro, "Effects of Public Opinion on Policy," *American Political Science Review* (March 1983).
- John D. Griffin and Brian Newman, "Voting Power, Policy Representation, and Disparities in Voting's Rewards," *Journal of Politics* (January 2013).
- Martin Gilens and Benjamin I. Page, "Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens," *Perspectives on Politics* (September 2014).
- John R. Hibbing and Elizabeth Theiss-Morse, "Process Preferences and American Politics: What the People Want Government to Be," *American Political Science Review*. 95 (March 2001).
- Marc J. Hetherington and Jason A. Husser, "How Trust Matters: The Changing Political Relevance of Political Trust," *American Journal of Political Science* (April 2012).
- Diana C. Mutz and Byron Reeves, "The New Videomalaise: Effects of Televised Incivility on Political Trust," *American Political Science Review* (February 2005).

Recommended Readings:

- James N. Druckman and Lawrence R. Jacobs, *Who Governs: Presidents, Public Opinion, and Manipulation* (2015).
- Kay L. Schlozman et al., *The Unheavenly Chorus: Unequal Political Voice and the Broken Promise of American Democracy* (2012).
- Patrick Flavin, "Income Inequality and Policy Representation in the American States," *American Politics Research* (January 2012).

- Zoltan L. Hajnal and Jeremy D. Horowitz, "Racial Winners and Losers in American Party Politics," *Perspectives on Politics* (March 2014).
- Christopher J. Casillas et al., "How Public Opinion Constrains the U.S. Supreme Court," *American Journal of Political Science* (January 2011).
- John R. Hibbing and Elizabeth Thiess-Morse, *Congress as Public Enemy* (1995).
- Marc J. Hetherington and Thomas J. Rudolph, *Why Washington Won't Work* (2015).
- Thomas J. Rudolph and Jillian Evans, "Political Trust, Ideology, and Public Support for Government Spending," *American Journal of Political Science* (July 2005).
- Robert A. Jackson et al., "Examining the Possible Corrosive Impact of Negative Advertising on Citizens' Attitudes toward Politics," *Political Research Quarterly* (March 2009).
- Richard Forgette and Jonathan S. Morris, "High-Conflict Television News and Public Opinion," *Political Research Quarterly* (September 2006).
- Mark D. Ramirez, "The Policy Origins of Congressional Approval," *Journal of Politics* (January 2013).
- L. Sandy Maisel, "The Negative Consequences of Uncivil Political Discourse," *PS: Political Science and Politics* (June 2012).