

# Course Syllabus

## POS 4413

### The Presidency



(<https://secure.flickr.com/photos/16698683@N00/15870725062>)

This course focuses on the modern (post-1945) presidency and its role in the American political system. Topics cover the institutional structure, relations with other institutions including the media, public opinion, domestic/foreign policy, and typologies of presidential power. The last half of the course is dedicated to applying theories of presidential leadership to the individuals who have held office since 1945 (Truman-Trump). In this Spring Semester 2020 the course will also follow the unfolding of the Trump impeachment/trial in the Senate as well as the Democratic primaries and caucuses for that party's nomination beginning in February.

Click here for the [Plagiarism Tutorial Page](#)



## Course Policies

**Attendance/Participation:** Students are expected to attend all class meetings and to participate actively in classroom discussion and debate. Students are expected to have read the material before class to prepare for discussions. Students are expected to be on time for class meetings. Attendance will be taken at all class meetings and students will be assigned seats after the first week of classes. Students who are late, or do not attend, will be marked absent. The attendance component of the grade will be calculated by the number of classes students attend divided by the total number of class meetings.

Excused absences follow University guidelines (medical, legal, etc.). The participation component of the grade is assessed on the basis of classroom interactions (debate, questions, instructor questions to students, etc.).

**Demerits and Use of Cell Phones, Laptop Computers, and Gadgets.** **The use of cell phones, laptops, or any other electronic gadgets is PROHIBITED in class.** Playing on computers, text messaging, or doing work for other courses on these devices is **a distraction to the instructor and to other**

students, and at fundamental odds with the educational mission of the course and the objectives of a university education.

Any student who engages in any activity on a cell phone, laptop, or other device during class time will receive a 2.5% demerit for each incident that will be deducted from the total course grade percentage at the end of the semester. In other words, a student who has a grade of 87 (A-) at the end of the semester, and who engaged in this behavior 4 times would receive a course reduction of 10% (4 x 2.5%=10%) and receive a 77 (B-) as the final course grade. **ALL CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED ON SILENT MODE AND STORED AWAY DURING CLASS. LAPTOPS ARE NOT PERMITTED.** There is a "Demerit" column in Canvas that will keep a running total of penalty points throughout the semester. Students unwilling to comply with this rule are counseled not to enroll in this course.

### Quizzes

Quizzes due from 16 January - 13 February are based on the chapters in Lori Cox-Han (ed.), *New Directions in the American Presidency*.

Quizzes due after 13 February are on journal article readings on individual presidents. See the Syllabus schedule below for due dates. Late quizzes are not accepted.

### Assignments:

Due dates for assignments are noted at the end of the syllabus. Instructions for all assignments are detailed in the appropriate Canvas page. **Late assignments are not accepted.**

### Required texts:

Lori Cox-Han (ed.), *New Directions in the American Presidency*, 2nd Edition. (New York: Routledge, 2018).

Michael Genovese (ed.), *Contending Approaches to the American Presidency* (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2012).

Lisa A. Baglione, *Writing a Research Paper in Political Science: A Practical Guide to Inquiry, Structure, and Methods*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Washington, DC: CQ Press).

\*\*\* Select journal articles available electronically from Library West. **Click on "Course Reserves" tab to the left on the Canvas menu to access.**

\*\*\*\*Software: iClicker.

## Course Reading Schedule

### **WEEK 1 – Introduction / The Bases of Presidential Power**

*Tuesday, 7 January*

- ▶ Course syllabus and schedule

*Thursday, 9 January*

- ▶ Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2, *New Directions in the American Presidency*.

## **WEEK 2 – Presidents, Media, and the New Populism**

*Tuesday, 14 January* - Presidents and the Media Environment

- ▶ Chapters 4 and 5, *New Directions in the American Presidency*

*Thursday, 16 January* - Donald Trump and American Populism

- ▶ Chapters 1-2, Richard Conley, *Donald Trump and American Populism*, forthcoming 2020.

## **WEEK 3 – Presidential Elections**

*Tuesday, 21 January*

- ▶ Chapter 3, *New Directions in the American Presidency*
- ▶ Baglione, Chapter 1 (So You Have to Write a Research Paper)
- ▶ Film, Campaign Commercials, 1952-.

*Thursday, 23 January*

- ▶ Film, Campaign Commercials, 1952-.
- ▶ Baglione, Chapter 2 (Getting Started: Finding a Research Question)

## **WEEK 4 – Public Opinion and the Presidency**

*Tuesday, 28 January*

- ▶ Chapter 6, *New Directions in the American Presidency*.
- ▶ Baglione, Chapter 3 (Learning Proper Citation Forms, Finding the Scholarly Debate, and Summarizing and Classifying Arguments: The Annotated Bibliography)

*Thursday, 30 January*

- ▶ Lecture/discussion of historical trends and the parameters of public opinion research; introduction to the institutional presidency literature

## **WEEK 5 – The Institutional Presidency**

*Tuesday, 4 February (NO CLASS - PROFESSOR CONLEY AT AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE, TEMPE, ARIZONA)*

- ▶ Chapter 9, *New Directions in the American Presidency*.

*Thursday, 6 February (NO CLASS - PROFESSOR CONLEY AT AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE, TEMPE, ARIZONA)*

- ▶ Baglione, Chapter 4 (Making Sense of the Scholarly Answers to Your Research Question)

## **WEEK 6 – Presidential Relations with Congress & the Courts**

*Tuesday, 11 February*

- ▶ Chapters 7, 8, *New Directions in the American Presidency*.

*Thursday, 13 February*

▶ Casey Byrne Knudsen Dominguez. "Is It a Honeymoon? An Empirical Investigation of the President's First Hundred Days." *Congress & the Presidency* 32 (2005): 63-78.

▶ Neustadt, Richard E. "The Contemporary Presidency: The Presidential 'Hundred Days': An Overview." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 31 (2001): 121-125.

- ▶ Baglione, Chapter 5 (Effectively Distilling Your Argument: The Thesis, Model and Hypothesis)

## **WEEK 7 – Domestic and Foreign Policy**

*Tuesday, 18 February*

- ▶ Chapters 10, 11, *New Directions in the American Presidency*

*Thursday, 20 February*

- ▶ Baglione, Chapter 6 (Revising and Editing Your Work)

## **WEEK 8 - Presidential Leadership Perspectives**

*Tuesday, 25 February*

- ▶ Genovese, *Contending Approaches*, Introduction and Chapters 1,2,3
- ▶ Chapter 12, *New Direction in the American Presidency*

*Thursday, 27 February*

- ▶ Genovese, *Contending Approaches*, Introduction and Chapters 1,2,3

## **WEEK 9 - SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)**

## **WEEK 10 - Presidential Leadership Perspectives**

*Tuesday, 10 March*

- ▶ Genovese, *Contending Approaches*, Introduction and Chapters 4,5,6

*Thursday, 12 March*

- ▶ Genovese, *Contending Approaches*, Introduction and Chapters 4,5,6

## WEEK 11 – Truman/Eisenhower

Tuesday, 17 March

- ▶ Film

[The Story of Harry Truman](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fACk8ILvAVc) [\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fACk8ILvAVc\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fACk8ILvAVc)



[\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fACk8ILvAVc\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fACk8ILvAVc)

[The Origins of Containment of Communism. The Truman Doctrine: Aid to Greece and Turkey Speech](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OKB3pdc_FU) [\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OKB3pdc\\_FU\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OKB3pdc_FU)



[\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OKB3pdc\\_FU\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OKB3pdc_FU)

- ▶ Robert H. Ferrell, "Truman's Place in History." *Reviews in American* (18), No. 1 (March 1990): 1-9.

Thursday, 19 March

- ▶ Films: (click links below)

[Eisenhower: Commander-in-Chief \(Biography Channel\)](https://www.biography.com/video/dwight-d-eisenhower-full-episode-2073088524) [\(https://www.biography.com/video/dwight-d-eisenhower-full-episode-2073088524\)](https://www.biography.com/video/dwight-d-eisenhower-full-episode-2073088524)

[Historian Stephen Ambrose: Eisenhower's "Hidden-Hand" Presidency"](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bXZb7dTGqQ) [\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bXZb7dTGqQ\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bXZb7dTGqQ)



[\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bXZb7dTGqQ\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bXZb7dTGqQ)

▶ Mary S. McAuliffe, "Eisenhower, the President." *The Journal of American History* 68, No. 3 (1981): 625-632.

▶ Baglione, Chapter 7 (Making Your Plan and Protecting Yourself from Criticism)

**[DISCUSSION POSTS DUE SUNDAY, 22 MARCH AT 11:59 PM \(click this link\)](#)**

**WEEK 12 – Kennedy and Johnson**

*Tuesday, 24 March*

▶ Film: Kennedy

▶ Richard E. Neustadt, "Kennedy in the Presidency." *Political Science Quarterly* 79, No. 3 (1964): 321-334.

*Thursday, 26 March*

▶ Film: Johnson

▶ Doris Kearns, "Lyndon Johnson's Political Personality." *Political Quarterly* 91, No. 3 (1976): 385-409.

▶ Baglione, Chapter 8 (Evaluating the Argument)

**WEEK 13 – Nixon**

*Tuesday, 31 March*

▶ Film: Nixon (first half)

▶ Jonathan Aitken, "The Nixon Character." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* (Winter 1996): 239-47.

▶ James David Barber, "The Nixon Brush with Tyranny." *Political Quarterly* 92, No. 4 (1977): 581-605.

▶ Baglione, Chapter 9 (Bringing Your Paper Together in Three Essential Ways)

*Thursday, 2 April (NO CLASS; PROFESSOR CONLEY AT MOUNT UNION UNIVERSITY, OHIO, FOR THE TRUMP LEGACY CONFERENCE)*

**WEEK 14 – Carter/Reagan/H.W. Bush**

*Tuesday, 7 April*

▶ John Whiteclay Chambers, "Jimmy Carter's Public Policy Ex-Presidency." *Political Science Quarterly* 113, No. 3 (1998): 405-425.

► Film—Reagan

► John Kenneth White, "How Should Political Science Judge Ronald Reagan?" *Polity* 22, No. 4 (1990): 701-715.

► John W. Sloan, "Meeting the Leadership Challenges of the Modern Presidency: The Political Skills and Leadership of Ronald Reagan." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 26, no. 3 (1996): 795-804.

Thursday, 9 April

► Film—Bush

► Paul Brace and Barbara Hinckley, "George Bush and the Costs of High Popularity: A General Model with a Current Application." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 26, No. 3 (1993): 501-506.

► Kerry Mullins and Aaron Wildavsky, "The Procedural Presidency of George Bush." *Political Science Quarterly* 107, no. 1 (Spring 1992): 31-62.

## WEEK 15 - Clinton/W. Bush/Obama

Tuesday, 14 April

► Richard Pious, "The Paradox of Bill Clinton Winning and the Presidency Losing." *Political Science Quarterly* 114, no. 4. (Winter 1999-2000): 569-593.

► Fred I. Greenstein, "There He Goes Again: The Alternating Political Style of Bill Clinton." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 31, no. 2 (1998): 178-181.

► John Roper, "The Contemporary Presidency: George W. Bush and the Myth of Heroic Presidential Leadership," *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 34, No. 1 (2004): 132-142.

Thursday, 16 April

► Lawrence Jacobs and Desmond King, "Varieties of Obamaism: Structure, Agency, and the Obama Presidency." *Perspectives on Politics* 8 (2010): 793-802.

► Barilleaux, Ryan J., and Jewel Maxwell. "Has Barack Obama Embraced the Unitary Executive?" *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50 (2017): 31-34.

## WEEK 16 -- Trump and the Future of the Presidency

Tuesday, 22 April

► Bostdorff, Denise M. "Obama, Trump, and Reflections on the Rhetoric of Political Change." *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 20, no. 4 (2017): 695-706.

► Eiermann, Martin. "How Donald Trump Fits into the History of American Populism." *New Perspectives Quarterly* 33, no. 2 (2016): 29-34.

► Kreis, Ramona. "The 'Tweet Politics' of President Trump." *Journal of Language and Politics* 16, no. 4 (2017): 607-618.














## DEADLINES FOR QUIZZES AND ASSIGNMENTS (SCHEDULE)

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## Course Summary:

Date	Details	due by 9:35am
Thu Jan 16, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067980">Chapter 1 Quiz - Introduction - Studying Presidents and the Presidency, by Lori Cox-Han</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067980">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067980</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067973">Chapter 2 Quiz - Presidents and the Constitution - Victoria Farrar-Myers</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067973">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067973</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067984">Chapter 4 Quiz - Presidents and Political Parties - by Julia Azari</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067984">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067984</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067982">Chapter 5 Quiz - Presidents and Mass Media - by Matthew Eshbaugh-Soha</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067982">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067982</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067977">Plagiarism Quiz</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067977">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067977</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Jan 23, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067972">Chapter 3 Quiz - Presidential Campaigns and Elections - by Randall Adkins</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067972">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067972</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Jan 30, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067978">Chapter 6 Quiz - Presidents and Public Opinion - by Diane Heith</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067978">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067978</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Feb 6, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067974">Chapter 9 Quiz - Presidents, the White House, and the Executive Branch - by Matthew Dickinson</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067974">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067974</a>	due by 9:35am



Date	Details	
Thu Feb 13, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067981">Chapter 7 Quiz - Presidents and Congress - by Brandon Rottinghaus</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067981">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067981">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067981</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067976">Chapter 8 Quiz - Presidents and the Courts - by Nancy Kassop</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067976">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067976">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067976</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Mar 19, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067986">Annotated Biblio</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067986">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067986">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067986</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067985">Quiz - Truman/Eisenhower</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067985">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067985">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067985</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
Sun Mar 22, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4157537">Truman and Eisenhower Discussion</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4157537">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4157537">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4157537</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Thu Mar 26, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067988">Contending Approaches Analysis</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067988">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067988">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067988</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067983">Quiz - Kennedy/Johnson</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067983">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067983">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067983</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Apr 2, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067971">Quiz - Aitken/Barber readings on Nixon</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067971">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067971">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067971</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Apr 9, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067979">Quiz - Chambers/White Readings on Carter/Reagan</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067979">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067979">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067979</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
Thu Apr 16, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067975">Quiz - Brace-Hinckley/Pious/Greenstein Readings on H.W.Bush/Clinton</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067975">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067975">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067975</a>)</a>	due by 9:35am
Mon Apr 27, 2020	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067989">Final Research Paper</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067989">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067989">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067989</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067987">Attendance &amp; Participation</a> <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067987">(<a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067987">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4067987</a>)</a>	
	 <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4068974">Demerits</a> ( <a href="https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4068974">https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/389317/assignments/4068974</a> )	