The following books are to be purchased at either the campus bookstore or Mary Jane Books:


**COURSE OUTLINE**

Jan. 20 Introduction to the course

Jan. 22 Studying the presidency
Reading: Nelson, ed., *The Presidency and the Political System*, Ch. 2
Skowronek, *Presidential Leadership in Political Time*, Ch. 1

Jan. 25 The constitutional presidency
27 Reading: Milkis and Nelson, *The American Presidency*, Ch. 1, 2

Jan. 29 Game #1: Redesigning the Constitutional presidency
Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Appendix (Constitution: Articles I and II, Amendments XII, XX, XXII, XXV)
Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 3

Feb. 1 The development of the presidency from Washington to Wilson
3 Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 5, 6, 8, 9
5

**FIRST QUIZ ON FEB. 8**

Feb. 8 Theories of presidential leadership
10 Reading: Skowronek, Ch. 2, 3
12

Feb. 17 Presidential character and personality
Reading: Nelson, Ch. 5
Feb. 19 The institutional presidency
22 Reading: Nelson, Ch. 4, 12, 13
24
Feb. 26 The president and Congress
Mar.  1 Reading: Nelson, Ch. 10, 14, 16
  3
SECOND QUIZ ON MARCH 3

Mar.  5 Game #2: Passing a priority presidential program
      No assigned reading (Internet research instead)
Mar.  8 The president and the judiciary
      Reading: Nelson, Ch. 15
Mar.10 The president as policymaker: foreign and domestic affairs
      12 Reading: Nelson, Ch. 17,18
      15
Mar. 17 The president and the media
      Reading: Nelson, Ch. 9
Mar. 19 The president and the public
      22 Reading: Nelson, Ch. 1, 8

FIRST PAPER DUE ON MARCH 22

Mar.  24 Game #3: Framing Barack Obama: Critics versus Defenders
      No assigned reading (Internet research instead)
Mar.  26 Presidential Elections
      Reading: Nelson, Ch. 6

Apr.  7 Analyzing Presidential Elections: The Case of 2008
      Reading: Nelson, Ch. 7

THIRD QUIZ ON APRIL 12
Apr. 9  The development of the presidency from FDR to Carter
      12  Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 11, 12
      14
      16

Apr. 19  The presidency of Ronald Reagan
        Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 13

Apr. 21  The presidency of Bill Clinton
        Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 14

Apr. 23  The presidency of George W. Bush
        26  Reading: Skowronek, Ch. 4
            Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 15

FOURTH QUIZ ON APRIL 28

Apr. 28  The presidency of Barack Obama
        30  Reading: Skowronek, Ch. 5

May 3   The future of the presidency
        No assigned reading

SECOND PAPER DUE ON MAY 11

Grades for the course will be based on papers and quizzes. There will be four multiple-choice quizzes; your lowest score of the four will be dropped and your grade for the quizzes will be calculated based upon the other three. There will be two papers; each has a suggested length of 7-8 double-spaced pages. Topics for the papers will be handed out in class. Hard copies of the paper are required, and late papers will be penalized. Grades will be computed as follows:

quizzes - 1/3
each paper – 1/3

STUDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT ALL WORK HANDED IN MUST BE THEIR OWN. CHEATING ON QUIZZES OR PLAGIARISM ON PAPERS WILL BE SEVERELY PUNISHED.

Office hours: Rockefeller College Program Office (Humanities 16): WF, 11-12;
Downtown Campus (Milne 216): Wed. 2-3:30 and by appointment (Phone number is 442-5273).
Voicemail messages: 442 5273. Email: miroff@albany.edu