The following required books are available at either the campus bookstore or Mary Jane Books:


A few readings are on ERES (Electronic Reserve)

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Jan. 18 Introduction to the course

Jan. 20 The constitutional presidency
          23 Reading: Milkis and Nelson, *The American Presidency*, Ch. 1, 2

Jan. 25 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

Jan. 27 Development of the presidency from Washington to Wilson
          30 Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 4, 5, 6, 8

Feb.  1
      3

**FIRST QUIZ ON FEB. 6**

Feb.  6 Theories of presidential leadership
          8 Reading: Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist Papers*, #68, 70, 71 (ERES)
          10 Richard E. Neustadt, “The Power to Persuade” (ERES)
          13 Skowronek, *Presidential Leadership in Political Time*, Ch. 1, 2, 3
Feb. 15  Presidential character and personality
        Reading: Nelson, ed., *The Presidency and the Political System*, Ch. 5

Feb. 17  The institutional presidency
        20  Reading: Nelson, Ch. 4, 12, 13
        22

SECOND QUIZ ON FEB. 27

Feb. 24  The president and Congress
        27  Reading: Nelson, Ch. 14, 16
        29

Mar.  2  Game #2: President vs. Congress: Obama and the House Republicans
        No assigned reading (Internet research instead)

Mar.  5  The president and the judiciary
        Reading: Nelson, Ch. 15

Mar.  7  The president as policymaker: foreign and military affairs
        9  Reading: Nelson, Ch. 17
            Skowronek, Ch. 5

MARCH 9  FIRST PAPER DUE

Mar. 19  The president as policymaker: economic and domestic affairs
        21  Reading: Bruce Miroff, “Domestic Policymaking: Politics and History,” (ERES)
            Nelson, Ch. 10

Mar. 23  The president and the media
        Reading: Nelson, Ch. 9

Mar. 26  Game #3: Framing Barack Obama in the Media: Critics versus Defenders
        No assigned reading (Internet research instead)

Mar. 28  The president and the public
        30  Reading: Nelson, Ch. 1, 8

Apr.  2  Presidential Elections
        4  Reading: Nelson, Ch. 6, 7
THIRD QUIZ ON APRIL 13

Apr. 13 The development of the presidency from FDR to Carter
Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 10, 11

Apr. 16 The presidency of Ronald Reagan
Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 12

Apr. 23 The presidency of Bill Clinton
Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 13

Apr. 25 The presidency of George W. Bush
Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 14
Skowronek, Ch. 4

Apr. 27 The presidency of Barack Obama
Reading: Milkis and Nelson, Ch. 15
Skowronek, Ch. 6

FOURTH QUIZ ON MAY 4

May 7 The future of the presidency
No assigned reading

SECOND PAPER DUE ON MAY 16 (NO FINAL EXAM)

Grades for the course will be based on papers and quizzes. There will be four multiple-choice quizzes, with questions drawn from readings and lectures. 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:

Cumulative grade on quizzes - 1/3
Papers – 2/3

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): Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30
Downtown Campus (Milne 216): Wed. 2-3:30 and by appointment

My office phone number is 442-5273. Voicemail messages: 442 5273. It is easiest to reach me by email. My email: miroff@albany.edu