

Dr. José E. Cruz
Fall 2011

POS 534/534R
Class Number 9211/9212

American Political Parties
T 5:45-8:35 pm
HS 13

Course Description

This seminar will examine the relationship between the development/decay of party systems and popular government. Our approach will be historical and theoretical, looking at the emergence and development of party systems, the explicit and implicit rationales undergirding partisan alignments, the emergence, development, and role of third parties, the emergence and implications of the rise of southern Republicans, the forces underlying party decomposition, the role of money, the role of race, and alternative representational systems.

Required Readings

Books

Kathleen L. Barber, A Right to Representation: Proportional Election Systems for the Twenty-First Century

Earl Black and Merle Black, The Rise of Southern Republicans

Paul Frymer, Uneasy Alliances, Race and Party Competition in America

J. David Gillespie, Politics at the Periphery

Richard Hofstadter, The Idea of a Party System

Peter Kobrak, Cozy Politics: Political Parties, Campaign Finance, and Compromised Governance

Michael J. Malbin, ed. The Election After Reform : Money, Politics and the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act

David R. Mayhew, Electoral Realalignments, A Critique of an American Genre

Articles and Book Chapters

*Larry M. Bartels, "Partisanship and Voting Behavior, 1952-1996," American Journal of Political Science 44:1 (January 2000): 35-50.

*Stefano Bartolini, "Electoral and Party Competition: Analytical Dimensions and Empirical Problems," In Richard Gunther, José Ramón Montero, Juan J. Linz, eds. Political Parties, Old Concepts and New Challenges

*Louis Bolce, Gerald DeMaio, and Douglas Muzzio, "The 1992 Republican 'Tent': No Blacks Walked In," Political Science Quarterly 108:2 (Summer 1993): 255-270.

John J. Coleman, "Unified Government, Divided Government, and Party Responsiveness," American Political Science Review 93:4 (December 1999): 821-835. **Available on J-STOR.**

Search by Author and Title.

*Hans Daalder, "Parties: Denied, Dismissed, or Redundant? A Critique," Richard Gunther, José Ramón Montero, In Juan J. Linz, eds. Political Parties, Old Concepts and New Challenges

*Alan DiGaetano, "The Democratic Party and City Politics in the Postindustrial Era," In Frances Fox Piven, ed., Labor Parties in Postindustrial Societies

*Frances Fox Piven, "Structural Constraints and Political Development: The Case of the American Democratic Party," In Frances Fox Piven, ed., Labor Parties in Postindustrial Societies

*Charles D. Hadley, "Presidential Address: Blacks in Southern Politics: An Agenda for Research," The Journal of Politics 56:3 (August 1994): 585-600.

*John R. Hibbing and Elizabeth Theiss-Morse, "Too Much of a Good Thing: More Representative is not Necessarily Better," PS: Political Science and Politics 31:1 (March 1998): 28-31.

*Jeffrey Koch, "The Perot Candidacy and Attitudes toward Government and Politics," Political Research Quarterly 51:1 (March 1998): 141-153.

Everett Carl Ladd, "Party Reform and the Public Interest," Political Science Quarterly 102:3 (Autumn 1987): 355-369. **Available on J-STOR. Search by Author.**

*Juan J. Linz, "Parties in Contemporary Democracies: Problems and Paradoxes," In Richard Gunther, José Ramón Montero, Juan J. Linz, eds. Political Parties, Old Concepts and New Challenges

*Jeffrey S. Walz and John Comer, "State Responses to National Democratic Party Reform," Political Research Quarterly 52:1 (March 1999): 189-208.

*Paul Webb, "Conclusion, Political Parties and Democratic Control in Advanced Industrial Societies," In Paul Webb, David M. Farrell and Ian Holliday, eds. Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies

*Jonathan White and Lea Ypi, "On Partisan Political Justification," American Political Science Review 105:2 (May 2011): 381-396.

* = **Available as PDF on Blackboard.**

Course Requirements

1. Class participation, 30%. Class participation will have two components. One will be weekly, one-page reaction papers in which you will note and comment on key points in the week's readings. The second component will consist of the student's participation in class discussions. Individual participation will consist of student presentation of their questions/views as well as commentary on the questions/views of others.
2. Research paper and presentation of findings in class, 70%.
3. Students enrolled in POS 534R will write a review essay instead of a research paper.
4. Both the research paper and the review essay will be due the last day of classes or the day scheduled for a final exam for this class.

Office Hours

Tuesdays, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, HU B16; 4:00-5:00 pm Milne 219
Also by appointment. E-mail: conga@albany.edu.

Course Outline and Readings

8/30 - I. Introduction

9/6 - II. History

Richard Hofstadter, The Idea of a Party System

9/13 - III. Theory

Hans Daalder, "Parties: Denied, Dismissed, or Redundant? A Critique;" Stefano Bartolini, "Electoral and Party Competition: Analytical Dimensions and Empirical Problems;" Jonathan White and Lea Ypi, "On Partisan Political Justification."

9/20 - IV. Realignment

David R. Mayhew, Electoral Realignments, A Critique of an American Genre

9/27 - V. Party Reform and Transformation

Earl Black and Merle Black, The Rise of Southern Republicans;

10/4 - Jeffrey S. Walz and John Comer, "State Responses to National Democratic Party Reform;" Frances Fox Piven, "Structural Constraints and Political Development: The Case of the American Democratic Party."

10/11 - VI. Third Parties

J. David Gillespie, Politics at the Periphery; Jeffrey Koch, "The Perot Candidacy and Attitudes toward Government and Politics."

10/18 - VII. Party Decline

Larry M. Bartels, "Partisanship and Voting Behavior, 1952-1996;" Alan DiGaetano, "The Democratic Party and City Politics in the Postindustrial Era."

10/25 - VIII. Representation

Kathleen L. Barber, A Right to Representation: Proportional Election Systems for the Twenty-First Century

11/1 - IX. Race

Paul Frymer, Uneasy Alliances, Race and Party Competition in America; Charles D. Hadley, "Blacks in Southern Politics: An Agenda for Research;" Louis Bolce, Gerald DeMaio, and Douglas Muzzio, "The 1992 Republican 'Tent': No Blacks Walked In."

11/8 - X. Campaign Finance

Michael J. Malbin, ed. The Election After Reform : Money, Politics and the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act.

11/15 - XI. Party Politics and Popular Government

Peter Kobraak, Cozy Politics: Political Parties, Campaign Finance, and Compromised Governance

11/22 – John J. Coleman, "Unified Government, Divided Government, and Party Responsiveness;" Everett Carl Ladd, "Party Reform and the Public Interest;" John R. Hibbing and Elizabeth Theiss-Morse, "Too Much of a Good Thing: More Representative is not Necessarily Better;" Juan J. Linz, "Parties in Contemporary Democracies: Problems and Paradoxes"

11/29 – Lecture and discussion: American political parties in comparative perspective.

12/6 – Paper presentations, wrap-up

Recommended Readings

John Herbert Aldrich, Why Parties?: The Origin and Transformation of Political Parties in America

American Political Science Association, "Toward a More responsible Party System," A Report of the Committee on Political Parties, American Political Science Review 44 (September 1950).

Walter Dean Burnham, Critical Elections and the Mainsprings of American Democracy
William N. Chambers, "Party Development and the American Mainstream," William N. Chambers and Walter Dean Burnham, eds. The American Party Systems

Anthony Corrado, "The Changing Environment of Presidential Campaign Finance," William Mayer, ed., In Pursuit of the White House

Gary W. Cox and Mathew D. McCubbins, Setting the Agenda, Responsible Party Government in the U.S. House of Representatives

Larry Diamond and Richard Gunther, eds., Political Parties and Democracy

Anthony Downs, Economic Theory of Democracy

Maurice Duverger, Political Parties

John Frensdreis, "Voters, Government Officials, and Party Organizations: Connections and Distinctions," Shea and Green, The State of the Parties

Morris P. Fiorina, "The Electorate at the Polls in the 1990s," Maisel, The Parties Respond, 2nd ed.

Jeffrey D. Grynauvisky, Partisan Bonds: Political Reputations and Legislative Accountability

Richard Gunther, José Ramón Montero, and Juan J. Linz, Political Parties, Old Concepts and New Challenges

David Karol, Party Position Change in American Politics: Coalition Management

V.O. Key, "A Theory of Critical Elections," Journal of Politics 17 (1955): 3-18

Jean Kirkpatrick, Dismantling the Parties

Theodore J. Lowi, "Toward a Responsible Three-Party System," Daniel M. Shea and John C. Green, The State of the Parties

David B. Magleby, ed., Financing the 2000 Election

Eddie Mahe, Jr., and Jim Weber, "The Road to Nowhere? Political Parties in the Next Millennium," Eric M. Uslaner, American Political Parties: A Reader

Michael Malbin, The Day After Reform: Sobering Campaign Finance Lessons from the American States

Robert Michels, Political Parties

Warren E. Miller, "Party Identification and the Electorate of the 1990s" Maisel, The Parties Respond, 2nd ed.

Moisei Ostrogorski, Democracy and the Party System in the United States

Angelo Panebianco, Political Parties: Organization and Power

Nelson Polsby, Consequences of Party Reform

Steven J. Rosenstone, et al. Third Parties in America, Citizen Response to Major Party Failure

Giovanni Sartori, Parties and Party Systems: A Framework for Analysis

E.E. Schattschneider, Party Government

E.E. Schattschneider, The Semi-Sovereign People

Byron Shafer, The End of Realignment?

Byron Shafer, The Quiet Revolution: The Struggle for the Democratic Party and the Shaping of Post Reform Politics

Alan Ware, Citizens, Parties, and the State

Alan Ware, Political Parties and Party Systems

Alan Ware, The Logic of Party Democracy

Martin Wattenberg, The Decline of American Political Parties

Paul Webb, David Farrell, and Ian Holliday, Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies