



## The University Of Chicago

### Analytical Politics II: Politics and Policymaking Fall 2019

#### **Professor**

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#### **Teaching Assistants**

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#### **Description**

This course aims to provide a rigorous and practical introduction to the politics of the policymaking process. Course objectives are to (1) introduce students to a core set of analytical models and concepts, (2) use these tools to analyze contemporary political institutions and behavior in the United States, and (3) give students an understanding of the real work of policymaking.

#### **Texts**

The following books are required:

- Kenneth Shepsle, *Analyzing Politics* (Norton, 2010).
- Charles Stewart, *Analyzing Congress* (Norton, 2011).

#### **Requirements**

Participation in class discussion and activities: 20%

Election tracking project (details provided separately): 40%

Take home final: 40%

#### **TA Open Office Hours**

Mondays 5-6pm

## Reading Schedule

### 1. October 7: Introduction to Spatial Models of Politics

- Key topics: theoretical framework; median voter theorem; models of agenda-setting; single vs. multiple dimensions
- Required reading:
  - Kenneth Shepsle. 2010. *Analyzing Politics*. Chapters 3-6
- Supplemental readings:
  - Andrew Hall. 2015. "What Happens When Extremists Win Primaries?" *American Political Science Review*.
  - Nicholas Miller. 1983. "Pluralism and Social Choice." *American Political Science Review*.
  - Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal. 1991. "Patterns of Congressional Voting." *American Political Science Review*.

### 2. October 14: Public Opinion

- Key topics: the formation of public opinion; political communication; public opinion polling
- Required readings:
  - James Druckman, "Pathologies of Studying Public Opinion, Political Communication, and Democratic Responsiveness." *Political Communication*.
  - CQ Researcher. 2015. "Political Polling."
  - John Zaller. 2003. "Coming to Grips with V.O. Key's Concept of Latent Opinion," in *Electoral Democracy*, (eds.) Michael MacKuen and George Rabinowitz, University of Michigan.
  - Butler, Daniel M. and David W. Nickerson. 2011. Can Learning Constituency Opinion Affect How Legislators Vote? Results from a Field Experiment. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 6:55-83.
- Supplemental readings
  - Jennings and Wlezien 2018: "Election Polling Errors across Time and Space". *Nature Human Behaviour*
  - Weisberg, H. F. 2008. "The methodological strengths and weaknesses of survey research." In the SAGE handbook of public opinion research, 223-231.
  - Brandice Canes-Wrone, Michael Herron, and Kenneth Shotts. 2001. "Leadership and Pandering: A Theory of Executive Policymaking." *American Journal of Political Science*.

### 3. October 21: Political Parties and Partisanship

- Key topics: historical evolution of party system; current partisan alignments; partisanship in the public
- Required reading:
  - Ilyana Kuziemko and Ebonya Washington. Forthcoming. "Why Did the Democrats Lose the South?" *American Economic Review*.

- Liliana Mason. 2015. “I Disrespectfully Agree: The Differential Effects of Partisan Sorting on Social and Issue Polarization.” *American Journal of Political Science*.
- Anthony Fowler. 2018. “Partisan Intoxication or Policy Voting?”
- Supplemental reading
  - Seth J. Hill and Chris Tausanovitch. 2018. "Southern Realignment, Party Sorting, and the Polarization of American Primary Electorates, 1958-2012." *Public Choice* 176 (1-2): pp 107-132.
  - Christopher Achen and Larry Bartels. 2006. “It Feels Like We’re Thinking: The Rationalizing Voter and Electoral Democracy”

#### 4. October 28: Elections and Political Participation

- Key topics: political campaigns and elections; sources of variation in voter turnout; persuasion vs. turning out the base; who are swing voters?
- Required reading
  - Charles Stewart. 2011. *Analyzing Congress*. Chapter 4-5
  - Loren Lomasky and Geoffrey Brennan. 2000. “Is There a Duty to Vote?” *Social Philosophy and Policy*.
  - Joshua Kalla and David Broockman. 2018 “The Minimal Persuasive Effects of Campaign Contact in General Elections: Evidence from 49 Field Experiments”. *American Political Science Review* 112(1): 148-166.
  - Eitan Hersh. 2017. Political Hobbyism: A Theory of Mass Behavior. Manuscript.
- Supplemental readings:
  - Pew Research Center. 2017. “How ‘Drop-Off’ Voters Differ from Consistent Voters and Nonvoters.”
  - Seth J. Hill. 2017. "Changing Votes or Changing Voters: How Candidates and Election Context Swing Voters and Mobilize the Base." *Electoral Studies* 48: pp 131-114
  - Huber, Gregory A. and Kevin Arceneaux. 2007. Identifying the Persuasive Effects of Presidential Advertising. *American Journal of Political Science* 51(4):957-977.
  - Madestam et al. 2013. “Do Political Protests Matter? Evidence from the Tea Party Movement.” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

#### 5. November 4: Interest Groups

- Key topics: interest group organization (collective action problems); interest group activities and influence; money in politics
- Guest lecture: Daniel Biss
- Required Readings:
  - Charles Cameron. *The Political Analysis Toolkit*, Chapters 3-4; 6-7. Draft.
  - Stephen Ansolabehere, John M. de Figueiredo, and James M. Snyder Jr. 2003. Why is There so Little Money in U.S. Politics? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(1):105-130.
- Supplemental readings
  - Jordi Blanes i Vidal, Miko Draca, and Christian Fons-Rosen. 2012. Revolving Door Lobbyists. *American Economic Review* 102(7):3731-3748.

- Joshua L. Kalla & David E. Broockman 2015. ‘Campaign Contributions Facilitate Access to Congressional Officials: A Randomized Field Experiment’. *American Journal of Political Science* 60(3): 545-558
- Richard L. Hall and Alan V. Deardorff. 2006. Lobbying as Legislative Subsidy. *American Political Science Review* 100(1):69-84.

#### 6. November 11: Local/Urban Politics

Key topics: What is different about local politics? Mobility and interjurisdictional competition; federalism; politics of education and policing; nationalization of local politics

- Required readings
  - Christopher Berry. 2008. Piling On: Multi-level Governments and the Fiscal Common Pool. *American Journal of Political Science*.
  - Vladimir Kogan. “From Machines to Service Centers: The Evolution of State and Local Political Parties.” 2014. In *CQ Guide to Political Parties*, edited by Marjorie Randon Hershey, Barry C. Burden, and Christina Wolbrecht. Washington, DC: CQ Press.
  - Jessica Trounstein. 2017. Political Schizophrenics? Factors Affecting Aggregate Partisan Choice at the Local Versus National Level. *American Politics Research*
- Supplemental readings
  - Charles Tiebout. 1956. “A Pure Theory of Local Expenditures.” *Journal of Political Economy*.
  - Vladimir Kogan and Zachary Peskowitz. 2018. Election Timing, Electorate Composition, and Policy Outcomes: Evidence from School Districts. *American Journal of Political Science*. 62(3):637-651.

#### 7. November 18: Legislatures

- Key topics: legislative process; role of parties and committees; super-majoritarianism
- Required reading
  - Charles Stewart. 2011. *Analyzing Congress*. Chapters 7-9.
- Supplemental reading
  - Charles Stewart. 2011. *Analyzing Congress*. Chapter 3.
  - Barry Weingast and William Marshall. 1988. “The Industrial Organization of Congress; or, Why Legislatures, Like Firms, Are Not Organized as Markets.” *The Journal of Political Economy*.

#### 8. November 25: The Executive

- Key topics: Executive authority; unilateral powers; executive-legislative interaction; Required reading
  - CQ Researcher. 2015. “Presidential Power.”
  - Keith Krehbiel. 1998. *Pivotal Politics* (University of Chicago Press). Chapter 2.
  - Charles Cameron and Nolan McCarty. 2004. “Models of Vetoes and Veto Bargaining.” *Annual Review of Political Science*.
- Supplemental reading

- Molly Reynolds. 2018. “What If You Could Pick the Pivot? Budget Reconciliation and Pivotal Politics in the Contemporary Congress.” *Journal of Politics*.
9. December 2: The Courts, the Bureaucracy, and Policy Implementation
- Key topics: Courts as policy-making institutions, role of the bureaucracy in implementing and influencing policy; political oversight of the bureaucracy; capture
  - Required reading
    - Gerald Rosenberg. 1991. *The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?* Chapter 1.
    - James Q. Wilson, *Bureaucracy: What Government Agencies Do and Why They Do It* (1989). Read in the following order: “Constraints” pp 113-136. Political Environment of Agencies, pp. 75-83. Four kinds of agencies defined by nature of tasks, 154-171. The Key Strategy: 202-205
  - Supplemental reading
    - Additional reading from the *Hollow Hope*. Part 1 (Civil Rights, Chapters 2-5), Part 2 (Abortion and Women’s Rights, Chapters 6-9), or Part 4 (Same-Sex Marriage, Chapters 12-13).
    - Jonathan Bendor et al. 2001. Theories of Delegation. *Annual Review of Political Science*.