

American Political Systems
Political Science 1150
Fall 2019

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Class time: MWF 11:00am – 11:50am
Classroom: McGannon 211
Office Hours: Mondays 2 - 4pm or by appointment

Course Description

This class is an introductory survey course of the political science American Politics subfield. By the end of this course, you should have a familiarity with some of the fundamental debates and works within American political science research. The first half of this class focuses on political institutions. Here, we will study how political elites act within the American political system to achieve their goals. The second half of the class focuses on political behavior. Here, we will focus on how voters develop and act upon their political opinions. Theories of politics and political behavior can help us interpret and explain contemporary politics, so throughout the course, we will keep a collective eye on events in Washington.

Learning Objectives

1. To understand the theoretical underpinnings of research focusing on institutional aspects of the United States government, with a focus on legislative, executive and judicial institutions.
2. To understand the theoretical underpinnings of research focusing on political behavior, with a focus on public opinion, partisanship, and elections.
3. Students will acquire conceptual tools and methodologies to analyze and understand their social world. With these tools, they will be able to act in their world more effectively and become forces for positive change. They will gain a better understanding of human diversity. Students will be able to think and write critically about human behavior and community. They will become aware of the various methodological approaches used by social scientists.

Course Requirements

Tests:

This course will have a midterm and a final exam. The midterm exam is on **Wednesday, October 16**, and you will be notified by October 7 of the Course Topics you will be responsible for on the exam. The final exam will be cumulative and take place on **Friday, December 13**. Exam questions will be multiple choice, short answer, and essay based. If scheduling permits, there will be an in-class review session prior to the midterm and final exams.

Papers:

There will be two main written assignments in this course. They will require you to review and critique debates in American political science research. The first paper focuses on presidential power, and the second paper focuses on presidential elections. The first paper will be 4 – 5 pages and due on **Friday, October 4**, and the second paper will be 6 – 7 pages and due on **Tuesday, November 26**. You will receive more details about the assignments at least three weeks before the papers are due.

Assignments and Quizzes:

To review material from readings and lecture, there will be quizzes and homework assignments throughout the semester. Most quizzes will be on Blackboard reviewing Topics from class and readings. For homework assignments, all answers should be typed and emailed to Professor Rogers in MS Word (preferred) or PDF format by the 11:00am on the due date.

Class Participation:

You are expected to complete the readings and contribute to class discussion. **Your participation grade is determined by more than attending class.** If you must miss a class for a legitimate reason, such as illness, family emergency, or University-sponsored activity, you should contact the professor as soon as possible.

You are permitted three unexcused absences from class. For each additional unexcused absence, your final course grade will be reduced by 0.25%. An absence is excused only if explicitly stated by Professor Rogers by email (therefore if you speak to Professor Rogers – be sure to send a follow up email to confirm excuse). Professor Rogers plans to use Panopto to record most lectures. It, however, will not be assured that all lecture material will be recorded.

Grades & Key Dates

Your grade for this course will consist of the following components and relative weights:

Item	Overall Course Grade Weight	Due Date
Assignments and Quizzes	15%	Throughout Semester
Participation	10%	Throughout Semester
Midterm	15%	October 16
Final Exam	27.5%	December 13
Paper 1	12.5%	October 4
Paper 2	20%	November 26

There will be no make-up tests or deadline extensions given in this course. Exemptions will only be made with written (e.g. email) prior consent for planned events such as sponsored SLU activities or religious observances or under unusual circumstances such as a documented medical emergency. It is the student's responsibility to request and obtain this consent. Late papers and assignments will be marked down 10% for each day, and there will be no extensions for Blackboard Quizzes. There will be no assignments designated purely as "extra credit."

When determining the final grade, the following grading scale will be used. Professor Rogers will round final grades. Depending on the distribution of grades, Professor Rogers reserves the right to impose curves to assignments and final grades.

Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93% - 100%	B	83% - 86%	C	73% - 76%
A-	90% - 92%	B-	80% - 82%	C-	70% - 72%
B+	87% - 89%	C+	77% - 79%	D	60% - 69%
				F	below 60%

We will not hold class on the following days:

- October 21-22: Fall Break
- November 27-30: Thanksgiving Break

Course Evaluations

Students are requested to fill out a course evaluation at the end of the course.

Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is “the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity.” Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at:

https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf.

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

Title IX

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; anna.kratky@slu.edu; 314-977-3886) and share the basic facts of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the Office of the General Counsel.

Student Success Center

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit the Student Success Center to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

University Writing Services

Students are encouraged to take advantage of University Writing Services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit the Student Success Center or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

Basic Needs Security

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office (deanofstudents@slu.edu or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

Students with Special Needs-Disability Services

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course.

Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at Disability_services@slu.edu or 314-977-3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

Required Texts

The following texts should be available from the University Bookstore or online retailers, such as Amazon.com. Other readings will be made available via Blackboard.

Kollman, Ken. 2017. *Readings in American Politics: Analysis and Perspectives*. New York, NY. W.W. Norton Company. ISBN: 978-0393283686

Neustadt, Richard. 1991. *Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents: The Politics of Leadership from Roosevelt to Reagan*. New York, NY. The Free Press. ISBN: 9780029227961

Sides, John & Lynn Vavreck. 2013. *The Gamble: Choice and Chance in the 2012 Presidential Election*. Princeton, NJ. Princeton University Press. ISBN: 9780691156880

This class will briefly review some of the formal procedures of how American government works (e.g. steps in how a bill becomes a law). It is assumed students have a basic understanding of these processes from POLS 1100, AP American Government, or a strong high school civics class. If you are less familiar with how the American government works, the following book (or earlier editions) provides excellent explanations of many key concepts in the course. The course outline specifies suggested Chapters or sections to read for each topic.

Kernell, Samuel, Gary C. Jacobson, Thad Kousser, and Lynn Vavreck. *The Logic of American Politics*. 7th Edition. ISBN: 9781483319841

Course Outline

The following listing of topics outlines the subjects we will cover in class and the reading assignments for each of the topics. This is a tentative outline intended to give you an overview of the course. Professor Rogers will notify you throughout the semester of when you will be responsible for certain readings in class and on the Blackboard calendar. Professor Rogers reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as the semester progresses. You are responsible for any of the changes to the assigned readings. Readings on the syllabus designated as Kollman will be in the Kollman text, and all other readings will be available on Blackboard. If you have any trouble accessing any of the on-line pieces or the Blackboard calendar is not updated, **please let Professor Rogers know as soon as possible.**

Within each Topic below are “Questions to consider while reading” to help guide your reading.

Topic 1: The Constitution

- The U.S. Constitution
- Federalist Papers 10, 51, & 39
- Kollman 2.1: Brutus. “The Anti-Federalist” [9 pages]
- Kollman 2.3: Dahl, Robert. “How Democratic is the American Constitution?” [5 pages]
- Stein, Jeff. “This study shows American Federalism is a total joke.” [9 pages]
- **Suggested Reading:**
 - Kollman 3.2: Riker, William. “Federalism: Origin, Operation, Significance.”
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - How are the arguments presented in the Federalist papers a response to the colonists’ experiences under monarchical and aristocratic rule? [Federalist Papers]
 - Does Madison advocate for a more “democratic” or “republican” form of government? Why? [Federalist Papers; Brutus; Dahl]
 - How powerful are states under the U.S. Constitution? [US Constitution]
 - Does policymaking appear to matter for state lawmakers’ elections? [Stein]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 2 (Focus on pages 53 – 64; 69 -76)
 - Chapter 3 (Focus on pages 85 – 92)

Topic 2: Introduction to the Spatial Model

- Smith, Steven. “The American Congress.” Appendix. [12 pages]
- **Suggested Reading:**
 - Stewart, Charles. “Analyzing Congress.” Chapter 1. 2001.

Topic 3: Congress

- Fenno, Richard. *Congressmen in Committees* pp. Prologue & Ch. 1. (1973). [19 pages]
- Kollman 5.1: Mayhew, David. “The Electoral Connection” [13 pages]
- Kollman 12.1: Aldrich, John. “Why Parties? A Second Look” [16 pages]
- Binder, Sarah. “The Politics of Legislative Stalemate.” In Kernell (Section 6.2) [9 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Kollman 5.3: Cox, Gary. And Mathew D. McCubbins. “Setting the Agenda: Responsible Party Government in the U.S. House of Representatives”
 - Kollman 5.4: Grimmer, Justin, et. al “The Impression of Influence: Legislator Communication, Representation, and Democratic Accountability.”
 - Aldrich, John H. and David Rhode. “Congressional Committees in a Continuing Partisan Era.” in Kernell (Section 6.3)
 - Kollman 1.2: Olson, Mancur. “The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups”
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What are the goals of Members’ of Congress? [Fenno]
 - What is a collective action problem? [Aldrich]
 - How do political parties help Members of Congress achieve their goals and overcome collective action problems? [Aldrich]
 - How do the Conditional Party Government and Cartel Theory explanations for party influence differ? ~ *The suggested Cox & McCubbins and Aldrich & Rhode readings will be helpful for this question*
 - For what reasons does “deadlock” increase in Congress? [Binder]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 1 (Focus on p. 9 – 30, particularly on what a collective action problem is and the section on agenda control)
 - Chapter 6 (Focus on p. 234 – 250; 255 – 269)
 - Chapter 12 (Focus on p. 485 – 489)

Topic 4: The Presidency

- Kollman 6.1: Neustadt, Richard. “Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents: The Politics of Leadership from Roosevelt to Reagan.” [9 pages]
- Kollman 6.2: Cameron, Charles. “Veto Bargaining: President and the Politics of Negative Power.” [6 pages]
- McCarty, Nolan. “Where do vetoes come from?” *The Monkey Cage*. (2015) [3 pages]
- Skowronek, Stephen. “Presidential Leadership in Political Time.” In Nelson [45 pages]
- **Suggested Reading:**
 - Kollman 6.4: Howell, William G. “Power without Persuasion: The Politics of Direct Presidential Action.” [14 pages]
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What are the formal and informal sources of Presidential power? [Neustadt]
 - Why would a President veto a bill he prefers to the status quo (the current policy)? [Cameron]
 - Why would Congress pass a bill they know will be vetoed? [McCarty]
 - How is Presidential leadership a struggle between the individual and the system? [Skowronek]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 7 (focus on the powers of the presidency)

Topic 5: Representation

- Burke, Edmund. "Speech to the Electors of Bristol." in Canon (Section 21). [5 pages]
- Kollman 13.4. Fox, Richard and Jennifer Lawless. "Gendered Perceptions and Political Candidacies: A Central Barrier to Women's Equality in Electoral Politics." [11 pages]
- Carnes, Nicholas. "Millionaires run our government. Here's why it matters." *The Monkey Cage* (2014) [4 pages]
- Barber, Michael, and Nolan McCarty "Causes and Consequences of Polarization" (2012). p. 19 – 30. [11 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Kollman 5.2: Fenno, Richard F. "Home Style: House Members in Their Districts."
 - Miller, Warren E. and Donald Stokes. "Constituency Influence in Congress." *The American Political Science Review*. 1963. [11 pages]
 - Matthews, Dylan. "One study explains why it's tough to pass liberal laws."
 - Swers, Michele L. and Stella Rouse "Descriptive Representation: Understanding the Impact of Identity on Substantive Representation of Group Interests"
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What does it mean for a representative to be a delegate? What does it mean to be a trustee? [Burke]
 - What evidence do we have the Members of Congress are delegates or trustees? [Miller and Stokes & Matthews in suggested readings]
 - What reasons do Barber and McCarty rule out as causes for Congressional polarization? [Barber and McCarty]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 6 (Focus on p. 219 – 225; 231 – 234)

Topic 6: The Bureaucracy & Interest Groups

- Moe, Terry. "The Politics of Bureaucratic Structure," in Kernell (Section 8.1) [5 pages]
 - *Focus on pages 205 - 210*
- Kollman 7.2: McCubbins, Matthew and Thomas Schwartz. "Congressional Oversight Overlooked: Police Patrols versus Fire Alarms." [15 pages]
- Kollman 11.1: Gilens, Martin. "Affluence and Influence: Economic Inequality and Political Power in America." [8 pages]
- Sides, John. "A new experiment shows how money buys access to Congress." *The Monkey Cage* [4 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Kollman 7.3: Carpenter, Daniel. "The Forging of Bureaucratic Autonomy: Reputations, Networks, and Policy Innovation in Executive Agencies, 1862-1928."
 - Hall, Richard and Frank Wayman. "Moneyed Interests and the Mobilization of Bias in Congressional Committees." *The American Political Science Review*. 1990.
 - Lewis, David. "The Politics of Presidential Appointments" in Kernell (Section 8.2)
 - Kollman 11.2: Kollman, Ken: "Outside Lobbying: Public Opinion and Interest Group Strategies"
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What are the principle problems interest groups face when trying to structure the bureaucracy? [Moe]
 - What is the difference between "police patrol" and "fire alarm" oversight? [McCubbins and Schwartz]
 - How well does the common citizen appear to be represented by interest groups or have access to their Member of Congress? [Gilens, Sides]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 8 (Focus on p. 338 – 353)
 - Chapter 13 (Focus on p. 529 - 543)

Topic 7: The Judiciary

- George, Tracy and Lee Epstein. 1992. “On the Nature of Supreme Court Decision-Making,” *American Political Science Review*. 86(2): 323-337. [14 pages]
- Kollman 8.1: Rosenberg, Gerald. “The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change.” [7 pages]
- Cope, Kevin and Joshua Fischman. “It’s hard to find a federal judge more conservative than Brett Kavanaugh.” *The Monkey Cage*. 2016.
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Epstein, Lee and Jack Knight. 1998 “The Choices Justices Make.” p. 9 – 18; Chapter 3 [63 pages]
 - Hamilton, Alexander. “Federalist 78.”
 - Kollman 8.2: “Marbury v. Madison”
 - Kollman: 4.2: “Brown v. Board of Education.”
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What is the difference between the legal model and the extralegal (or attitudinal) model? [George and Epstein]
 - To what extent and why is the court’s power constrained? [Rosenberg]
 - What strategies do justices employ to achieve their goals? [Epstein and Knight, from suggested readings]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 9 (Focus on p. 361 – 364; 371 - 379)

Topic 8: Public Opinion & Political Knowledge

- Quealy, Kevin. “If Americans Can Find North Korea on a Map, They’re More Likely to Prefer Diplomacy” [3 pages]
- Lippmann, Walter. 1925. “The Phantom Public” Excerpt. [4 pages]
- Key, V.O. “The Voice of the People: An Echo” from *The Responsible Electorate*. (Canon Section 47) [6 pages]
- Clawson and Oxley, Chapter 5. “Ideological Incongruence and Critiques.” [8 pages]
 - *Focus on pages 133 - 141*
- Kollman 9.2: Zaller, John. “The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion.” [5 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Dropp, Kyle. “The less Americans know about Ukraine’s location, the more they want the U.S. to intervene.”
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What does Lippmann mean when he says “It is bad for a fat man to be a ballet dancer.”? How does this compare with Key’s conception of the electorate? [Lippmann, Key]
 - According to Converse: [Converse]
 - To what extent are voters ideological?
 - What is constraint?
 - Are individuals’ opinions and attitudes stable?
 - What does Zaller mean when he states individuals appear to make decisions off “the top of their head?” [Zaller]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 10 (Focus on p. 399 – 414)

Topic 9: Rational Choice

- Kollman 9.1: Lupia, Arthur and Mathew D. McCubbins. “The Democratic Dilemma: Can Citizens Learn What They Need to Know?” [13 pages]
- Popkin, Sam. *The Reasoning Voter* (1994) p. 1-6, 72-81, 91-95. [19 pages]
- Page and Shapiro, *The Rational Public* (1992). Chapter 1. [32 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Downs, Anthony. *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (1957). Chapter 3. [24 pages]
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - Do voters need to be fully informed to make rational decisions? [Lupia]
 - What is the “expected party differential” and how is it used in voters’ electoral decision-making? [Downs in suggested readings]
 - What are the two modes of information processing laid out by Popkin? [Popkin]
 - What is the “miracle of aggregation?” [Page and Shapiro]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 10: 417 – 422
 - Chapter 11: 454 - 458

Topic 10: Partisanship & Polarization

- Hetherington, Mark. “Partisanship and Polarization” in Berinsky (Chapter 5) [17 pages]
- Kollman 12.2: Campbell, Angus et. al. “The American Voter: An Abridgment” [7 pages]
- Fiorina, Morris “Culture War? The Myth of a Polarized America.” in Kernell (Section 10.3). [7 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Political Polarization in the American Public. *Pew Research Center 2014*
 - Fiorina, Morris. “Americans have not become more politically polarized.” *The Monkey Cage. 2014*
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - How polarized is the American public? [Hetherington; Fiorina]
 - What is sorting? How does it happen? [Hetherington; Fiorina]
 - How can “enduring partisan commitments” shape “attitudes towards political objects?” [Campbell]
 - What is the difference between “closely and deeply divided” and “closely but not deeply divided?” Which better explains public opinion in America? [Fiorina]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 10: 408 – 410
 - Chapter 12: 514 - 525

Topic 11: Electoral Behavior and Institutions

- Kollman 12.3: Cohen, Marty et. al. “The Party Decides: Presidential Nominations Before and After Reform.” [10 pages]
- Bartels, Larry. “Partisan Biases in Economic Accountability.” Chapter 3 in *Unequal Democracy* [30 pages]
- Sanders, Laura. 2010. “Home Team Wins May Influence Elections.” *Wired: Science News*. [3 pages]
- **Suggested Readings**
 - Kollman 12.4: Kollman, Ken. “Who drives the party bus?” [3 pages]
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - Who is most influential in selecting presidential nominees? [Cohen; Kollman]
 - What does it mean that voters are myopic? [Bartels]
 - If voters respond to sporting events, what are the implications for elections serving as an accountability mechanism? [Sanders]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 11: 445-446

Topic 12: Self-Interest & Groups

- Bartels, Larry. “Homer Gets a Tax Cut” Chapter 5 in *Unequal Democracy*. [31 pages]
- Kollman 9.4: Cramer, Katherine: “The Politics of Resentment: Rural Consciousness in Wisconsin and the Rise of Scott Walker. [27 pages]
- White, Ismail, Chryl Laird, and Troy Allen. “Selling Out?: The Politics of Navigating Conflicts between Racial Group Interest and Self-Interest.” *American Political Science Review*. 104(4): 783-800. [17 pages]
- **Suggested Readings:**
 - Dawson, Michael. “Not in Our Lifetimes: The Future of Black Politics.”
 - McCleod, Saul. “Social Identity Theory”
 - Kollman 4.1: Tesler, Michael. “Post-Racial or Most-Racial?: Race and Politics in the Obama Era.
 - Kollman 10.1: Wong, Janelle. Et. al. “Asian American Political Participation: Emerging Constituents and Their Political Identities.”
 - Kollman 14.2: Abrajana, Marisa. “Campaigning to a New Electorate: Advertising to Latino Voters.”
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What are the steps or processes to social identity theory? [McCleod in suggested readings]
 - What is the “black utility heuristic” and “linked fate?” [White]
 - What evidence do we have that individuals follow their perceived group interests versus their self-interest? [White; Bartels]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 10: p. 434 - 439

Topic 13: The Media

- Iyengar, Shanto and Donald Kinder. “News that Matters.” Chapters 2 – 3. 1987. [26 pages]
- Prior, Markus. “News vs. Entertainment: How Increasing Media Choice Widens Gaps in Political Knowledge and Turnout.” In Canon section 46. [7 pages]
- Kollman 14.1: Baum, Matthew. “Soft News Goes to War: Public Opinion and American Foreign Policy in the New Media Age.” [4 pages]
- **Suggested Reading**
 - Gilens, Martin. 1999. *Why Americans Hate Welfare*. Chapters 5 and 6
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What is the agenda-setting hypothesis? How do Iyengar and Kinder provide support for this hypothesis? [Iyengar and Kinder]
 - How can people learn about politics by accident or as a “by-product” of other activities? [Prior]
 - How have changes to the media environment over the last 60 years and the advent of “soft news” influenced the extent to which (and how) voters learn about politics? [Baum]
- ❖ Accompanying Kernell, Jacobson, Kousser, and Vavreck Reading
 - Chapter 10: p. 415 - 417

Topic 14: Public Policy: Taxes

- Kollman 15.1: Scheve, Kenneth and David Stasavage. “Taxing the Rich: A History of Fiscal Fairness in the United States and Europe.” [15 pages]
- Kollman 15.2: Mettler, Suzanne. “The Submerged State: How Invisible Government Policy Undermine American Democracy.” [12 pages]
- “What is America Introduces a Wealth Tax?” *The Economist*
- ❖ Questions to consider while reading:
 - What are the different types of arguments are there to establish “fairness” in taxation? [Scheve]
 - What is the “submerged state?” [Mettler]