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## POLITICAL PARTIES--CAS PO 511

### BOOKS TO BUY

L. Sandy Maisel, The Parties Respond: Changes in the American Party System, (Boulder, Co: Westview Press 1998), 3rd edition.

Martin, Cathie Jo, Stuck in Neutral: Business and the Politics of Human Capital Investment Policy, Princeton: Princeton University Press (2000).

King, Anthony, New Labour Triumphs, Chatham, NJ: Chatham House (1998).

### ASSIGNMENTS

There will be one midterm (worth 30 percent), one final (worth 35 percent), and one fifteen-page paper (worth 35 percent). The paper, due April 27th, should be based upon a minimum of 8 sources. Sources must be cited whenever any factual data or ideas are taken from them. Word-for-word reproductions must be placed in quotation marks; paraphrases must be cited. Plagiarists automatically fail. (See pages 11-17 in "The Academic Conduct Code.") Late papers will be marked down, and must be given to the professor in person. Computer error is not a viable excuse for a tardy paper--always make back-up files of your papers on a separate disk.

No make-ups will be given for either the midterm (February 29) or the final unless approval is obtained from the professor in advance. No make-ups will be given to accommodate travel plans.

Tu 1/11 INTRODUCTION

Th 1/13 INTEREST INTERMEDIATION AND DEMOCRACY

E.E. Schattschneider, The Semi-Sovereign People, (New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1960), pp. 1-19.

Tu 1/18      TYPES OF PARTY SYSTEMS

Samuel Eldersveld, *Political Parties in American Society*, (New York: St. Martins, 2000), Chapter 2.

- What makes a group a party?
- What is the role of parties in the political system?
- Do parties help or hinder democracy?
- Can only democracies have parties?
- What are the various types of political parties?
- What are the benefits and drawbacks of each?
- Which kind of party system is best for democratic functioning?
- What kind of parties exist in the United States?

DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAN PARTY SYSTEM

Th 1/20      ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PARTY SYSTEM

Samuel Eldersveld, *Political Parties in American Society*, (New York: St. Martins, 2000), Chapter 3.

- What was the origin of the first party system?
- What were the norms, constituents, institutions, and policies of the first party system?
- How do crises in party systems occur?
- How have Americans historically been ambivalent about parties?

Tu 1/25      JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY AND POLITICAL PARTIES

Walter Dean Burnham, *Critical Elections and the Mainsprings of American Politics*, (New York: W.W. Norton, 1970), pp. 1-33.

James Morone, "The Resistible Rise of the Common Man: Jacksonian Democracy," *The Democratic Wish*, (New York: Basic Books, 1990), pp. 74-96

- How did the constituents, institutions, and policies of the Jacksonian era differ from the Jeffersonian period?
- How do Eldersveld and Burnham differ in their characterizations of the party systems? What are critical realignments, how often do they occur, and what are their significance for American politics?

Th 1/27                    THE SYSTEM OF 1896

Joel Silbey, "The Rise and Fall of American Political Parties 1790-1990" Maisel, Chapt.1.

Samuel Hays, "Political Parties and the Community-Society Continuum," in William Chambers and Walter Dean Burnham ed. *The American Party Systems*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1975), pp.152-181.

How did the constituents, institutions, and policies of the system of 1896 differ from the Jacksonian period?

How does Silbey think about periodicity in American party systems, and how does this differ from Burnham and Eldersveld?

Tu 2/1                    THE NEW DEAL REALIGNMENT

Thomas Ferguson, "Party Realignment and American Industrial Structure," *Research in Political Economy*, Vol. 6, Greenwich, Conn: JAI Press (1983).

How does Ferguson characterize the function of party systems?

What conflicts outside of the political realm have shaped American political development?

How did the institutions, constituents, and policy programs of the New Deal differ from earlier party systems?

Th 2/3                    WHY NO SOCIAL DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA

Mike Davis, *Prisoners of the American Dream*, (New York: Verso, 1986), pp. 3-51.

PARTIES IN THE MODERN ERA--DEAD OF ALIVE?

Tu 2/8                    WHY WE VOTE THE WAY WE DO?

Dalton, Chapters 2, 8,9.

How informed is the public?

How has the information level of the mass public changed in the past 30 years?

How informed must the mass public be in order to have a functioning democracy?

What are the demographic and socioeconomic bases for party support?  
 Compare a sociological explanation for party affiliation with a psychological approach, pointing out the pros and cons of each.  
 How would each model explain the decline of party?

Th 2/10      THE VOTER'S VIEW OF PARTIES

Dalton, Chapters to be assigned

Warren Miller, in Maisel, Chapter 5.

Recommended: Martin Wattenberg, *The Decline of American Political Parties*, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1990), pp. 7-89.

What has happened to partisan support in the past 30 years?  
 When do voters change their party affiliation?  
 How is partisanship related to the propensity to vote?  
 How can we account for the rise of the independents; is this a good or a bad thing?  
 How do we account for the rise of nonvoting?

Tu 2/15      VACATION

Th 2/17      PARTY REFORMS AND PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS

Bill Crotty, in Maisel, Chapter 9

L. Sandy Maisel, et. al., in Maisel, Chapter 7.

How are presidential candidates nominated in the U.S.; does this differ from elsewhere?  
 How has the nomination process changed over time?  
 How have these changes affected candidate selection?  
 Should independents be allowed to vote in primaries?

Tu 2/22      HAVE THE MEDIA REPLACED PARTIES?

Jeffrey Abramson, F. Christopher Arterton, and Gary Orren, *The Electronic Commonwealth*, (New York: Basic Books, 1988), pp. 66-121.

Kerbel, in Maisel, Chapter 11.

Have the media challenged the parties as "the main connecting rods between candidates and voters"?

Where have the media usurped traditional party roles; where has the party prevailed?

What has resulted from the media's assuming these functions?

Th 2/24            THE MEDIA'S INFLUENCE ON DEMOCRACY

Film: "Modern Campaign Techniques"

"The Price of Power: Money in Politics"

Tu 2/29            MIDTERM

INTEGRATING INTERESTS--ALTERNATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

Th 3/2             THE RISE OF INTEREST GROUPS IN AMERICAN POLITICS

Darrell West, The Sound of Money, (New York: W.W. Norton, 1998), chapters to be assigned

Frank Souraf, in Maisel, Chapt. 10.

Have business groups become a greater force in American politics?

What has happened to the parties with the politicization of business?

Has the rise of PACs and independent financing weakened or strengthened party power and control?

Tu 3/7-Th 3/9    SPRING BREAK

Tu 3/14            INTEREST ORGANIZATION AND POLICY POSITIONS

Philippe Schmitter, "Interest intermediation and regime governability in contemporary Western Europe and North America," in Suzanne Berger ed., Organizing Interests in Western Europe, (New York: Cambridge U. Press, 1981), pp. 287-330.

Cathie Martin, Stuck in Neutral, Chapters 1, 3, and 5.

How does the corporatist organization of interests in Western Europe contribute to more successful governance?

How does the organization of business interests vary across policy areas in the United States and how does this variation affect the expression of corporate preferences?

Th 3/16            INTEREST GROUP STRATEGY AND PARTY POWER

David Vogel, Fluctuating Fortunes, (New York: Basic Books, 1989), pp. 193-239.

Cathie Martin, "Business Influence and State Power," Politics and Society, Vol. 17 (1989).

Cathie Martin, Stuck in Neutral, Chapter 7.

How do the authors differ in their explanations for the rise of business on the American political scene?

Does an interest group strategy detract from or contribute to party power?

Tu 3/21            RACE AND PARTY POLITICS

Tom and Mary Edsall, Chain Reaction, W.W. Norton, Chapters 1, 7, 12.

How has race complicated the expression of interests in America?

Th 3/23            ALTERNATIVE ORGANIZATION OF INTERESTS

Dalton, Chapt. 4-5

Kay Lawson and Peter Merkl, "Alternative Organizations: Environmental, Supplementary, Communitarian, and Antiauthoritarian" in Lawson and Merkl, Chapt. 1.

What are the various ways of explaining social movements?

When do people organize collectively?

What happens to interests which are left out of the old party system?

Are social movements a legitimate form of politics?

Tu 3/28 INTERESTS OUTSIDE THE MAINSTREAM

Angelo Panebianco, "The Italian Radicals: New Wine in an Old Bottle," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapt. 5.

Francis Fox Piven and Richard Cloward, *Poor People's Movements*, pp. 1-40.

What do social movements, protest, and third parties contribute to party politics?

Th 3/30 SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Peter Pulzer, "When Parties Fail: Ethnic Protest in Britain in the 1970s," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapt. 13.

FORMULATING PUBLIC POLICY

Tu 4/4 PARTIES AND PUBLIC POLICY

Barbara Sinclair, in Maisel, Chapt. 12.

Brady in Maisel, Chapter 13.

Ben Ginsberg and Martin Shefter, *Politics by Other Means*, Chapter 1.

What has been the traditional role of party leadership in organizing legislation?

What factors have led to the decline of this leadership?

How can we account for the recent resurgence of Congressional parties?

What are the implications of divided government for governance?

COMPARATIVE PARTY SYSTEMS

Th 4/6 A PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM: THE UNITED KINGDOM

Anthony King, *New Labour Triumphs*, Chapters to be Assigned.

How do parties in the British system differ from those in the United States?

What are the pros and cons of each system?

Tu 4/11            A PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM

Frank Wilson, "When Parties Refuse to Fail: The Case of France," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapter. 19.

Richard Rose and Thomas Mackie, "Do Parties Persist or Fail? The Big Trade-off Facing Organizations," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapter 20.

What accounts for the tenacity of some parties?

Do successful party systems ensure democratic and effective governance?

Th 4/13            THE DYNAMICS OF MULTIPARTY SYSTEMS

Mogens Pedersen, "The Defeat of All Parties: The Danish Folketing Election, 1973," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapt. 10.

What commonalities do multiparty systems share with our system of divided government?

Tu 4/18            THE DYNAMICS OF ONE-PARTY SYSTEMS

Readings to be assigned.

Th 4/20            PARTIES AND THE AMERICAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

Martin, Stuck in Neutral, Chapter 8.

Martin Neil Bailey, Gary Burtless, and Robert Litan, *Growth with Equity*, Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution (1993).

How do the American party system and system of interest representation influence the political economy and societal equality?

Tu 4/25            PARTY RESURGENCE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Paul Herrnson, in Maisel, Chapt. 3.

John Bibby, in Maisel, Chapter 2.

Raffaella Y. Nanetti, "Community Groups as Alternative Political Organizations in Chicago," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapter. 7.

How has the power context changed for parties at the local level?

What have these parties done to offset these changes?

How do Bibby and Nanetti differ in their view of local political parties, and who is right?

What was the historical relationship between state and national parties, and how has this changed?

What has been the basis for the rejuvenation of the national party?

What has been the difference between Republican and Democratic party rejuvenation?

Th 4/27            POSSIBILITIES FOR REFORM

Dalton, Chapter 11

Peter Merkl, "The Challengers and the Party Systems," in Lawson and Merkl, Chapter 21.

Sandy Maisel, in Maisel, Chapter 16.

What is the fate of political parties?

Are we in a period of realignment or dealignment?

Tu 5/2            MAKE-UP DAY

Th 5/4            CONCLUSION