

Political Science 134
MWF 10-11
Spring 2003

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UNITED STATES POLITICAL PARTIES

Political parties are central to democratic governance in constitutional states based on citizen participation. They help organize political consent and legitimacy. They reflect the complexity of the U. S. as well as other democratic political systems and their political processes. This is the point of departure for this substance of this class.

The perspectives in the lectures are macro-political and directed to understanding change in the American political system. The text and the readings should be used to get details about the past and current conditions of parties in America.

Readings

The text is Paul Allen Beck and Marjorie Randon Hershey, Party Politics in America (Longman, 10th edition, 2002). The lectures and discussions are parallel to the chapters. A second book of readings contains analysis of the functioning and prospects of parties, L. Sandy Maisel (Ed.), The Parties Respond, (Westview, 4th Edition, 2002). (Both are available in paper editions at the Pennsylvania Book Center, 34th and Walnut). Additional readings will be given for the classes dealing with the media and analyses of the 1996 and 2000 elections. In addition, the relatively new journal, Party Politics (Library), should be consulted for research papers.

Written Assignments

The first paper, due at the time of the midterm examination, is a critique of a book dealing with parties. Approved books are listed below. Others may be used with permission to assure that the book is appropriate (No edited books, journalistic accounts, or textbooks). The review should be about five pages. It should briefly state the main ideas and arguments of the book and then evaluate its relevance to analysis of current conditions. It is helpful to read one or more "reviews" of the book published in scholarly journals.

The second paper is an analysis of reforms, adopted or proposed, to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of political parties, often encompassing conflicting principles. Topics include reforms of primaries, conventions, organization, financing, systems of voting, campaigns, membership, platforms, the media, and many others. This

paper should be about 10-15 pages and is due on the last day of class.

The mid-term will be composed of five identifications (e.g. the open primary). The final examination will be five identifications and two essay questions, integrating the material from the entire course. Choices will be available for the two essay questions.

The final examination is scheduled for Friday, May 9, 8:30-10:30. If you have travel tickets or personal plans at that time, please do not enroll in this class.

A "field" research project is required. Students will be divided into groups of four and will visit a political party meeting in the Philadelphia area. A collective 5-8 page report will be submitted on April 16. Each group will find a party meeting, go there, use an information sheet to record observations, and interpret the political and other implications. A set of questions, a research "protocol", for field observations will be distributed.

This semester a special session will be given to political parties as official vote counters, a function not generally recognized until the last presidential election. The research groups will present a position in class on the role of local parties in tabulating official votes, using one of several books published since the election last November.

Topics, Readings, and Schedule (B= Beck; M= Maisel; # = Chapter)

Jan.

13 Course Overview

15 What are Political Parties? B 1

17 What Political Parties Do

22 Comparative and Historical Perspectives: Political Integration B 16, M 1

24 Origins and Current State B 6 (First pages)

27 A Two Party System: Current State B 2

29 Parties and Democratic Governance B 15

31 The Structure of Parties in a Federal System B 3

Feb.

3 Alternative Avenues to Participation: Third Parties and Interest Groups

5 The Party Activists and Their Competitors B 5

7 The National Parties: The Committees B 4, M 3

10 Nominations and the Primaries B 9, 10, M 5

12 Campaigns: Organization and Process B 11, M 6

14 Campaign Finance I B 12, M 7

17 Campaign Finance II M 8 and McCain-Feingold (on web)

19 State and Local Politics: The Case of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia M 2

21 Political Parties Count the Votes: Presentation of Alternatives

24 American Voters I B 8, M 4

26 American Voters II B 6, 7

28 American Voters III M 6

March

3 Midterm Examination: First Paper Due

5 Reforms I: The Nature of Party Reform M 8

7 Reforms II: Democratic Controls B 15

17 Reforms III: Finance (Articles to be distributed)

19 Media I (Articles to be distributed)

21 Media II: Media vs. Parties M 11

24 Party in Government I: Congress B 13, M 12, 13

26 Party in Government II: The Executive and Courts B 14, M 14

28 Party in Government III: Accountability

31 Parties, Ideologies, and Interests

April

2 The 1976, 1980, 1984 Presidential Elections

4 The 1988 and 1992, and Elections

7 The 1996 and 2000 Elections, M 13

9 Class Presentations of Field Research Reports

11 The Parties and Constitutional Change

14 Foreign Policy: Can There Be Bi-partisanship?

16 Domestic Politics: Can There Be Democracy Without Parties? (Field Project Papers Due)

18 Presentation and Discussion of Final Papers

21 Generational Politics: Continuity and Change

22 The Future

25 Review (Second paper due)

Final Examination, May 9, 8:30-10:30

BOOKS ABOUT PARTIES FOR REVIEW

(Others may be selected with permission)

Aldrich, John H., Before The Convention, 1980

Aldrich, John H., Why Parties, 1995

Alexander, Herbert E., Financing Politics, 1992

Alexander, Herbert E. and Antony Corrado, Financing The 1992 Election, 1995

American Political Science Assoc., Toward A More Responsible Two-Party System, 1950

Bennett, W. Lance, The Governing Crisis: Media, Money, and Marketing in American Elections, 1992

Boix, Charles, Political Parties, Growth, and Equality: Social Democratic Strategies in the World Economy, 1998

Brinkley, Wilfred E., American Political Parties: Their Natural History 4th ed., 1963

Broder, David S. , The Party's Over: The Failure of Politics in America, 1972

**Brown, Sherrod, Congress from the Inside: Observations from the Majority and Minority,
1999**

Burnham, Walter Dean, Critical Elections and the Mainsprings of American Politics, 1970

Burns, James MacGregor, The Deadlock of Democracy, 1963

Campbell, Angus, Gyrin, Gerald, and Miller, Warren. The Voter Decides, 1954

Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes, The American Voter, 1960

Ceaser, James W. Presidential Selection, 1979

Ceaser, James W. Reforming the Reforms, 1982

Coleman, John J., Part Decline in America, 1996

Cotter, Cornelius P. et al., Party Organizations in American Politics, 1984

Crotty, William, American Parties in Decline, 1984

Dexter, Lewis A., How Organizations are Represented in Washington, 1969

Downs, Anthony, An Economic Theory of Democracy, 1957

Duverger, Maurice, Political Parties, 1954

Epstein, Leon D., Political Parties in the American Mold, 1986

Fiorina, Morris P., Retrospective Voting in American National Elections, 1981

Frantzich, Stephen E., Political Parties in the Technological Age, 1984

Gerry, John, Party Ideologies in America, 1828-1996, 2000

Hammel, Robert and Kenneth Janda, Parties and their Environments, 1982

Heard, Alexander, The Costs of Democracy, 1960

Hernson, Paul S., Party Campaigns in the 1980s, 1988

Hinderacker, Ivan, Party Politics, 1957

Jacobson, Gary, The Electoral Origin of Divided Government: Competition in the U.S., House of Representatives,1990

Jones, Charles O., The Minority Party in Congress, 1970

- Jones, David R., Political Parties and Policy Gridlock in American Government, 2001
- Lijphart, Arend, Electoral Systems and Party Systems: A Study of Twenty-seven Democracies, 1945-1990, 1994
- Kayden, Xandria and Eddie Mahl, The Party Goes On: The Persistence of the Two Party System in the U.S., 1985
- Kessel, John, Presidential Parties, 1984
- Kessel, John, Presidential Campaign Politics, 1988
- Key, V. O. Southern Politics in State and Nation, 1949
- Key, V. O. American State Politics, 1957
- Key, V. O. The Responsible Electorate, 1966
- Kingdon, John W., Candidates for Office, 1968
- Klinkner, Philip A., The Losing Parties: Out-Party National Committees, 1956-1993, 1994
- Mayhew, David, Placing Parties in American Politics, 1986
- Mayhew, David, Divided We Govern, 1991
- Michels, Robert, Political Parties, 1949
- Milbrath, Lester W., The Washington Lobbyists, 1963
- Milkis, Sidney, The President and The Parties, 1993
- Milkis, Sidney, Political Parties and Constitutional Government: Re-making American Democracy, 1999
- Miller, Warren E. and Teresa E. Levitin, Leadership and Change: The New Politics and the American Electorate, 1976
- Miller, Warren E. and Jennings, M. Kent, Parties in Transition: A Longitudinal Study of Party Elites and Party Followers, 1986
- Monroe, The Political Party Matrix: The Persistence of Organization, 2001
- Nie, Norman, Sidney Verba, and John Petrock, The Changing American Voter, 1976
- Ostorgorski, M., Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties
Vol 2, 1902 (other editions)
- Patterson, Thomas E., The Mass Media Election, 1980
- Petrock, John R., Party Coalition: Realignment And The Decline Of The New Deal Party System, 1980
- Polsby, Nelson W., Consequences of Party Reform, 1983
- Price, David, E., Bringing Back the Parties, 1984
- Ranney, Austin, Curing the Mischiefs of Faction: Party Reform in

America, 1975

Ranney, Austin, The Doctrine of Responsible Party Government. Its Origins and Present State, 1954

Ranney, Austin and Willmore Kendall, Democracy and the American Party System, 1956

Rhode, David W., Parties and Leaders in the Post Reform House, 1991

Ripley, Randall B., Party Leaders In The House Of Representatives, 1987

Rosenstone, Steven J., Roy L. Behr, and Edward H. Lazarus, Third Parties in America, 1996

Rossiter, Clinton, Parties and Politics in America, 1960

Sabato, Larry J., Pac Power: Inside the World of Political Consultants, 1985

Sabato, Larry, J., The Rise of Political Consultants, 1981

Sartori, Giovanni, Parties and Party Systems, 1976

Scammon, Richard, and Wattenberg, Ben J., The Real Majority, 1970

Schapsmeir, Edward, Political Parties and Civic Action Groups, 1981

Schattschneider, E.E., The Semi-Sovereign People, 1960

Schattschneider, E.E., Party Government, 1942

Schlesinger, Joseph A., Political Parties and the Winning of Office, 1991

Shafer, Bryon E., Quiet Revolution: The Struggle for the Democratic Party and the Shaping of Post-Reform Politics, 1983

Shafer, Bryon E. Bifurcated Politics: Evolution and Reform of National Nominating Convention, 1988

Shefter, Martin, Political Parties and the State: The American Historical Experience, 1994

Sorauf, Frank J., Money In American Politics, 1988

Stonecash, Jeffrey M., Class and Party in American Politics, 2000

Sundquist, James L., Dynamics of the Party System, 1983

Turner, Julius, Party and Constituency, 1970

Ware, Alan, The Breakdown of Democratic Organization, 1940-1980, 1988

Wattenberg, Martin P., The Decline of American Political Parties, 1952-1988, 1989

Wilson, James Q., The Amateur Democrat, 1962