

Barnard College  
Dept. of Political Science  
Spring 2004

[Prof. Jeffrey Friedman](mailto:jfriedma@barnard.edu)  
o.h. Tues. 2-4, 416a Lehman Hall  
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POLS V3020, DEMOCRACY AND ITS CRITICS  
TUESDAY, THURSDAY 5:40-6:55 PM

Requirements: *Class participation: 30%.* There will be a seating chart, and students will be called on to answer questions (distributed in advance) about the readings. The most important thing in this course is that you allow yourself the time to do the readings slowly and carefully before class. If you do that, you will succeed (and maybe learn something). If you don't have the study habits--or the time--to do that, please don't enroll. We'll all be happier that way.

*Midterm: 30%.*

*Final: 40%.*

*Please note that I am not available to proctor early midterms or finals, so don't join the course if you may be at home (or in Hawaii) on our exam dates.*

Readings

1. COURSE READER AT VILLAGE COPIER on Broadway

2. BOOKS TO BUY (these readings also on reserve in Barnard library):

David Mayhew, Congress: The Electoral Connection

Walter Lippmann, Public Opinion (Free Press ed.)

John Zaller, The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion

Robert McChesney, Rich Media, Poor Democracy

Jeffrey Tulis, The Rhetorical Presidency

Samuel Popkin, The Reasoning Voter

Robert Dahl, Democracy and Its Critics

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no asterisk = buy at Labyrinth/on reserve at library

\* = in-class handout

\*\* = in course reader available for purchase at Village Copier on Broadway (these readings are not on reserve)

1/20: \*"Almost Too Close to Call"

1/22: \*"A Nuclear Yugoslavia"

(both readings handed out in the first class and then available on the door of my office, Lehman 416A)

1/27: \*\*Wollheim, "A Paradox in the Theory of Democracy"

1/29: \*\*Walzer, "Philosophy and Democracy"

2/3: \*\*Bentham, "Of the Principle of Utility"

\*\*Bentham, "Parliamentary Reform Catechism"

2/5: \*\*J. S. Mill, *Considerations on Representative Government*, ch. III

2/10: Mayhew, Congress: The Electoral Connection, pp. 49-140

2/12: \*\*Converse, "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Publics"

\*\*Page & Shapiro, *The Rational Public*, pp. 10-11

2/17: Lippmann, Public Opinion, chs. 4-10, 17, 20, 23-24

2/19: Tyrrell, "Nation-States as States of Mind"

2/24: Zaller, The Nature & Origins of Mass Opinion, pp. 16-37 (top of page), 40-48, ch. 6 (entire), pp. 185-90, 203-211

2/26: Zaller, Epilogue

3/2: McChesney, Rich Media, Poor Democracy, chs. 1, 2, and Conclusion

\*\*Gans, *Deciding What's News*, pp. 39-52, 214

3/4: \*\*Lichter et al., *The Media Elite*, chs. 1-3

3/9: cushion

3/11: MIDTERM

\*\*\*\*\* SPRING BREAK!!!! \*\*\*\*\*

3/23: midterms returned, discussed

3/25: Tulis, The Rhetorical Presidency, pp. 3-6, 25-59, 87-137, 161-189

3/30: \*\*Ladd & Lipset, "The Divided Academy," tables 2, 3, 4, 10, 15, 18, 23, 25, 31

4/1: \*\*J.S. Mill, "The Spirit of the Age"

\*\*Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, I.ii.7

4/6: \*\*Skocpol, "Bringing the State Back In"

\*\*Stokes, "Constituency Influence and Representation"

4/8: \*\*Masugi, "Modern Law vs. Ancient Liberties"

Popkin, The Reasoning Voter, Prologue & ch. 1

4/13: Popkin, chs. 2-5

4/15: \*\*Somin, "Voter Ignorance and the Democratic Ideal"

4/20: Dahl, Democracy & Its Critics, chs. 4-5

4/22: Dahl, chs. 6-7

4/27: concluding discussion

4/29: cushion

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