

POLITICAL SCIENCE 100C
AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES 2002
(Tu&Th 11:10-12:30, Solis 104)

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GENERAL INFORMATION

All readings should be completed by the date indicated; lectures will be based on the assumption that they have been.

A midterm (worth 40% of the final grade) and a final examination (worth 60%) will be given. The final examination will be given at the time officially designated. **NO EXCEPTIONS without my *prior* consent! Similarly, if you miss the midterm, and have not notified me *ahead of time* that you will miss it, expect no mercy, even if the reason for missing it would have been acceptable if given beforehand. Both the midterm and the final exam will be closed book and notes.**

The following books will be used extensively and are available for purchase at the bookstore:

Beck and Hershey, Party Politics in America (9th edition)
Riordan, Plunkitt of Tammany Hall
Royko, Boss
Rohde, Parties and Leaders in the Postreform House

ASSIGNMENTS

I. Introduction

Jan 8: Beck and Hershey, ch. 1
Democracy as partisan competition for office in free & universal elections.
Defining parties.

II. Party Organization, Machine-Style

Jan 10&15: Riordan, entire; Beck and Hershey, ch. 3.
Classifying parties.
Defining private, public, and common goods.
Plunkitt (New York).

Jan 17&22: Royko, entire
The Progressive attack on parties.
The twentieth-century machine and the growth of government.
Daley (Chicago).

III. Parties as Electoral Strategists

Jan 24&29: Beck and Hershey, ch. 2.
Centrist parties.
The Downsian spatial model of electoral competition.
Duverger's law.
Electoral systems and party adaptations thereto.

Jan 31&Feb 5: Beck and Hershey, chs. 9,12.
The politics of nomination.
Campaign finance.

*****Feb 7: **IN-CLASS MIDTERM EXAMINATION*******

Feb 12&14: Beck and Hershey, chs. 10-11
The politics of nominating and electing a President.

IV. Parties and Voters

Feb 19: Beck and Hershey, Part III
Mobilization, persuasion and coordination.
Mobilization: Naturalization, Suffrage, Registration, and Turnout.
Persuasion: Agenda setting and position-taking.
Coordination: The wasted vote argument.
Theories of party loyalty and identification.

V. The Parties in Government

Feb 21&26: Beck and Hershey, chs. 13 & 15; Rohde, ch. 1.
The determinants of legislative cohesion; the budgets of '90, '93 and '95.
The internal structure of the House of Representatives.

Feb 28&Mar5: Rohde, chs 2-6.

Mar 7&12: No reading assigned.
Recent elections.

VI. Conclusions

Mar 14: Beck and Hershey , Part VI