

Department of Political Science
The Ohio State University

Political Science 501
The American Presidency
Spring 2000

Professor: Dean Lacy
Office: 2036 Derby Hall
Mailbox: 2140 Derby
Phone: 292-9648
Email: dlacy+@osu.edu

Lecture: Tues./Thurs., 1:30 - 2:48pm
Ives Hall 100

Assistants:
William Anderson
Karen Yang

Sections : Friday, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30am
Derby and Denney Hall

Synopsis

This course examines the American Presidency, focusing on presidential elections the presidency as an institution, and the modern presidency. We begin by establishing what a presidency is and how it differs from other executive arrangements. The second section of the course considers American presidential elections from the nomination process to the final vote. We then study what presidents do after elected, including their relationships with the public, the press, the bureaucracy, the judiciary, and Congress. We will analyze the president's role in national policy-making, including domestic policy, economic policy, and foreign affairs. Throughout the quarter we will discuss current events in presidential elections and policy-making.

Readings (Available at OSU Bookstore, Long's, and SBX)

Edwards, George, and Stephen Wayne. 1999. Presidential Leadership : Politics and Policy-Making 5th ed. St. Martin's Press. [hereafter, L&W]

Pfiffier, James, and Roger H. Davidson. Eds., 2000. Understanding~ the Presidency. 2nd. ed. Addison-Wesley-Longman Hereafter, P&D]

Course Requirements and Grading

Midterm Exam	Tuesday, April 25, 1:30pm	25% of grade
Paper (10 pages)	Due Tuesday, May 30, 1:30 pm	25% of grade
Final Exam	Monday, June 5, 1:30 pm	25% of grade
Section participation and quizzes	Every Friday	25% of grade

Students with Disabilities

If you have any condition, such as a physical, psychiatric, medical, or learning disability, which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work required in this class, please notify~ me and the Office for Disability Services before the end of the first full week of class. Course materials are available in alternative formats upon request, and extra time may be allowed for exams in some cases. All information about your disability will remain confidential.

Academic Misconduct

All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own unless otherwise specified by the instructor. Cases of cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct will be reported to the university committee on academic misconduct and handled according to university policy. Penalties can include failing this class and/or expulsion from the university.

"Academic misconduct is defined as any activity which tends to compromise the academic integrity of the institution, or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:

- A.** violation of course rules as contained in the course syllabus or other information provided the student; violation of program regulations as established by departmental committees;
- B.** providing or receiving information during quizzes and examinations such as course examinations and general examinations; or providing or using unauthorized assistance in the laboratory, at the computer terminal, or on field work;
- C.** submitting plagiarized work for an academic requirement. Plagiarism is the representation of another¹'s works or ideas as one's own; it includes the unacknowledged word for word use and/or paraphrasing of another person¹ 5 work, and/or the inappropriate unacknowledged use of another person's ideas;
- D.** falsification, fabrication, or dishonesty in reporting research results;
- E.** serving as, or enlisting the assistance of; a "ringer" or substitute for a student in the taking of examinations;"

Source: <http://www.osu.edu/offices/oa/procedures/1.0.html>

Course Outline

I. What is a President?

A. Democratic Theory and the Origins of the Presidency (March 28)

B. Types of Executives (March 30)

Edwards & Wayne, Ch. 1, Appendices A, B, C P&D, Section 1

II. Choosing the President

A. Setting the Stage: A History of Presidential Elections (April 4)

B. Nominations (April 6)

Edwards & Wayne, Ch. 2 P&D, Section 3 - Reading 12

C. The War Room (April 11)

D. The General Election (April 13)

Edwards & Wayne, Ch. 3

E. Elections, Mandates, and Electoral Institutions (April 18)

P&D, Section 3, Readings 13-16

III. The President in Government

A. Perspectives on Presidential Power (April 20) P&D, Section 2

Midterm Exam: Tuesday April 25

B. The Power Game (April 27)

C. The President and the Public (May 2)

Edwards & Wayne, Chs. 4,5 P&D, Section 4

D. The President's Office (May 4)

Edwards & Wayne, Ch. 6 P&D, Section 5

- E. The President and Congress** ~ay 9 and 11)
Edwards & Wayne, Ch. 10 P&D, Section 6
- F. The President, the Bureaucracy, and the Judiciary** ~ay 16)
Edwards & Wayne, Chs. 9, 11
- G. Presidential Decision-Making and Leadership** (May 18)
Edwards & Wayne, Chs. 7 & 8
- H. Domestic Policy-Making** (May 23)
Edwards & Wayne, Chs. 12 & 13 P&D, Section 7
- I. Foreign Policy-Making** (May 25)
Edwards & Wayne, Ch. 14 P&D, Section 8
- J. Impeachment** (May 30)
P&D, Section 9

Paper Due Tuesday May 30 1:30 ~m

IV. Conclusions (June 1)

Final Exam: Monday June 5 1:30 pm