

Political Science 367.01

Lecture 1:

The Origins of Groups and Madison's Dilemma

Our Agenda:

- 1) Administrative tasks—roll, survey reminder, and custodial issues
- 2) The lecture and our goals for the day:
 - a) **Determine what people really want and define rationality**
 - 1) What is rational, and what is a rational choice?
 - 2) How does this relate to interests and public policy?
 - 3) Why is it that groups form?
 - b) **How do we define a “political interest group?”**
 - 1) How is it different from a party? A hobby group?
 - 2) What types of groups are out there?
 - c) **Explain Madison's “Federalist 10”**
 - 1) What is the tyranny of a faction?
 - 2) Why were our Founders worried about factions?
 - 3) What did the Founders do about factions?
 - Majority tyranny controlled at the expense of an abundance of smaller factions
 - d) **What is the result of the Founders' decision?**
 - 1) The pluralism of a democratic republic
 - 2) Multiple points of access
 - 3) A competition over scarce resources
 - e) **What causes a group to form?**
 - 1) What are David Truman's thoughts?
 - 2) What is equilibrium and how can that change?