1997

The Legislative Process

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DESCRIPTION

A study of legislative behavior in the American political system. Included is a study of representation, selection of legislators, organization and procedures of legislative bodies, and the relation of the legislative to the executive and judicial branches.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Each student is responsible for assigned readings and should keep a looseleaf notebook of class materials.
2. Participation is an essential part of class. Reading assignments should be completed before the class meets. Be prepared to discuss textbook material, report on assigned articles (from Dodd, et al.), and review current events.
3. Attendance is required. A week’s absence may be excused, but lengthy absences or erratic attendance will have a detrimental effect on grades. If you expect to miss class, please notify me through the school before class meets.
4. Students will be tested on the lecture, reading, and discussion material through two short answer and essay exams.
5. Each student will write a 4-5 page book abstract or two 2-3 page journal article abstracts, typed and double-spaced. Due May 9.

READING LIST

Textbooks

Fiorina, Morris P. Congress: Keystone of the Washington Establishment, 2nd ed. [F]

Reserve Desk

Dodd, Lawrence C., and Bruce I. Oppenheimer, ed. Congress Reconsidered, 1993.
Loomis, Burdett A. The Contemporary Congress, 1996.
Notebook of Readings
Richardson, H. L. What Makes You Think We Read the Bills?, 1978.
SCHEDULE

Week 1  N. Lindsay, Shils; Kirk 4; Burnham 7; Loomis 1-2
Week 2  Federalist 53, 55-58, 62-63
Week 3  K. 1; Tannahill 7
Week 4  K. 2-3
Week 5  K. 4
Week 6  F. Part I
Week 7  F. Part II

FIRST EXAM:  March 27

Week 8  K. 5; Richardson (a sampling)
Week 9  K. 6; Loomis 5
Week 10  K. 7-8
Week 11  K. 9
Week 12  K. 10
Week 13  K. 11-12
Week 14  K. 13-14

FINAL EXAM:  May 20

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Baker, Ross K. House and Senate, 1989. 328.73 B168h
Barber, James David. The Lawmakers, 1965. 328.73 B234l
Buckley, James L. If Men Were Angels, 1975. 328.73 B924i
Burdette, Franklin L. Filibustering in the Senate, 1940. 328.73 B952f
Champagne, Anthony. Congressman Sam Rayburn, 1984. 328.73 C449c
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Dodd, Lawrence C., and Bruce I. Oppenheimer, eds. Congress Reconsidered, 5th ed, 1993. 328.73 C749d5
Evans, C. Lawrence. Leadership in Committee, 1991. 328.73 E921
Fenno, Richard F., Jr. Home Style, 1978. 328.73 F338h
   320.473 F534p
________. The President and Congress: Power and Policy, 1972. 353.03 F534p
Foreman, Christopher H., Jr. Signals from the Hill: Congressional Oversight and the Challenges of Social Regulation, 1988. 328.73 F715s
Kirk, Russell, and James McClellan. The Political Principles of Robert A. Taft, 1967. 328.73 T124k
Moen, Matthew C. The Christian Right and Congress, 1989. 328.73 M693c
Warren, Charles. Congress, the Constitution, and the Supreme Court, 1925. 342.73 W252

Other