Course Goals and Objectives:
This course will provide an introduction to field of American Political Development which has emerged as an important field of study in American politics over the last ten to fifteen years. Its focus is the growth and development of American political institutions over time and the extent to which political institutions shape one another and political history. Through an examination of the interaction of variables such as political thought, social and economic interests, political actors, and institutional structures and ways in which these variables shape political outcomes, the course will seek to identify patterns of political development, an provide a complex understanding of the causes of political change in American politics.

The principal objectives of the course are to:

1. familiarize students with the theoretical assumptions underlying the field of American political development
2. encourage students to consider different approaches to the study of political change
3. provide students with a historical context in which to understand contemporary political institutions
4. develop the skills necessary to undertake a research project in this field

Required Texts:


Stephen Skowronek. The Politics President's Make: Leadership from John Adams to Bill Clinton (Boston: Harvard University Press, 1997)


Online Sources:

The Avalon Project at Yale Law School: Documents on Law, History and Diplomacy http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/ (Cited as AP)

Batlleby.com: Great Books online http://www.bartleby.com/ (Cited as Bartleby)

Legal Information Institute: Cornell University Law School http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/ (Cited as LLI)
Requirements:

Students will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. A research paper focusing on a particular political period of American political development (30%)
2. A research paper focusing on the development of a particular political institution (30%)
3. A final examination (30%)
4. Class attendance and participation (10%)

Grades:

The following grading scale will be employed:  A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = Below 60%.

Topics and readings

Week 1-What is American Political Development?
Skowronek, The Politics President's Make, Chapters 1-3

Week 2-Political Development and Political Change
E. C. Ladd, "Like Waiting for Godot" in Shafer., The End of Realignment
Walter Dean Burnham, "Critical Realignment: Dead or Alive" in Shafer, The End of Realignment
Mayhew, Electoral Realignments, Chapters1-4

Week 3-Institutionalizing Democracy
Ceaser, Presidential Selection, Introduction & Chapter1
The Federalist Papers, Nos. 4 & 5 (1787) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
George Washington, "First Inaugural" (1789) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
James Madison, "Defense of the President's Removal Power" (1789) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency

Week 4-Federalism, Legislative Supremacy, and Practical Politics -- The Jeffersonian Party System
Ceaser, Presidential Selection Chapter 2
Skowronek, The Politics President's Make, Chapter 4
The Alien Act (1798) (AP)
The Sedition Act (1798) (AP)
Virginia Resolution (1798) (AP)
Kentucky Resolution (1799) (AP)
Alexander Hamilton's "Report on Manufactures" (1791) (FC)
Alexander Hamilton's "Report on Public Credit" (1790) (FC)
Alexander Hamilton's "Opinion as to the Constitutionality of the Bank of the United States" (1791) (AP)
Thomas Jefferson's "Opinion on the Constitutionality of a National Bank" (1791) (AP)
Thomas Jefferson's "First Inaugural" (1801) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the State of Virginia, Query 19 (1784) (FC)
Thomas Jefferson to Joseph C. Cabell (1816) (FC)
Thomas Jefferson to John Adams (1813) (FC)

Week 5-Jacksonian Democracy-Limited Government, Political Parties and Presidential Power
Ceaser, Presidential Selection, Chapter 3
Skowronek, The Politics President's Make, Chapter 5
"The Tennessee General Assembly's Protest Against the Caucus System" (1823) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Andrew Jackson, "First Message to Congress" (1829) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Andrew Jackson, "Veto of the Bank Bill" (1832) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Henry Clay, "On Andrew Jackson's Veto of the Bank Bill" (1832)
http://alpha.furman.edu/~benson/docs/clay.htm
Andrew Jackson, "Message to the Senate and House Regarding South Carolina's Nullification Ordinance" (1833) (AP)
Andrew Jackson, "Message to the Senate Regarding the Renomination of the Directors of the Bank of the United States" (1834) (AP)
Andrew Jackson, "Message of Protest to the Senate" (1834) (AP)
Andrew Jackson, "Message to the Senate Clarifying the Protest Message" (1834) (AP)
Andrew Jackson, "Veto Message Regarding the Bank of the United States" (1832) (AP)
Silbey, "Beyond Realignment..." in Shafer, The End of Realignment?

Week 6-The Slavery Debate and the Constitutional Basis of Union
Frederick Douglass, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Chapter VII (1854) (TAH)
Frederick Douglass, "Independence Day Speech at Rochester" (1854) (TAH)
Frederick Douglass, "Speech on the Dred Scott Decision" (1857) (TAH)
John C. Calhoun, "Slavery A Positive Good" (1837) (TAH)
John C. Calhoun, "Disquisition on Government" (1840) (TAH)
William Lloyd Garrison, "On the Constitution and the Union" (1832) (TAH)
William Lloyd Garrison, "The War-- Its Cause and Cure" (1861) (TAH)
Dred Scott v. Sanford (19 How. 393) (1857) (LLI)

Week 7-Lincoln's Republicanism
Skowronek, The Politics President's Make, Chapter 6, Part One
Abraham Lincoln, "The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions" (1832) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "Temperance Address" (1842) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "Speech on Dred Scott Decision" (1857) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "House Divided Speech" (1858) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "Speech in Reply to Douglas" (1858) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "First Inaugural Address" (1861) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "Emancipation Proclamation" (1863) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "Gettysburg Address" (1863) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Abraham Lincoln, "Annual Message to Congress" (1863) (TAH)
Abraham Lincoln, "Letter to Albert G. Hodges" (1864) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Abraham Lincoln, "Second Inaugural" (1865) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency
Ex Parte Milligan (71 U.S. 2) (1866) in Nelson, The Evolving Presidency

Week 8-The Peak of Partisanship: Spoils, Laissez-Faire, and Populist Reform
Rutherford B. Hayes, "Inaugural Address" (1877) (Bartleby)
William Graham Sumner, *What The Social Classes Owe Each Other*, Chapter 1 (1883)
http://xroads.virginia.edu/~DRBR/sumner1.html

*Slaughterhouse Cases* (83 U.S. 36) (1872) (LLI)
*Munn v. Illinois* (94 U.S. 114) (1876) (LLI)
*U.S. v. E. C. Knight* (156 U.S. 1) (1895) (LLI)

"Populist Party Platform" (1892)
http://www.wwnorton.com/eamerica/media/ch22/resources/documents/populist.htm

William Jennings Bryan, "Cross of Gold" (1896) (TAH)

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**Week 9-The 1896 Election: Change and Continuity**


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**Week 10-Progressive Reform**

Ceaser, *Presidential Selection*, Chapter 4

Skowronek, *The Politics President's Make*, Chapter 6, Part Two

Theodore Roosevelt, "The Strenuous Life" (1899) (TAH)

Theodore Roosevelt, "The New Nationalism" (1910) (TAH)


Woodrow Wilson, "The Study of Administration" (1886) (TAH)

Woodrow Wilson, "Leaders of Men" (1890) (Excerpts at TAH)

Woodrow Wilson, "Selections" from *Constitutional Government* (1908) (TAH)

Woodrow Wilson, "Selections" from *Congressional Government* (1885) (TAH)

Herbert Croly, *The Promise of American Life* (1909) (Selections on Reserve)

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**Week 11-Defining the New Deal**

Milkis, *The President and the Parties*, Chapters 1-4

Skowronek, *The Politics President's Make*, Chapter 6, Part Three; Chapter 7, Part One

Franklin D. Roosevelt, "First Inaugural" (1933) in Nelson, *The Evolving Presidency*


Franklin D. Roosevelt, "Court Packing Address" (1937) in Nelson, *The Evolving Presidency*

"Report of the Brownlow Committee" (1937) in Nelson, *The Evolving Presidency*

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**Week 12-Aftershocks of the New Deal**

Milkis, *The President and the Parties*, Chapters 5-7

Skowronek, *The Politics President's Make*, Chapter 7, Part Two

*Youngstown Sheet and Tube v. Sawyer*


Lyndon Johnson, "Great Society Speech" (1964) in Nelson, *The Evolving Presidency*

Lyndon Johnson, "State of the Union Address" (1964) (TAH)

Lyndon Johnson, "To Fulfill These Rights" (1965) (TAH)

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**Week 13-Institutional Fragmentation**

Ceaser, *Presidential Selection*, Chapters 5-6 & Conclusion

Milkis, *The President and the Parties*, Chapter 8

Skowronek, *The Politics President's Make*, Chapter 7, Part Three


**Week 14-Institutional Resurgence**
Milkis, *The President and the Parties*, Chapters 8 & 9
Ronald Reagan, "Speech to the House of Commons" (1982) (TAH)
Ronald Reagan, "Speech at the Brandenberg Gate" (1987) (TAH)

**Week 15-The Future of American Politics**
Milkis, *The President and the Parties*, Chapters 11 & 12
Mayhew, *Electoral Realignments*, Chapters 5-7
Additional Readings will be added each semester