

**Fall 2022**  
**GVPT 474 Political Parties**  
University of Maryland  
Tydings 1132  
Prof. David Karol  
dkarol@umd.edu

**Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-2:30 PM in Tydings 3140P  
or by appointment.**

**T.A. Lydia Hurley**  
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**Office Hours: Tydings 1198**  
**Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 P.M or by appointment**

Parties are a central feature of the American political system, but remain poorly understood. In this class we will survey their role in contemporary politics in both political institutions and the electorate. We will learn about parties' evolution over the course of U.S. history. We will explore topics such as shifts in party coalitions, parties' evolving structures, parties' role in policymaking, regulation of parties and trends in attitudes about parties.

**Books:**

Marjorie Randon Hershey. **Party Politics in America**, 17th Edition, Pearson-Longman.2021

David Karol. **Red, Green, and Blue: The Partisan Divide on Environmental Issues**, Cambridge University Press. 2019

Other readings will be available online.

**Course Requirements:** This is a demanding course. The most important requirement (and the best preparation for success) is coming to class having done the readings and ready to participate. Students will be evaluated via midterm and final exams, quizzes, a Senate race case study and class participation.

There will be eight quiz days. Quizzes –which will be brief- will *not* be announced, but will be focused on the readings assigned for that day's class. Students who miss a quiz without a medical excuse receive a zero for that quiz. However, students may drop their lowest two quiz grades, including zeroes from missed quizzes, without any excuse required.

**Points Allocation:**

Course participation 10% (based *not* only on attendance, but on involvement in class discussions in a way that shows you have done the readings.)

Midterm Exam 25 %

Congressional Election Case Study 20%

Final Exam 35%

Quizzes 10%

**Academic Honesty:** Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable and will be dealt with severely. These issues are discussed here:

<http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>

### **Policy on Excused Absences related to COVID-19**

In light of the COVID-19 epidemic, self-certified notes will serve as documentation for COVID-19 related absences or missed course expectations. This means that students do not need a note signed by a doctor or other health professional for COVID-19 related absences. If students cannot complete the regular course assessments due to COVID-19 related absences, faculty can suggest alternative assignments for students to make up missing work and complete the course. According to university policy, these alternative assignments are permitted and cannot be the basis for an Arbitrary and Capricious grading claim.

## **Schedule of Course Meetings**

### **Introduction to Parties**

#### **Tuesday, August 30,2022 *Introduction: What are Parties?***

Hershey, Ch.1 “What are Political Parties?”

Kathleen Bawn et al, 2012. “Theory of Parties” *Perspectives on Politics*

#### **Thursday September 1,2022 *Parties as the Founders Viewed Them***

Richard Hofstadter, The Idea of a Party System. Ch.1

James Madison 1787, *Federalist 10* and *Federalist 51*

George Washington. 1796. Farewell Address

#### **Tuesday September 6 ,2022 *Parties Legitimated***

Richard Hofstadter, The Idea of a Party System. Ch. 6

#### **Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 *Party Identification and Voting***

Hershey. Ch.6, “Party Identification”

Alan I. Abramowitz and Steven L. Webster. 2018. “Negative Partisanship: Why Americans Dislike Parties, but Behave Like Rabid Partisans.” *Advances in Political Psychology*. Vol. 39. Suppl. 1

Matthew Tyler and Shanto Iyengar. 2022. “Learning to Dislike Your Opponents: Political Socialization in the Era of Polarization.” *American Political Science Review*.

#### **Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>,2022 *Change in Party Coalitions***

Hershey. Ch. 7 “Party Coalitions and Party Change”

Karol. “Party Position Change” Ch. 3-4

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**Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 NO CLASS**

**Tuesday, September 20th, 2022 *Polarization***

Samuel Abrams and Morris Fiorina. 2015. "Party Sorting: The Foundations of Polarized Politics"

Liliana Mason. 2018. "Losing Common Ground: Social Sorting and Polarization." *The Forum*. Vol. 16 No. 1: 47-66.

Hans Noel. 2014. "Polarization is about more than just sorting, but sorting is polarization anyway" *Mischiefs of Faction* June 25, 2014.

**Parties as Organizations**

**Thursday, September 22nd, 2022 *Formal Party Structure***

Hershey Ch. 4 The Parties' National Organizations

Paul Herrnsen. 2012 "National Party Organizations in the Twenty- First Century" in The Parties Respond.

**Tuesday, September 27th 2022 Formal Party Structure, ctd: State and Local Levels**

Hershey, Ch. 3 "The State and Local Party Organizations"

**Thursday, September 29th ,2022 *Interest Groups in Party Politics***

Theda Skocpol and Alexander Hertel Fernandez. 2016 "The Koch Brothers and Republican Party Extremism." *Perspectives on Politics*

David Karol. 2015. "Party Activists, Interest Groups and Polarization in American Politics" in American Gridlock.

**Tuesday, October 4th ,2022 *Interest Groups in Party Politics: The Case of Environmentalism***

David Karol. 2019 Red, Green, and Blue: The Partisan Divide on Environmental Issues

**Thursday, October 6th ,2022 *Interest Groups in Party Politics: The Case of Environmentalism Ctd.***

Red, Green, and Blue: The Partisan Divide on Environmental Issues, ctd.

**Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 *Party Activism***

Ryan Enos and Eitan Hersh. 2015. "Party Activists as Campaign Advertisers: The Ground Campaign as a Principal-Agent Problem" *American Political Science Review*  
Douglas Roscoe and Shannon Jenkins. 2021. "Amateur Hour: The Dominance of Purposive Benefits among Local Party Chairs" *Social Science Quarterly*

**Thursday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022** *Parties and the Media*

Markus Prior. 2013. "Media and Political Polarization". *Annual Review of Political Science*.  
Matthew Yglesias. 2022. "What if Fox Viewers Watched CNN Instead?" *Washington Post*  
April 5, 2022

## **Parties and Candidate Selection**

**Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 2022** *Parties and Candidate Selection: Sub- Presidential Races*

Hershey. Ch. 9 "How Parties Choose Candidates"

Joseph Lyford. 1959. "Candidate"

Matt Miller. 2014. "Mr. Miller Doesn't Go to Washington: A Candidate's Memoir"  
*Politico*. November/December

<https://www.politico.com/story/2018/04/26/nancy-pelosi-steny-hoyer-recordings-555935>

[https://theintercept.com/2018/04/26/steny-hoyer-audio-levi-tillemann/\(listen to audio\)](https://theintercept.com/2018/04/26/steny-hoyer-audio-levi-tillemann/(listen%20to%20audio))

**Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022** *Parties in Presidential Nominations: The Evolving System*

James Ceaser. 1979. Presidential Selection excerpts.

James Bryce. 1888. "Why Great Men are not Chosen President"

William Carleton 1957. "The Revolution in the Presidential Nominating Convention"

**Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022** *Parties in Presidential Nominations Continued*

Hershey Ch.10. "Choosing the Presidential Nominees"

Cohen et al 2008. "The Invisible Primary in Presidential Nominations, 1980-2004" in The Making of the Presidential Candidates 2008.

Cohen et al 2016. "Party versus Faction in the Reformed Presidential Nominating System." *PS Political Science & Politics*. Vol. 49 No.4: 701-708.

**Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 IN CLASS MIDTERM**

## Parties in Government

### **Tuesday, November 1st 2022 *Parties in Congress***

Hershey. Ch. 13. "Parties in Congress and State Legislatures"

### **Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022 *Parties in Congress: Exploring Policymaking***

Barbara Sinclair. "The President and the Congressional Party" in Rivals for Power.

James Curry and Frances Lee. 2019 "Non-Party Government" *Perspectives on Politics*

### **Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> ,2022 *Parties and the Presidency***

Richard Skinner. 2012. "Barack Obama and the Partisan Presidency: Four More Years?" *Society*. Vol. 49 No. 5 pp.423-429.

Daniel Galvin. 2020. "Party Domination and Base Mobilization: Donald Trump and Republican Party Building in a Polarized Era." *The Forum*. Vol. 18. No .2.: 135-148.

Lee, Frances. 2008. "Dividers, Not Uniters: Presidential Leadership and Senate Partisanship, 1981-2004." *Journal of Politics*. Vol. 70 No. 4 914-928.

### **Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 *Parties and the Courts***

Hershey. pp.340-346.

Richard L. Hasen. 2019. "Polarization and the Judiciary." *Annual Review of Political Science*. Vol. 22.: 261-276.

## Party Reform

### **Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 *Party Reform: The Progressive Era***

Michael McGerr. 1988. The Decline of Popular Politics Ch. 1-3.

**CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION CASE STUDIES DUE TODAY!**

### **Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 2022 *Machine Politics***

"Daley: The Last Boss" (1996 Film on youtube)

Manning. 1978. "The Slatemaking Saga of Democrats- without Daley."

### **Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022 *Regulation of Parties***

Jack Peltason. 1998, Constitutional Law for Political Parties"

Court Cases: *California Democratic Party v. Jones* (2000), *Washington State Grange v. Washington Republican Party* (2008), *New York State Bd. Of Elections v. Lopez Torres* (2008)

**Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 THANKSGIVING- NO CLASS**

## **The “Two Party System” in Perspective**

**Tuesday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 *The “Two Party System” and American Electoral Institutions***

Hershey. Ch. 2 “The American Two-Party System”

Howard Scarrow. 1986. “Duverger’s Law, Fusion, and the Decline of American “Third” Parties.” *The Western Political Quarterly*. Vol. 39 No.4: 634-647.  
*Timmons v. Twin Cities Area New Party* (1997)

**Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 *Nonpartisan Politics***

Peter Bucchianeri. 2020. “Party Competition and Coalitional Stability: Evidence from American Local Government. *American Political Science Review*.

Brian Schaffner, Matthew Streb and Gerald Wright. 2001. “Teams without Uniforms” *Political Research Quarterly* Vol. 54 No. 1

Hershey (review). pp.37-38

**Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup> 2022 *Differences between the Major Parties***

Matt Grossmann and David A. Hopkins. “Ideological Republicans and Group Interest Democrats: The Asymmetry of American Politics.” *Perspectives on Politics*. Vol. 13. No. 1: 119-139.

David Karol. “Parties and Leadership in American Politics.” Pp.150-160 only

Davide Morisi, John T. Jost and Vishal Singh. 2018. “An Asymmetrical ‘President in Power’ Effect” *American Political Science Review*. 1-7.

**Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 *Responsible Parties?***

"Toward a More Responsible Two-Party System: A Report of the Committee on Political Parties" (1950) *American Political Science Review*

Hershey. Ch. 15. “The Semi-Responsible Parties.”

**Final: TBA**