

Professor Young
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Off. hrs: Wed. 8:00-9:30 a.m. or by appt.

Political Science 118 (Sec. 10): Legislative Politics

Tuesday & Thursday, 5-6:15, 2020 K St., Room 20
Fall 2004, George Washington University

Textbooks

Roger Davidson and Walter Oleszek, *Congress and Its Members*, 9th edition
Lawrence Dodd and Bruce Oppenheimer, *Congress Reconsidered*, 7th edition
Nelson Polsby, *How Congress Evolves*
Frances Lee and Bruce Oppenheimer, *Sizing Up the Senate*

Grading

You will have the opportunity to earn 300 points in this course, apportioned as follows:

Midterm exam	100
Simulation	100
Final exam	100

Your final grade will be determined by the percentage of total points you earn in the semester.

Tests

We will have a midterm exam and a final. Each test will be composed of questions on materials covered in the classroom and the texts. The midterm date is listed below.

Congressional Simulation

This semester's project is a simulation of congressional decision-making known as ConGame. The class will constitute a chamber of Congress (based on the U.S. House). Each student will be assigned a role to play. Available roles include legislators and two journalists. A detailed description of the simulation will be handed out early in the semester. ConGame participation is worth 100 points allocated as explained in the forthcoming description. ConGame attendance is mandatory. One component of participation will be a personal gamebook due in class on December 7.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory during ConGame sessions and during the guest lecture on October 21st. Because much of my lecture material is not directly from the reading, most students find it hard to excel in this course without faithfully attending lectures.

Academic Integrity

All examinations, papers, and other graded work products and assignments are to be completed in conformance with the George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity.

Expected Course Schedule

No Class	Sep. 2
Course Overview Formation and Evolution Read: Members, chs. 1, 2; ConRecon, ch. 3	Sep. 7, 9
Elections Read: Members, chs. 3, 4; Sizing, chs. 1, 4	Sep. 14, 16
Being in Congress/Representation Read: Members, ch. 5; Sizing, chs. 2, 3	Sep. 21, 23, 28
Leaders and Parties Read: Members, ch. 6; ConRecon., chs. 11, 12	Sep. 30
The Committee System Read: Members, ch. 7; Sizing, ch. 5	Oct. 5
ConGame Start	Oct. 7
The Committee System Read: ConRecon, ch. 8	Oct. 12
ConGame	Oct. 14
The Committee System Read: ConRecon, ch. 9	Oct. 19
Guest Lecturer: Gary Jacobson, "Elections of 2004"	Oct. 21
ConGame (NOTE TUESDAY SESSION)	Oct. 26
Midterm Exam	Oct. 28
Floor Decision Making/ Spatial Theory Read: Members, chs. 8, 9	Nov. 2
ConGame	Nov. 4
Floor Decision Making/ Spatial Theory Read: same	Nov. 9
ConGame	Nov. 11
Role of Interests Read: Members, ch. 12	Nov. 16
ConGame	Nov. 18
Congress and the Executive Branch Read: Members., chs. 10,11; ConRecon, ch.13	Nov. 23
Thanksgiving	Nov. 25
ConGame (NOTE TUESDAY SESSION)	Nov. 30
Congress, Policy, and Change Read: Polsby, all; Sizing chs. 6, 7, 8 Gamebooks due on the 7th	Dec. 2, 7
Final Exam	TBA