

**POLI 325**  
**The Presidency**  
Spring 2017  
Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:15  
Maybank 316

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Office Hours: Monday/Tuesday 3:30-5:00 or by appointment

Course Description

*The Presidency* analyzes the structure, behavior, history and roles of the federal executive branch in the American political system. It is intended to help students develop a familiarity and understanding of the American presidency. It will focus on the modern departments that compose today's executive office, as well as the history, traditions, and development of the presidency, the individuals who have served as president, the formal and informal powers of the office and the election process. In addition, special attention will be paid to current news and events surrounding the executive branch.

After completion of the course, students will have a greater understanding and appreciation for the history, traditions, powers, and potential of the American presidency, as well as the unique place the institution holds in the American political system. In addition, students should have a greater appreciation for the logistics of presidential elections and the men who have held the office.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate knowledge of the history and organization of the U.S. executive branch (assessed through quizzes and exams)
- 2) Evaluate recent presidential election processes and outcomes (assessed through quizzes and exams and book essays)
- 3) Analyze and critically assess at least one significant aspect of the US chief executive (assessed through a final research paper)
- 4) Articulate and defend – both written and orally – critical arguments about the organization of the US presidency (assessed through course discussion, final paper, and exams)
- 5) Demonstrate an understanding of the personal aspect of the presidency and the relationships between modern presidents (assessed through book essays)
- 6) Analyze and assess the characteristics of a successful president (assessed in a final exam)

Required Course Materials

Edwards, George and Stephen Wayne. *Presidential Leadership: Politics and Policymaking 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Thomson Wadsworth: 2014.

Gibbs, Nancy and Michael Duffy. *The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity*. Simon and Schuster: 2012.

Greenstein, Fred. *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to George W. Bush, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*. Princeton University Press: 2009.

Supplemental readings may be placed in Oaks.

Assignments and Grading

Students are expected to read all assignments prior to class and participate in discussions. Class participation is an important component of this class and the student's overall learning experience. I also expect everyone to frequently browse the various news outlets which will be used as a basis of discussing current events related to the class. Each student will be assigned one day to present a current event topic that is connected to the class. More information on this assignment will be provided separately.

Knowledge of the course readings and discussions will be tested on periodic quizzes and a midterm and final exam. Make-up quizzes and exams will not be given unless permission is received prior to the exam, or there is a documented medical emergency. There will be brief summary papers on the chapters in the Gibbs and Duffy book due most weeks. In addition, each student will complete a research paper due at the end of the semester. Information on this assignment will be provided separately. Late papers will be marked down one letter grade for each day they are late. Assignments that are more than 5 days past due will not be accepted. Participation will be graded based on assigned current event discussion and general course participation by the student. I am more interested in the quality of your comments rather than the quantity.

The course grade will break down as follows:

Class Participation	30
Midterm Exam	100
Final Exam	100
Research project	100
Reading Quizzes (7 @ 10 points)	70
<u>Summary Papers (10 @ 10 points)</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	500

465-500=A	390-399=C+	300-314=D-
450-464=A-	365-389=C	Below 299=F
440-449=B+	350-364=C-	
415-439=B	340-349=D+	
400-414=B-	315-339=D	

### Academic Honesty

Plagiarism, or presenting another's works or ideas as one's own, is a form of stealing. The instructor reserves the right to examine any source used by the student before giving a grade on an assignment, and to give and "incomplete" in the course if necessary, to allow time to obtain sources. Students should be prepared to show source material to the instructor for the purpose of verifying information. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and students will receive an F on any assignment or exam the instructor determines is in violation of the academic honesty policy. Academic dishonesty includes the following offenses:

- 1) Claiming as your own work a paper written by another student.
- 2) Turning in a paper that contains paraphrases of someone else's ideas but does not give proper credit to that person for those ideas.
- 3) Turning in a paper that is largely a restatement in your own words of a paper written by someone else, even if you give credit to that person for those ideas. The thesis and organizing principles of a paper must be your own.
- 4) Turning in a paper that uses the exact words of another author without using quotation marks, even if proper credit is given in a citation, or that changes the words only slightly and claims them to be paraphrases.
- 5) Turning in the same paper, even in a different version, for two different courses without the permission of both professors involved.
- 6) Using any external source (notes, books, other students, etc.) for assistance during an in-class exam, unless given permission to do so by the professor.

### *College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity*

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the *Student Handbook* at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>

#### Disability Statement

If you are in need of accommodations for this course due to a disability, please contact the Center for Disability Services at [SNAP@cofc.edu](mailto:SNAP@cofc.edu) or (843) 953-1431. The instructor is very willing to make any adjustments necessary to address all student needs.

#### Center for Student Learning

I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning's (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing skills, and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at <http://csl.cofc.edu> or call (843) 953-5635.

#### Writing Lab

I encourage you to take advantage of the Writing Lab in the Center for Student Learning (Addlestone Library, first floor). Trained writing consultants can help with writing for all courses; they offer one-to-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, please call (843) 953-5635 or visit <http://csl.cofc.edu/labs/writing-lab/>.

#### Course Schedule

Listed below are the reading assignments for each class. The instructor reserves the right to modify this schedule as necessary.

*January 11-18*                    **(No Class January 16<sup>th</sup> in honor of Martin Luther King Day)**

*Introduction & Origins of the Presidency*

Edwards & Wayne Chp. 1

Article II of the US Constitution

[http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution\\_transcript.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_transcript.html)

Federalist Papers 67-77

<http://www.foundingfathers.info/federalistpapers/>

<i>January 23-25</i>	<i>The Presidential Nomination</i> Edwards & Wayne, Chp. 2
<i>January 30-Feb 1</i>	<i>The Presidential Election</i> Edwards & Wayne, Chp. 3 Gibbs & Duffy, Chps 1-2 (Paper due on Wednesday)
<i>February 6-8</i>	<i>The President and the Public</i> Edwards & Wayne, Chp. 4 <i>FDR</i> : Greenstein Chps. 1 & 2 Gibbs & Duffy, Chps 3-4 (Paper due on Wednesday)
<i>February 13-20</i>	<i>The President and the Media</i> Edwards & Wayne, Chp. 5 <i>Truman</i> : Greenstein Chp. 3 Gibbs & Duffy Chps. 5-7 (Paper due on Wednesday)
<i>February 22-27</i>	<i>The President's Office</i> Edwards & Wayne, Chp. 6 <i>Eisenhower</i> : Greenstein Chp. 4 <i>Kennedy</i> : Greenstein Chp. 5 Gibbs & Duffy Chps. 8-10 (Paper due on Wednesday)
<b><i>March 1</i></b>	<b><i>Midterm Exam</i></b>
<b><i>March 6-10</i></b>	<b><i>Spring Break – No Class</i></b>
<i>March 13</i>	<i>Decision Making</i> Edwards & Wayne, Chp. 7 <i>LBJ</i> : Greenstein Chp. 6
<i>March 15-20</i>	<i>Executive Politics</i> Edwards & Wayne Chp. 8 Gibbs & Duffy Chps. 11-14 (Paper due on Wednesday)
<i>March 22</i>	<i>Executive Politics cont'd</i> <i>Nixon</i> : Greenstein Chp. 7 <i>Ford</i> : Greenstein Chp. 8 Gibbs & Duffy Chps. 15-16 (Paper due on Wednesday)
<i>March 27-29</i>	<i>Legislative Politics</i> Edwards & Wayne Chp. 9 <i>Carter</i> : Greenstein Chp. 9 Gibbs & Duffy Chps. 17-19 (Paper due on Wednesday)

- April 3-5*                      *Legislative Politics cont'd*  
*Reagan:* Greenstein Chp. 10  
Gibbs & Duffy Chps 20-22 (Paper due on Wednesday)
- April 10-12*                    *Judicial Politics*  
Edwards & Wayne Chp. 10  
*GHW Bush:* Greenstein Chp. 11  
Gibbs & Duffy Chps 23-25 (Paper due on Wednesday)
- April 17-19*                    *Domestic Politics*  
Edwards & Wayne Chp. 11  
***Research Paper Due April 19th***
- April 24*                        *Presidential Leadership Wrap Up*  
*Clinton:* Greenstein Chp. 12  
*GW Bush:* Greenstein Chp. 13  
*Obama* Greenstein Chp. 14-15
- April 26*                        *Wrap-up*  
Gibbs & Duffy Chp 26 (Paper due)

**\*\*FINAL EXAM Monday May 1, 12:00-3:00 pm \*\***

## PRESIDENTS & VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

#	Tenure	President (Party)	State	Vice President(s)
1	1789-1797	George Washington (F)	VA	John Adams
2	1797-1801	John Adams (F)	MA	Thomas Jefferson
3	1801-1809	Thomas Jefferson (D-R)	VA	Aaron Burr, George Clinton
4	1809-1817	James Madison (D-R)	VA	George Clinton, Elbridge Gerry
5	1817-1825	James Monroe (D-R)	VA	Daniel D Tompkins
6	1825-1829	John Quincy Adams (D-R)	MA	John C Calhoun
7	1829-1837	Andrew Jackson (D)	TN	John C Calhoun, Martin Van Buren
Buren				
8	1837-1841	Martin Van Buren (D)	NY	Richard M Johnson
9	1841	William Henry Harrison (W)	IN	John Tyler
10	1841-1845	John Tyler (W)	VA	None
11	1845-1849	James K. Polk (D)	TN	George M Dallas
12	1849-1850	Zachary Taylor (W)	KY	Millard Fillmore
13	1850-1853	Millard Fillmore (W)	NY	None
14	1853-1857	Franklin Pierce (D)	NH	William R King
15	1857-1861	James Buchanan (D)	PA	John C Breckinridge
16	1861-1865	Abraham Lincoln (R)	IL	Hannibal Hamlin, Andrew Johnson
Johnson				
17	1865-1869	Andrew Johnson (D)	TN	None
18	1869-1877	Ulysses S. Grant (R)	OH	Schuyler Colfax, Henry Wilson
19	1877-1881	Rutherford B. Hayes (R)	OH	William A Wheeler
20	1881	James A. Garfield (R)	OH	Chester A Arthur
21	1881-1885	Chester A. Arthur (R)	NY	None
22	1885-1889	Grover Cleveland (D)	NY	Thomas Hendricks
23	1889-1893	Benjamin Harrison (R)	IN	Levi P Morton
24	1893-1897	Grover Cleveland (D)	NY	Adlai E Stevenson
25	1897-1901	William S. McKinley (R)	OH	Garret A Hobart, Theodore Roosevelt
Roosevelt				
26	1901-1909	Theodore Roosevelt (R)	NY	Charles W Fairbanks
27	1909-1913	William Howard Taft (R)	OH	James S Sherman
28	1913-1921	Woodrow Wilson (D)	NJ	Thomas R Marshall
29	1921-1923	Warren G. Harding (R)	OH	Calvin Coolidge
30	1923-1929	Calvin Coolidge (R)	MA	Charles G Dawes
31	1929-1933	Herbert Hoover (R)	CA	Charles Curtis
32	1933-1945	Franklin D. Roosevelt (D)	NY	John N Garner, Henry A Wallace, Harry S Truman
Wallace, Harry S Truman				
33	1945-1953	Harry S. Truman (D)	MO	Alben W Barkley
34	1953-1961	Dwight D. Eisenhower (R)	KS	Richard M Nixon
35	1961-1963	John F. Kennedy (D)	MA	Lyndon B Johnson
36	1963-1969	Lyndon B. Johnson (D)	TX	Hubert H. Humphrey
37	1969-1974	Richard M. Nixon (R)	CA	Spiro T Agnew, Gerald Ford
38	1974-1977	Gerald R. Ford (R)	MI	Nelson Rockefeller
39	1977-1981	James Earl Carter (D)	GA	Walter Mondale
40	1981-1989	Ronald Wilson Reagan (R)	CA	George H.W. Bush
41	1989-1993	George H.W. Bush (R)	TX	Dan Quayle
42	1993-2001	William Jefferson Clinton (D)	AR	Albert Gore
43	2001-2009	George W. Bush (R)	TX	Richard Cheney
44	2009-present	Barack Obama (D)	IL	Joseph Biden

D = Democrat; D-R = Democratic Republican; F = Federalist; R = Republican