

# Political Science 4036

The American Presidency

The American Presidency

Fall 2011

Professor: Kevin V. Mulrahy

Times: Weds. 1:00-1:50

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**Note: The use of laptops and cell phones is prohibited during class.**

## Course Objectives

This course is designed to provide an overview of various theories on the institution of the

American Presidency. It is principally focused on the triune relationship between Domestic

carefully. However, this course does not provide a historical survey of the presidents from

Washington to the present. It will focus on the duties of the President of a constitution.

George Washington – James MacGregor Burns & Susan Dunn

Abraham Lincoln – George S. McGovern

Franklin Delano Roosevelt – Roy Jenkins

## Grading

A: 600-540    B: 530-480    C: 470-420    D: 410-360    E: 350-000

Three assigned reading book test (Washington, Lincoln, FDR) – 100 nts each

Three assigned reading book test (Washington, Lincoln, FDR) – 50 nts each

## Class Attendance

Arriving late and/or leaving class early is only allowed in the case of a dire emergency and only

after consultation and approval from the instructor.

Graduate Students / Law Students

If you are a graduate student or Law school student please see me @ 221 Stubbs Hall within the first 2 weeks of the semester.

Course Outline

Part I - The Office of the President

Tuesday, Aug. 22 - Introduction, discussion of syllabus  
*Thirteen Days* movie

Thursday, Aug. 25 - *Thirteen Days* movie continued

Tuesday, Aug. 30 - *Thirteen Days* movie continued  
Evolution of the Presidency

Thursday, Sept. 1 - Evolution of the Presidency I.

Tuesday, Sept. 6 - Evolution of the Presidency II.

Thursday, Sept. 8 - Presidential Character & Greatness

Tuesday, Sept. 13 - Presidential's Constitutional "Hate"  
The President & Congress

Thursday, Sept. 15 - Exam 1: Greenstein; FDG; Reagan; H.W. Bush

Part II - Being President  
Tuesday, Sept. 20 - Organization of the Federal Government

Thursday, Sept. 22 - The Federal Budget

Tuesday, Sept. 27 - Foreign & Defense Policy

Thursday, Sept. 29 - National Security Advisory Process  
Presidency in the Cold War world

Monday, Oct. 11 - The Era of Mass Media

Thursday, Oct. 13 - FALL BREAK III

Friday, Oct. 14 - Presidency in the Post-Cold War world  
Saturday, Oct. 15 - Presidency in the Post-9/11 world

Sunday, Oct. 20 - Presidency in the Post-9/11 world continued  
Monday, Oct. 21 - Reflections on Current World Order

Tuesday, Oct. 25 - Reflections on Current World Order continued  
Book Test 2: Lincoln

Thursday, Oct. 27 - Exam 2: Greenstein: Truman, JFK, LBJ, Nixon

Part III - Becoming the President of the United States

Tuesday, Nov. 1 - Nomination Process I.

Thursday, Nov. 3 - Nomination Process continued II.

Tuesday, Nov. 8 - Convention

Thursday, Nov. 10 - Electoral College I.

Tuesday, Nov. 15 - Electoral College II.

Thursday, Nov. 17 - Electoral College III.

Monday, Nov. 21 - Book Test 3

Tuesday, Nov. 22 - Paper Due  
The Campaign I.

Thursday, Dec. 1 - The Campaign II.

FINALS WEEK - Monday, Dec. 5 - Saturday, Dec. 10