PSC 540.01: American Core Readings

Michael J. Laslovich

*University of Montana - Missoula*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi](https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

**Recommended Citation**

Laslovich, Michael J., "PSC 540.01: American Core Readings" (2002). *Syllabi*. 3421.

[https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/3421](https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/3421)

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.
THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
Department of Political Science

PSc 540 American Core Readings Office: LA 354  
Spring 2002 Hrs: M 11-12:00, TR 10-11:00  
Dr. Laslovich and by app't (4418)

Course Requirements - Students will be evaluated upon the following basis:
Seminar Participation ..................................... 50%  
Writing Assignments ....................................... 50%

Writing Assignments
Each student will be assigned one volume for each seminar topic upon which they will prepare a
one-page overview for distribution to fellow students and the instructor. The overview should
summarize the author's key points. Weekly seminars will consist of brief presentations of their
assigned readings and group discussion of themes and contrasting approaches to the subject
matter.
Following the seminar, students will submit a five-page critical essay expanding upon the major
themes (limited to one or two) addressed in their assigned volume in light of the seminar
discussion. Essays are due one week after each seminar.

Seminar Dates and Readings - readings will be assigned by the instructor.
Introduction – Jan. 28

Federalism - Feb. 4

Political Parties - Feb. 11 and 18
Sabato, Larry J. The Party's Just Begun: Shaping Political Parties for America's Future.
Elections – Feb. 25

Interest Groups - March 4

Executive Branch - March 11 and March 27
Congress - April 3 and 10

The Judiciary - April 17 and 24
Bickel, Alexander M. *The Least Dangerous Branch: The Supreme Court at the Bar of Politics*. 1962.
Shapiro, Martin M. *Who Guards the Guardians?*. 1988.
Tribe, Laurence, H. *God Save This Honorable Court*. (1985).

Bureaucracy - May 1

Media and Politics – May 8

TBA