

American Political Thought
PSCI-3054-003
Classroom: FLMG 33
Professor John C. Eastman
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Course Description:

A survey of American political thought from the colonial era to the present. Topics include how the modern United States is shaped by contending ideas regarding religion, self-government, democracy, republicanism, capitalism, liberalism, social change, and liberty, and how these issues have evolved over the history of the United States.

Textbook:

Keith Whittington, American Political Thought: Readings and Materials (Oxford University Press 2017)

Supplemental Materials as Assigned.

Reading Assignments:

All assignments listed below are from the textbook unless otherwise specified. You will also be responsible for any supplemental materials that might be handed out in class or via the course Canvas web page. What follows is a *tentative* class and reading assignment schedule.

Grading:

The grade for the course will be based on a combination of factors: 9 in-class quizzes worth 5 points each, the top 6 of which will count toward the final, for a total of 30% of the final grade; a substantive term paper worth 35% of the final grade; and a final exam worth 35% of the final grade. I reserve the right to reduce the relative weight of each of those components by 10 percent in order to assess points for class participation, if that becomes necessary.

Class Attendance:

We are currently assigned a classroom for in-person instruction. But we will use Zoom or Canvass as a back-up on occasion, as necessitated by my travel schedule and/or Covid restrictions. You are responsible for attending each class whether it is conducted in person or via webcast. If you are unable to attend any particular class for a medical or other qualifying reason, please let Professor Eastman know at your earliest opportunity.

Tentative Class Assignments:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u># Pages</u>
Tues., Aug 25:	Introduction, pp. 1-12	12
The Colonial Era, Before 1776		
Thurs. Aug 27:	Pp. 13-38	26
Tues, Sept 1:	Pp. 39-56	18
Thur., Sept 3:	Pp. 57-78	22
The Founding Era, 1776-1791		
Tues., Sept 8:	Pp. 81-99	19
Thurs., Sept 10:	99-125	27
Tues, Sept. 15:	pp. 126-156	31
The Early National Era, 1792-1828		
Thur., Sept 17:	pp. 159-181	23
Tues, Sept 22:	pp. 182-203	22
Thurs., Sept 24:	pp. 204-228	25
	Paper Topic Proposals DUE	
The Jacksonian Era, 1829-1860		
Tues., Sept 29:	pp. 231-264	34
Thur., Oct 1:	pp. 265-283	19
Tues, Oct. 6:	pp. 284-306	22
Civil War & Reconstruction, 1861-1876		
Thurs, Oct 8:	pp. 309-329	21
Tues., Oct. 13	pp. 330-360	31
The Gilded Age, 1877-1900		
Thurs., Oct. 15	pp. 363-385	23
Tues., Oct. 20	pp. 386-421	35
The Progressive Era, 1901-1932		
Thurs., Oct. 22	pp. 425-445	21
Tues., Oct. 27	pp. 446-464	18
Thurs., Oct. 29	pp. 465-495	30
The New Deal Era, 1933-1950		
Tues., Nov. 3	pp. 499-518	19
Thurs., Nov. 5	pp. 519-534	16
Tues., Nov. 10	pp. 535-559	25

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u># Pages</u>
Civil Rights & Great Society, 1951-1980		
Thurs., Nov. 12	pp. 563-582	20
Tues., Nov. 17	pp. 583-594; 616-621	18
Thurs., Nov. 19	pp. 595-615; 622-631	30
Recent Politics, 1981- Present		
Tues., Nov. 24	pp. 635-664	30
Tues., Dec. 1	pp. 665-695	31
Thurs., Dec. 3	Review	

University-Mandated Statements

Classroom Behavior

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Requirements for COVID-19

As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements, and public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at CU Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,
- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [CU Boulder Medical Services](#).

Students who fail to adhere to these requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). For more information, see the policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

Before returning to campus, all students must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course](#). Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a [Daily Health Form](#). In this class, you may be reminded of the responsibility to complete the [Daily Health Form](#) and given time during class to complete it.

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the [Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form](#) remotely. In this class, if you are sick or quarantined, you must not attend class in person. If your illness is not such that it would prevent you from participating in class via remote, please let me know by email as far in advance of class as possible, so that we can make arrangements for you to participate remotely.

Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

Preferred Student Names and Pronouns

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

Honor Code

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu; 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, if your religious observances creates a conflict either with class attendance, please notify me by email in advance of class. If your religious observances create a conflict with an assignment deadline, please notify me by email at least one week in advance of the deadline so that we can find an appropriate accommodation.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.