

Government 2005  
Spring 2019  
Professor Janet M. Martin  
Phone: x3618  
Email: [jmartin@bowdoin.edu](mailto:jmartin@bowdoin.edu)

Office Hours: Wednesday 12:15-1:30 [Any change will be announced in class and/or posted on my office door]. If you can't make office hours, I welcome and encourage students to schedule a mutually convenient appointment time—just send me an email with potential days and a range of available times—early evening appointments and Sunday afternoon appointments may be available, especially later in the semester.

### **THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY**

This course is an introduction to the American Presidency in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. During this semester the focus will be on the development of the modern presidency; the presidency as an institution and its spectacular growth and evolution during the 20<sup>th</sup> century; presidential advisors and the executive branch; the President's role in domestic and foreign policy making; and the nomination and election process.

Throughout the semester attention will be given to the Trump administration, including the administration's role vis a vis Congress, agendas, the budget, policy-making, Senate confirmation of appointees, and the President's relationship to the public. Scholarly works on the presidency will be drawn upon to provide a context for examining the Trump presidency, which remains a challenge to analyze in terms of prior academic studies.

#### **Required Texts**

Thomas E. Cronin, Michael A. Genovese, and Meena Bose, *The Paradoxes of the American Presidency* 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (Oxford University Press, 2018)

Elaine C. Kamarck, *Primary Politics: Everything you need to know about How America Nominates its Presidential Candidates*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Brookings, 2019)

#### **Optional Texts, but Required Reading**

Since only some of the chapters have been assigned in the following books, and the chapters will be available on reserve, the following books are listed as optional:

James P. Pfiffner and Roger H. Davidson, *Understanding the Presidency*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.

Janet M. Martin and MaryAnne Borrelli, *The Gendered Executive: A Comparative Analysis of Presidents, Prime Ministers, and other Chief Executives*. Chapters are available on reserve. I can also order a copy for you to purchase for \$23.00.

Additionally, Stephen J. Wayne's *The Road to the White House*, 2016, 10<sup>th</sup> edition (or subsequent post 2016 election edition), while not assigned, can give you insight into all aspects of presidential nomination contests and elections. Wayne offers so

much detail that the book covers far more than we will look at in the course, but if you are interested in campaigns and elections I highly recommend any of the editions.

### **Additional Required Reading:**

Articles on reserve as listed below; readings distributed in class; readings and writings posted on Blackboard and/or announced in class.

*The New York Times* or the *Wall Street Journal* or another comparable newspaper [emphasis is on “paper” (print version)] - daily or weekly reading, especially concerning President Trump and his administration. News coverage of the White House is important, but the placement of articles in print vs. broadcast vs. Internet sources is also equally important to note. Also, become familiar with [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov), the official website of the current administration. And follow the tweets!

### **Course Requirements**

Mid-term exam	25%
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Research Paper with a focus on the modern Presidency, using primary source material	25%
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Course Project: short film documentaries (Specific topics will be announced and detailed information distributed later in the semester)	20%
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Final Exam	20%
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Class Participation	10%
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(meaningful, thoughtful, substantive, analytical contributions, e.g., in assigned critiques; in class discussion). In addition, if there is material appropriate to others’ film projects you can help make them aware of that material or offer technical expertise. Be sure to acknowledge assistance in citations.

At minimum, attendance is expected in all classes. Attendance is **MANDATORY on May 6<sup>th</sup>, both in class and at the Film Festival that evening**, and for all class critiques.

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

(Approximate dates for topics and readings are listed for each section.)

(If President Trump delivers a “State of the Union Address” on January 29<sup>th</sup>, or on a different date, please watch the speech, and the Democratic response).

#### **I. Course Overview and Introduction to the American Presidency**

- A. The Presidency in Context: The Executive Branch; Political Appointments in Departments and Agencies [Brief Overview] [Jan. 23]
- B. Studying the Presidency [Jan. 28]
- C. The U.S. Presidency in a Comparative and Gendered Context; Identity, Ambition, and Representation [Jan. 28, 30]

Readings: Martin and Borrelli: Ch. 1 (Martin and Borrelli, on reserve); Ch. 3 (Gooding, on reserve); Ch. 7 (Rotramel, on reserve); Ch. 13 (Escobar-Lemmon and Taylor-Robinson, on reserve)

- D. The Transition; Running for Office vs. Governing in Office [Jan. 30]

Readings: Pfiffner and Davidson: #30 Burke; #39 Pfiffner (on reserve)

## II. The Presidency in Context: A system of Shared Powers and Separation of Powers

- A. Forming a Government: Political Appointees and Senate Confirmation (Jan 30, Feb 4)

Readings: Jean Reith Schroedel, Sharon Spray, and Bruce D. Snyder, “Diversity and the Politicization of Presidential Appointments: A Case Study of the Achtenberg Nomination” (in Borrelli and Martin, *The Other Elites*, on reserve)

- B. Perspectives on the Presidency—Evolving Role and Expectations {Feb 4, 6}

Readings: *U.S. Constitution* [available at [www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution) ]

Janet M. Martin, “Introduction,” in *The Presidency and Women: Promise, Performance and Illusion* [on reserve]

Pfiffner and Davidson: #2 Hamilton; # 6 Taft; #7 Roosevelt; #8 Wilson; #9 Lincoln (on reserve)

Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 2

- C. The Origins of Power: the Constitution, Customs, Precedents, Presidential Prerogative; an introduction to the “Unitary Executive” Theory; The Paradoxes of the Presidency [Feb 11, 13]

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 5

D. Paradoxes of the Presidency {Feb 18}

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapters 1,4

Pfiffner and Davidson: #15 Dahl (on reserve)

**Feb. 20 Library Workshop**

III. Managing the Executive Branch and the Emergence of the Modern Presidency  
[February 18, 25, 27]

A. The Growth of Government; The Departments and the Cabinet; The Administrative Presidency; Executive Orders; Administrative Directives; Signing Statements

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Ch. 7, pp. 136-150

Pfiffner and Davidson: # 23 Patterson and Pfiffner

B. The Institutional Presidency—the Executive Office of the President; the Vice President; Decision-Making in the White House; and Political Appointments: EOP vs. Departments and Agencies

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Ch. 7, pp. 151-162

Pfiffner and Davidson: # 21 Brownlow Committee

Martin and Borrelli: Ch. 8 (Hult, on reserve)

**All of the above material will be included in the Midterm Exam, scheduled for March 4; all of the material below will be included on the Final Exam, scheduled for May 15**

IV.. The Public Presidency [March 6, 25]

A. Press, Media, and Public Approval; “Going Public;” “Going Local;” Image Management

Readings: Pfiffner and Davidson: #17 Heclo;  
#20 Edwards (on reserve)

Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 2

B. Political Humor and Satire [March 27, April 1]

## **March 27: Image; Resources Brief Workshop**

## **April 1: Audio Recording Short Workshop**

### **V. The President, Congress, and the Courts**

#### **A. The President vis a vis Congress**

##### **1.) Domestic and Budgetary Policy [April 3, 8]**

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 6

##### **2.) Foreign Policy, National Security, & War [April 10]**

Readings: Martin and Borrelli: Ch. 11 (Duerst-Lahti, on reserve)

## **April 10: Film Project Workshop**

#### **B. The President and the Courts: Appointments and Decisions; The Solicitor General [April 15]**

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 8

### **V. The Road to the White House, with an Emphasis on Party Nomination and the Electoral College [April 17 - May 8]**

#### **A. Historical Overview: Parties in Control**

Readings: Kamarck, Chapter 1,

#### **B. Candidates and Nominating Contests; The Invisible Primary; The Influence of a Federal System and the role of Political Parties.**

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 3

Kamarck, Chapters 2, 3

#### **C. Winning Delegates: Impact of Proportional Representation and “winner-take-all” rules**

Readings: Kamarck, Chapters 4, 5

#### **D. Knowing the Rules; The Rise of Self-Supported Candidates**

Readings: Kamarck, Chapters 5-7

E. The Electoral College; Reforms?

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: pp. 67-73; Chapter 9

Pfiffner and Davidson: #5 Pfiffner (on reserve)

VI. Film Festival; The Future of the American Presidency; Review for final exam  
[week of May 6<sup>th</sup>]

Readings: Cronin, Genovese, and Bose: Chapter 9

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**Course Calendar (Quick Summary of Important Dates; any changes will be announced in class):**

**February 4th:** Paper assignment distributed in class

**February 6th:** List of documentary topics distributed in class

**February 11<sup>th</sup>:** **Discussion of Film Project** -- [*Demonstration of sample movie project and discussion of expectations for finished project*]. Sign up for a topic begins February 13<sup>th</sup>; work will be done in pairs; Final projects will be due May 6<sup>th</sup>; ATC (IT's Academic Technology and Consulting) workshops will be available. Specific steps of project will be due as listed below or announced in class in order for all to successfully complete project and show the class and invited guests finished project in a Film Festival on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. ( Attendance is mandatory at film festival).

**February 13<sup>th</sup>:** Sign-up sheets for paper topic and film topic will be posted

**February 20<sup>th</sup> :** **Library Workshop**

**March 1st, 5 p.m.:** DRAFT SCRIPTS DUE NO LATER THAN 5 PM ON MARCH 1<sup>st</sup> IN ORDER TO GET PRELIMINARY APPROVAL BY PROFESSOR MARTIN

**Midterm Exam :** **March 4th** [essay; blue books ; based on assigned readings, lectures, course materials, discussion and extra readings (e.g., from the *New York Times*); **Exam covers Sections I, II, and III on the syllabus**]

**March 6<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, and March 27<sup>th</sup>:** Groups can meet for 15-20 minutes each day. Be prepared to use the time wisely, and coordinate your group's activities; IF YOU NEED IMAGES SCANNED PLEASE BEGIN THE PROCESS ASAP; CONSULT WITH IT AS NEEDED!!]

**March 27<sup>th</sup>:** short overview of image resources with Librarian Barbara Levergood

**MARCH 27<sup>th</sup>, 5 p.m.:** FINAL SCRIPTS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL BY PROFESSOR MARTIN [please note that revisions will be expected up until the final film is turned in; images may replace wording in a narrative; newly discovered material may require a modification in your script, and so forth]; appointments can be scheduled March 28-31 to review suggested edits

**April 1st:** 30 minute session on Recording of scripts/narrative for film with Paul Benham/ Kevin Travers, ATC

**April 3rd:** Research paper due (no later than 5 p.m.)

**By April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m., AUDIO RECORDINGS MUST BE UPLOADED FOR CRITIQUE**

**April 8th:** Critique of Recorded Script/Narrative (in-class)

**April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Final audio recording, in response to critiques, due today for use in Workshop.

**Introduction to I-Movie** with Paul Benham/ Kevin Travers, during class [Location to be announced]

**MONDAY, April 29<sup>th</sup>: 7 – 8 P.M.: HELP SESSION;** KEVIN TRAVERS/PAUL BENHAM AND PROFESSOR MARTIN WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ASSISTANCE [location to be announced]

**April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Each pair should schedule in advance an appointment with Professor Martin during the week of April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>, to view their movie-in-progress. The purpose of the viewing is to review the status of each film, review the quality of the film, and ensure each project's completion on schedule, and ensure citation is included ("credits").

**May 5<sup>th</sup>: Upload Final Film by 2 p.m.**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>: PREVIEW AND CRITIQUE OF FILMS DURING CLASS;**

**FILM FESTIVAL** (7:30-9:30 p.m., Shannon Room)

Both activities are mandatory [absence from either will affect both your grade on the film project, as well as your class participation grade]

**May 8<sup>th</sup>:** Review of material for final exam

**FINAL EXAM AS SCHEDULED [May 15, 8:30 a.m.]**