

This course in United States politics focuses on the South, paying special attention to partisan competition, the politics of race, redistricting, and voting rights.

Each of the three non-cumulative analytical exams, the research paper assignments, and class participation (in part, unscheduled quizzes on the assigned reading to reward those who do and understand the readings) constitutes roughly 20 percent of your course grade.

Ultimately your grade turns on my impression of how well you have done in this course. What impresses me? Think of this course as your job and approach it with professionalism. Take this course seriously and let me know that. How? Attend class; be prepared for class—read the assignments for understanding, be ready to ask and answer questions, take an informed role in discussions; arrive early to class; remain for the entire class; be attentive in class without distracting me or your classmates with cell phones, text messages, side conversations, bathroom trips or any other reason for coming-and-going, and so forth; take exams when scheduled and complete assignments when due; demonstrate your understanding on the exams, quizzes, and research paper assignments.

After three unexcused absences I drop you from the course. An excused absence is almost exclusively restricted to religious reasons, certain university activities, documented medical conditions, or documented family emergencies. Absences for religious reasons or for university activities necessitate communication with me in advance. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, see me first.

Each of you must meet with me for 15 minutes in the first weeks of the semester. Sign up for an appointment time during the first day in class. Be punctual.

All readings should be on reserve in Fondren. The books ordered through the bookstore include Key, *Southern Politics*; Black and Black, *The Rise of Southern Republicans*; and Morgan, *Governance by Decree: The Impact of the Voting Rights Act in Dallas*. Also required but not listed below: you are expected to supplement the listed readings with media accounts of ongoing politics in the southern states. Understand that assigned readings listed here for Black and Black include the endnotes (not listed here) associated with those pages.

There may be changes in the readings and assignments below. This course requires use of Blackboard at <http://cmsbb.systems.smu.edu/>.

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Office: 316b Carr Collins, x8-2529; [HStanley@SMU.edu](mailto:HStanley@SMU.edu) (e-mail works best); office hours W 10-11:30; W 2:30-4; and by appointment

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Th, Aug 23 \* Introduction and Overview, assignment: hand in personal information sheet on Blackboard

F, Aug 24 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-4 pm meetings

M, Aug 27 \* 9.30-11 am, 2.30-3:45 pm meetings

T, Aug 28 \* Key, *Southern Politics*, preface and c. 1 (1-12):

“The Problem”; assignment to hand in during class:

syllabus take-home quiz from Blackboard

W, Aug 29 \* 9.30-11 am, 1:30-3 pm meetings

Th, Aug 30 \* Key, cc. 30-31 (644-675): The “Future”

T, Sep 4 \* Key, cc. 13 & 14 (277-311): One-party, So What?

W, Sep 5 \* 9:30-11 am, 2:30-4 pm meetings

Th, Sep 6 \* Key, cc. 2-3 (15-57): Commonalities and

Differences: VA and AL

F, Sep 7 \* 2:30-4 pm meetings

M, Sep 10 \* 9:30-11 am, 2:30-4 pm meetings

T, Sep 11 \* Key, cc. 4-6 (58-129): TN, FL, and GA

Th, Sep 13 \* Key, cc. 7-9 (130-204): SC, LA, and AR

T, Sep 18 \* Key, cc. 10-12 (205-276): NC, MS, and TX

Th, Sep 20 \* Key’s South: A Retrospective

**T, Sep 25 \* Exam One**

Th, Sep 27 \* Review first exam; Black & Black, *The Rise of Southern Republicans*, (hereafter, *RSR*), c. 1 (1-39): The Southern Transformation

T, Oct 2 \* B&B, *RSR*, c. 2 (40-71): Confronting the Democratic Juggernaut

Th, Oct 4 \* B&B, *RSR*, c. 3 (72-113): The Promising Peripheral South

T, Oct 9 \* B&B, *RSR*, cc. 4-5 (114-173): The Impenetrable Deep South and the Democratic Smother

Th, Oct 11 \* B&B, *RSR*, c. 6 (174-204): Democratic Domination

**F, Oct 12, 4 pm >>>Research paper draft, 500 words**

T, Oct 16 \* B&B, *RSR*, c. 7 (205-240): Reagan’s Realignment of White Southerners

Th, Oct 18 \* B&B, *RSR*, c. 8 (241-267): A New Party System

T, Oct 23 \* B&B, *RSR*, cc. 9-10 (268-327): Peripheral South Breakthrough and Deep South Challenge

Th, Oct 25 \* B&B, *RSR*, cc. 11-12 (328-404): The Republican Surge and Competitive South, Competitive

America; Meet the author: discussion with Earl Black

T, Oct 30 \* Review

**Th, Nov 1 \* Exam Two**

T, Nov 6 \* (Election day) Review second exam; Morgan, *Governance by Decree* (hereafter, *GD*), introduction and conclusion (1-5, 268-278)

Th, Nov 8 \* Morgan, *GD*, c. 1 (9-32): Voting Rights Act

T, Nov 13 \* Morgan, *GD*, c. 2 (33-63): Voting Rights Case Law

Th, Nov 15 \* Morgan, *GD*, cc. 3-4 (67-118): History, Culture, and Political Heritage of Dallas

**>>>Research paper due F, Nov 16, 4 pm: 2,500 words**

T, Nov 20: No class meeting (Fall Break); Th, Nov 22 \* No class meeting (Thanksgiving holidays)

T, Nov 27 \* Morgan, *GD*, cc. 5-6 (119-196): Dallas in Court, 1967-1991 and Electoral Effects of the VRA in Dallas

Th, Nov 29 \* Morgan, *GD*, c. 7 (197-228): Governance Consequences

T, Dec 4 \* Morgan, *GD*, c. 8 (229-267): Policy Results

Th, Dec 6 \* no class meeting (Thanksgiving holidays makeup class day, follow Monday class schedule)

**Sat, Dec 15 \* Exam Three, 8-9:20 am**