

Winter 2017
Political Science 364
Legislative Process
Prof. Sidlow
601C Pray Harrold
Office Hours M & W 2-3:30p and by Appt.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

This course is primarily concerned with the United States Congress although there will be some discussion of state legislatures where comparisons and contrasts are relevant. It is intended that the course provide an understanding of Congress as both a political and policy-making institution.

READINGS:

Davidson, *Congress & Its Members* (15th Edition), CQ PRESS, 2015

Sidlow, *Freshman Orientation*, CQ PRESS, 2007 (This should be available used, very inexpensively, on-line.)

Daily Paper:

You should also remain abreast of current American politics. To that end, the *New York Times* provides a nice discount program for college and university students. Details can be found at newyorktimes.com/student, or by phone, 888-nyt-coll (698-2655). There are also complementary copies of the Times available at several locations (including this building) on campus.

Assignments

There will be an essay type, in class, midterm exam. The midterm is scheduled for Feb. 15, 2017 and is worth 100 points. There will also be a final exam, also worth 100 points scheduled for 3:00 pm, Mon. 4/224/2017. More details will be provided in class regarding the exams.

**** I do not accept emailed papers. The reason for this is quite practical. We do not necessarily use the same word processing programs. When I did allow emailed papers, I always had difficulty opening some of them, and my computer froze from others. Consequently, I expect to receive a hard copy of your papers, stapled in the upper left hand corner of the title page, pages in order, no binders, folders, petrochemical plastic covers, etc. You will properly cite material in your papers. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source.**

Communication and comportment issues.

Email. esidlow@emich.edu

If you would like me to read your email, please use your emich address to communicate with me. Please put the Course # and meeting time in the Subject Line of your Email—and your name, first and last, at the bottom of your email. I have a strange desire to know who I am “talking” to, and who is “talking” to me. Feel free to call that a personality disorder. Do not continuously hit reply in a “conversation” with me. Renew the subject, which is a polite way of letting me know what we are talking about.

Please do not make or receive phone calls or texts during class. If your phone rings, I reserve the right to answer it and leave you with the consequences of whatever I tell the person calling you. (If you have a legitimate need to make or receive a call, family or health matter, call from family over-seas on military deployment, etc, please let me know that to be the case and, as inconspicuously as possible, leave the room and conduct your conversation.)

It would be great if you also kept the following in mind:

Our classroom is not,

1. An Internet café
2. A piano bar
3. A place to snooze
4. A place to do work for other classes

READING SCHEDULE: *

1/4- Congress Historically
1/18 Davidson, Ch. 1 - 2

- 1/23 - Recruitment and Elections
2/1 Davidson, Ch. 3 & 4
Freshman Orientation Ch. 1-3
- 2/6 - The Nature of Representation
2/13 Davidson, Ch. 5
Freshman Orientation Ch. 4-6
- 2/15 **MIDTERM EXAM**

Winter Break 2/20--2/24

- 3/1- Leadership and Adaptation of Members
3/13 Davidson Ch. 6
Freshman Orientation Ch. 6-8
- 3/15- Committees and the Legislative Process
4/5 Davidson, Ch. 7-9
- 4/10- Policy Making
4/17 Davidson, Ch. 10-15

* Dates are approximate. Important University dates are pasted below.

Winter 2017	Term
	P/T 1 - 15 week (1/4/17 - 4/25/17)

Part of Term 1: 1/4/17 - 4/25/17 (15 weeks)

1/10/17	Last date to add courses via the web (a)
3/6/17	Last date to add courses with departmental authorization
1/13/17	Last date for 100% tuition refund (individual or total withdraw from term)
3/22/17	Last date for individual class withdrawal (with W grades) - No Refund
1/31/17 (b)	Last date for 50% tuition refund (total withdrawal only) with W grades
3/6/17 (b)	Last date for 25% tuition refund (total withdrawal only) with W grades
4/18/17 (b)	Last date for total withdrawal from term (with W grades) - No Refund
1/13/17	Last date to declare pass/fail grading option or select to audit a course
4/18/17	Last date to remove pass/fail grading option and receive letter grade

Codes

- (a) Initial registration occurring on or after the Part of Term start date will incur a one-time \$160 late registration fee
(b) Date applicable only if student's classes are ALL within the same Part of Term and/or a later starting Part of Term
(**) A written request must be faxed to the Office of Records and Registration at 734.487.6808 before midnight

