

Topics in American Politics and Policy: Women and American Politics 21:790:463:01 Spring 2019
Tuesday/Thursday 11:30am-12:50 pm Classroom: Hill Hall 204
Teaching Instructor: Connie Murray Office: 724 Hill Hall
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 1:30-2:30 pm Office Phone: 973-353-5753
Wednesday 3:00-4:00 pm email: clmurray@newark.rutgers.edu

The Rise of Public Woman

Glenn Matthews

New York: Oxford University Press, 1993

Gender and Elections

edited by Susan J. Carroll and Richard J. Fox

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018, 4th edition

Living A Political Life

by Madeleine Kunin

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1995

Women and Politics: The Pursuit of Equality

by Lynn E. Ford

Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 2017 Fourth Edition

What Happened

by Hillary Rodham Clinton

New York: Simon and Schuster, 2017

Course Description:

Women and American Politics familiarizes the student with many of the issues and ideas relevant to the study of women and politics. The course begins with a discussion of the suffrage movement (the 72 year struggle for the right for women to vote that occurred from 1848 to 1920 and culminated in the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution). It then proceeds with the second wave of the women's movement (commonly called the women's liberation movement or the women's rights movement which began in 1963). It moves to a brief introduction to a number of conceptual feminist and anti-feminist frameworks through which one might examine any given issue. The course ends with a discussion of women's mass, group and elite political behavior.

Course requirements:

A major portion of the class will be interactive; therefore, students are expected to have read the material required for the session before coming to class in order to participate in the discussion.

A strict attendance policy will be applied. More than two inexcusable absences will result in a reduction of the student's final grade by one letter grade for each inexcusable absence after the second. Excusable absences include only a personal illness, the illness of a student's parent, a death in the immediate family, or

the illness of a student's child. Students may also be excused for official university recognized religious holidays. Notify the professor of a religious holiday excuse. Do not ask to be excused for travel plans or to reschedule an exam due to travel plans. University responsibilities must take priority over travel. Excusable absences should be reported to the professor so that they might be recorded.

Class participation, by sharing of current news articles about women, will be a determining factor in the student's grade. Students should watch The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, The Star Ledger, The Christian Science Monitor (online), Time, Newsweek or U.S. News and World Report for articles about women in politics or about the impact of politics, the economy, religion or social issues on women in the United States. Students should read and highlight the article and bring it to class to present orally in summary. Each class session will begin with a discussion of current women's news. Each student should be prepared to present each day; however, everyone will not be called on to present every time we meet. The News Hour on PBS Monday-Friday 7:00-8:00 p.m. and National Public Radio may also be sources of current news about women's issues and political behavior. Students may bring recorded segments or internet sites to be reviewed by the professor for presentation as well.

Since a woman was nominated by a major political party for the first time in American history, Hillary Clinton will occupy much of the class discussion. Pay careful attention to her book and the reasons she gives for her loss.

Since a record number of women were elected to Congress in the November 2018 election, we will pay careful attention to these women and how they influence Congress through a gendered lense. What are their various backgrounds? What issues are important to them? How does their race, religion, sexual preference, age, and class influence their behavior as representatives of the American people?

Students should carefully adhere to Rutgers' policies on academic integrity. Students should treat fellow and sister students and the professor with respect and courtesy. Lack of civility will not be tolerated. Turn off cell phones before entering the classroom. No texting during class will be tolerated.

Grades will be based on the following: Participation 20%, Midterm 40% and Final 40%. No electronic equipment will be permitted in the classroom during exams. The midterm will be administered on March 12 and the final on Tuesday, May 14, 11:45am-2:45pm. The midterm will include an essay asking the student to apply the notion of "public woman" to the Women's Suffrage Movement

as described in the video One Woman, One Vote. The Matthews book may be brought to the midterm marked with post-its to assist in writing the essay. Reference the page number when quoting from the text. This essay will be written in class during the scheduled midterm exam on March 14. The final will include an essay applying the ideas in lecture about the barriers to women's elections, the facilitators of women's elections, and the various ways women make a difference for women when elected. The Kunin book may be brought to the exam in order to quote from the book to substantiate the assertions the student wishes to make. The pages in the book that the student wishes to quote from may be marked with post-its ahead of time. Reference the page number when quoting from the text. The final exam essay, worth 30% of the student's final exam grade, is tentatively scheduled for April 16 during class. The remainder of the final exam will be as scheduled during final exams week and will be multiple choice.

Order of readings and events:

Distribution of syllabus and review of class requirements

What is women and politics?

Begin reading Matthews

Read: Ford, Chapter 1

Special Section, The New York Times, January 17, 2019, "The Women of the 116th Congress," pages F1-F16 (passed around in class)

"What Should a Powerful Woman Look Like?," by Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, The New York Times, July 3, 2016, page 2SR (Sunday Review section)

Faludi, Susan, "The Patriarchy Isn't Going Anywhere," The New York Times, Sunday Review Pages 1 and 3

The First Wave of the Women's Movement: The Suffrage Movement

Video: One Woman, One Vote PBS

Discussion of the video

This video may take 3-4 class sessions. While we are watching and discussing the video, take the time to read Matthews in preparation for the midterm essay.

Read: continue reading Matthews

Ford, Chapter 2

The Second Wave of the Women's Movement

Read: Kunin (As these next three lectures are presented, take the time to read Kunin in preparation for the final essay)

Feminist and Anti-feminist Theory

Continue reading Kunin

Pay attention to Ford chapter 1 pages 19-30 and her discussion of feminisms

The Equal Rights Amendment

continue reading Kunin

Pay attention to Ford, chapter 2 pages 58-69

Women Leaders: Why include women? What barriers do women face? What facilitates their inclusion? Do women make a difference once elected?

Read: Carroll and Fox Chapters 5,6,7,10

Ford, chapters 4 and 5

"Women Candidates in Election 2018" by Kelly Dittmar, Ph.D., The Center for American Women and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, November 20, 2017 (5 pages).

"Nevada's Statehouse Is First to Have Majority of Women," The New York Times, December 20, 2018

"Where Women Wield Power, a New Test: Defending Their Record," The New York Times, September 3, 2018, page A10.

"Gillibrand Tacks Left, Widening Eyes and Opening Opportunities," The New York Times, July 28, 2018, pages A1 and A19.

"Before Ocasio-Cortez, the Elizabeth Holtzman Effect," The New York Times, July 5, 2018

"Honest Women Replace 'Self-Made' Men," The New York Times, January 13, 2019, page 2SR (in Sunday Review).

Finish Kunin

The Political Behavior of Women Citizens

The Gender Gap: Issues and Explanations

The African-American Woman Voter

Read: Carroll and Fox Introduction and Chapters 3 and 4

Ford, chapter 3, pages 86-94

The Impact of the Media on Political Women

Read: Carroll and Fox Chapter 9

Ford, chapter 4, pages 153-156

2016 Presidential candidacy of Hillary Rodham Clinton

Read : What Happened by Hillary Rodham Clinton

Carroll and Fox Chapters 1 and 2

The Era of 'The Bitch' is Coming, The Atlantic, August 2016, 10 pages at <http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/08/the-era-of-the-bitch>.

"Reflections on Gender and Hillary Clinton's Presidential Campaign: The Good, the Bad, and the Misogynic" by Susan J. Carroll in Gender and Politics, March 2009, Volume 5, Number 1, Cambridge University Press.

"Saint Hillary" The New York Times Magazine, May 23, 1993, <http://www.nytimes.com/1993/05/23/magazine/saint-hillary.html?page-wanted+all>

"Without Her" by Amy Chozick in The New York Times, Sunday Review, January 14, 2018, pages 1 and 2.

Women's Leadership Styles

Read: Ford, Chapter 5

Women and Political Parties Read: Carroll and Fox Chapter 8

Women's Interest Groups

Read: Ford, Chapter 4, pages 165-170