

TENTATIVE – THIS SYLLABUS MAY CHANGE BEFORE CLASSES START!

Course Description

This course is an exploration of whether and how racial and ethnic minorities are able to organize effectively and press their demands through the American political system. Specifically, we will focus on the political behavior of minority citizens, the relative strength and effect of these groups at the polls and in political office, the theory and practice of group formation as it applies to minority groups, the responsiveness of elected officials, and the legal and constitutional obstacles and instruments that provide context and shape these phenomena. As this course is also part of the Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy we focus primarily on how different public policies can be used to enhance or reduce minority representation in American politics. We examine how public policies can affect both descriptive and substantive representation.

The Web, Email, and Office Hours

I have set up a blackboard web page for the course, which you can access through NYU Home. On blackboard you will find the course syllabus, calendar, and links to reading materials.

My office is located at room 329, 19 West 4th Street. I will generally be available for office hours from 2 to 3:30 pm on Mondays. If you have a class conflict with those times, we can discuss other alternatives. You can also email me at rbm5@nyu.edu. Normally I answer email within 24 hours of receipt on weekdays during business hours (9 am to 5 pm). I do not answer email on the weekends or outside of normal business hours (9 am to 5 pm).

Texts

The class will not be taught in a lecture format, but through class discussion of assigned readings for the day and associated assignments. Furthermore, to maximize our exposure to the wide literature on the subject, the assignments will not always be read by all the class, but instead class members will share information in discussion from other readings. These readings will be academic and typically available online (see links in class schedule below). Therefore, I have not designated particular assigned texts for the class.

Weekly Reading Assignments and Class Format

Each class students will be divided into two groups—Group C (for Class) and Group L (for Leader). Group L members will be given a particular assignment (there will be two different assignments each class for Group L members and generally there will be two Group L members per assignment, so approximately four students will be leaders for each class) to read in advance of the class and will write a short four to five page double-spaced review and critique of the reading they have been assigned.

There is a Forum on the Blackboard Discussion Board for each class meeting. Each Group L member will post their review/critique to the Forum for the particular class in advance as follows. If the Group L member is assigned to be a leader in a class that meets on Monday, the review/critique must be posted online by 9:30 am the Wednesday before and if the Group L member is assigned to be a leader in a class that meets on Wednesday, the review/critique must be posted online by 9:30 a.m. the Friday before. For example, for the class meeting on Monday, Feb. 9th, the members of group L must post their reviews/critiques on the Discussion Board by 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4th and for the class meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 11th, the members of group L must post their reviews/critiques on the Discussion Board by 9:30 a.m. on Friday, February 6th. Late reviews/critiques will be automatically deducted a letter grade for every hour delay in posting. The only exception to these deadlines is for the first class on Monday, January 26th. The reviews/critiques for this class must be posted by 9:30 a.m. on Friday, January 23rd.

In the written reviews/critiques Group L members have the following responsibilities:

1. Summarize the work for the rest of the class particularly highlighting those points which are new and important;
2. Place the work within the larger literature on minority representation. Compare the work to other research on minority representation that the class has previously discussed or the Group L member knows.
3. Evaluate whether the work is convincing—whether the author is successful in conveying his or her argument and what he or she could have done better to make his or her case.
4. Identify a public policy goal in minority representation that is related to the research in the article and discuss how the research in the article helps us better understand how to achieve that public policy goal using either logic or evidence or both.

All students (both Groups C and L) will be EXPECTED to read the reviews/critiques by the members of Group L. This is why it is important that all students upload their reviews/critiques in a timely manner. When class convenes, the members of Group L will direct the class discussion of their readings. The format of the discussion will be as follows: Each work reviewed/critiqued by a Group L member will be the subject of approximately 35 minutes of discussion by the entire class. A volunteer class member who did NOT review/critique the work will facilitate the discussion. Everyone in class should be prepared with questions for the leaders about their reviews and the articles they read.

All class members will be graded on their participation in the discussion; Group L members will be graded on their reviews/critiques as well. The first class we will divide up the dates. Students are free to trade dates after these divisions as long as they get approval from the instructor in advance of the class.

Research Paper

All students are expected to produce an original research paper tackling a public policy issue in minority representation. The paper should identify a specific public policy goal in minority representation and discuss how public policy may or may not achieve that goal using logic and evidence. For example, the goal might be to increase the representation of Korean-Americans in elected positions or the goal might be to make it possible for immigrant voters to influence public policies even though they are not citizens or the goal might be to reduce the use of racial and ethnic appeals in elections (or increase them).

Topics and proposed outlines for the paper must be approved by the instructor before Monday, March 9th. Papers on topics not approved by that date will be given an F. Students are not permitted to submit papers for the class that they have used in previous classes or plan to submit to other classes they are taking concurrently. On Wednesday, April 29th and Monday, May 4th, each student will give a 5 minute presentation of his or her paper to the class. Students should have a short 2 page abstract to share with class members at this presentation and the abstract must be uploaded online by Monday, April 27th. The complete paper is due via email no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, May 11th. Late papers will be given an F.

Grades

Course Grades will be computed on the following basis:

Weekly Reviews and Critiques	40%
Class Participation	20%
Research Paper	40%

Schedule of Classes and Readings

Note: To access the readings which do not have urls below, you should go to the Web of Science via Bobst Library. The url for this is at:

<https://ezproxy.library.nyu.edu/login?url=http://isiknowledge.com/wos>. You can use the web of science to then search for the citation of the article. On the right of the description of the article are links to retrieving the article online. Usually this is the link marked "NYU". If you have trouble, please ask a librarian to help you.

Date	Reading Assignments, Etc.
Wed., Jan. 21 st	Introduction to Class
Mon., Jan. 26 th	<p>Importance of Minority Representation in American Politics</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Hutchings, VL, Valentino, NA, "The centrality of race in American politics," ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, 2004, VL 7, 383-408</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Ballot manipulation and the "menace of Negro domination": Racial threat and felon disenfranchisement in the United States, 1850-2002 Author(s): Behrens A, Uggen C, Manza J Source: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY 109 (3): 559-605 NOV 2003</p>
Wed., Jan. 28 th	<p>Understanding Minority Participation: Immigrants and New Minorities</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Barreto, MA, "Latino immigrants at the polls: Foreign born voter turnout in the 2000 election," POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY, MAR 2005, VL 58, IS 1,79-86</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The political participation and engagement of muslim americans Author(s): Jamal A Source: AMERICAN POLITICS RESEARCH 33 (4): 521-544 JUL 2005</p>
Mon., Feb. 2 nd	<p>Understanding Minority Participation: Descriptive Representation and African American Turnout</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Descriptive representation and the composition of African</p>

	<p>American turnout Author(s): Griffin JD, Keane M Source: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE Volume: 50 Issue: 4 Pages: 998-1012 Published: OCT 2006</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The effect of black descriptive representation on black electoral turnout in the 2004 elections Author(s): Whitby KJ Source: SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY Volume: 88 Issue: 4 Pages: 1010-1023 Published: DEC 2007</p>
Wed., Feb. 4 th	<p>Understanding Minority Participation: Majority Minority Districts and Empowerment</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Barreto, MA, Segura, GM, Woods, ND, "The mobilizing effect of majority-minority districts on Latino turnout," AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW, FEB 2004, VL 98, IS 1, 65-75</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Banducci, SA, Donovan, T, Karp, JA, "Minority representation, empowerment, and participation," JOURNAL OF POLITICS, MAY 2004, VL 66, IS 2, 534-556</p>
Mon., Feb. 9 th	<p>Alienation and Trust and Descriptive Representation</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Pantoja, AD, Segura, GM, "Does ethnicity matter? Descriptive representation in legislatures and political alienation among Latinos," SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY, JUN, PY 2003, VL 84, IS 2, 441-460</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Gay, C, "Spirals of trust? The effect of descriptive representation on the relationship between citizens and their government," AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, OCT, 2002, VL 46, IS 4, 717-732</p>
Wed., Feb. 11 th	<p>Single Member and Multimember Districts</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: The changing impact of electoral structure on black</p>

	<p>representation in the South, 1970-1996 Author(s): Sass TR, Pittman BJ Source: PUBLIC CHOICE 104 (3-4): 369-388 SEP 2000</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The context matters: The effects of single-member versus at-large districts on city council diversity Author(s): Trounstein J, Valdin ME Source: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE Volume: 52 Issue: 3 Pages: 554-569 Published: JUL 2008</p>
Mon., Feb. 16 th	No Class, President's Day
Wed., Feb. 18 th	<p>Single Member and Multimember Districts</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Electoral rules and minority representation in US cities Author(s): Trebbi F, Aghion P, Alesina A Source: QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS Volume: 123 Issue: 1 Pages: 325-357 Published: FEB 2008</p> <p>Leader 2 Assignment: Gerber, ER, Morton, RB, Rietz, TA, "Minority representation in multimember districts," AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW, MAR 1998, VL 92, IS 1, 127-144</p>
Mon., Feb. 23 rd	No Class
Wed., Feb. 25 th	<p>Majority Minority Districts</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Shotts, KW, "Does racial redistricting cause conservative policy outcomes? Policy preferences of southern representatives in the 1980s and 1990s," JOURNAL OF POLITICS, FEB, 2003, VL 65, IS 1, 216-226</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Epstein, D, O'Halloran, S, "Measuring the electoral and policy impact of majority-minority voting districts," AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, 1999, VL 43, IS 2, 367-395</p>

Mon., March 2 nd	<p>More on Districts</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Redistricting principles and racial representation: A re-analysis Author(s): Klarner CE Source: STATE POLITICS & POLICY QUARTERLY Volume: 7 Issue: 3 Pages: 298-302 Published: FAL 2007</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Legislating without constraints: The effect of minority districting on legislators' responsiveness to constituency preferences Author(s): Gay C Source: JOURNAL OF POLITICS Volume: 69 Issue: 2 Pages: 442-456 Published: MAY 2007</p>
Wed., March 4 th	<p>Minority Representation in Congress</p> <p>Leader 1 Assignment: Title: Bill sponsorship and intraracial voting among African American representatives Author(s): Whitby KJ Source: AMERICAN POLITICS RESEARCH 30 (1): 93-109 JAN 2002</p> <p>Leader 2 Assignment: Title: The effect of race and ethnicity on bill sponsorship and cosponsorship in Congress Author(s): Rocca MS, Sanchez GR Source: AMERICAN POLITICS RESEARCH Volume: 36 Issue: 1 Pages: 130-152 Published: JAN 2008</p>
Mon., March 9 th	<p>More on Congress</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Racial representation and U.S. Senate apportionment Author(s): Malhotra N, Raso C Source: SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY Volume: 88 Issue: 4 Pages: 1038-1048 Published: DEC 2007</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Black political representation: An examination of legislative</p>

	<p>activity within US house committees Author(s): Gamble KL Source: LEGISLATIVE STUDIES QUARTERLY Volume: 32 Issue: 3 Pages: 421-447 Published: AUG 2007</p>
Wed., March 11 th	<p>Minority Mayors</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Does political incorporation matter? The impact of minority mayors over time Author(s): Pelissero JP, Holian DB, Tomaka LA Source: URBAN AFFAIRS REVIEW 36 (1): 84-92 SEP 2000</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The pomp of power: Black mayoralities in urban America Author(s): Marschall MJ, Ruhil AVS Source: SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY Volume: 87 Issue: 4 Pages: 828-850 Published: DEC 2006</p>
Mon., March 23 rd	<p>Participation and Representation in Local Politics</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Does the shoe fit? Testing models of participation for African-American and Latino involvement in local politics Author(s): Marschall MJ Source: URBAN AFFAIRS REVIEW 37 (2): 227-248 NOV 2001</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The determinants of Hispanic representation in municipal government Author(s): Sass TR Source: SOUTHERN ECONOMIC JOURNAL 66 (3):609-630 JAN 2000</p>
Wed., March 25 th	<p>Local Politics and Coalitions</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Black-brown coalitions in local school board elections Author(s): Rocha RR Source: POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY Volume: 60 Issue: 2 Pages: 315-327 Published: JUN 2007</p>

	<p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Bloc voting, polarization, and the panethnic hypothesis: The case of Little Saigon Author(s): Collet C Source: JOURNAL OF POLITICS 67 (3): 907-933 AUG 2005</p>
<p>Mon., March 30th</p>	<p>Local Politics and Coalitions</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Race-based coalitions among minority groups -Afro-Caribbean immigrants and African-Americans in New York City Author(s): Rogers RR Source: URBAN AFFAIRS REVIEW 39 (3): 283-317 JAN 2004</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The limitations of the deracialization concept in the 2001 Los Angeles mayoral election Author(s): Austin SDW, Middleton RT Source: POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY 57 (2): 283-293 JUN 2004</p>
<p>Wed., April 1st</p>	<p>Representation and the Bureaucracy</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Affirmative action in federal employment: Good intentions run amuck? Author(s): Kogut CA, Short LE Source: PUBLIC PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT Volume: 36 Issue: 3 Pages: 197-206 Published: FAL 2007</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Diversity management: An exploratory assessment of minority group representation in state government Author(s): Charles J Source: PUBLIC PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT 32 (4): 561-577 WIN 2003</p>
<p>Mon., April 6th</p>	<p>Representation and the Bureaucracy</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Black or blue: Racial profiling and representative bureaucracy Author(s): Wilkins VM, Williams BN</p>

	<p>Source: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REVIEW Volume: 68 Issue: 4 Pages: 654-664 Published: JUL-AUG 2008</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: The politics of representation in the US national statistical system: origins of minority population interest group participation Author(s): Robbin A Source: JOURNAL OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION 27 (4): 431-453 JUL-AUG 2000</p>
Wed., April 8 th	<p>Representation and the Judiciary</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Diversifying the federal bench: Presidential patterns Author(s): Solberg RLS, Bratton KA Source: JUSTICE SYSTEM JOURNAL Volume: 26 Issue: 2 Pages: 119-133 Published: 2005</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Overby, LM, Brown, RD, Bruce, JM, Smith, CE, Winkle, JW, "Race, political empowerment, and minority perceptions of judicial fairness," SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY, JUN 2005, VL 86, IS 2, 444-462</p>
Mon., April 13 th	<p>Representation and the Judiciary</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Institutional dynamics on the US Court of Appeals: Minority representation under panel decision making Author(s): Farhang S, Wawro G Source: JOURNAL OF LAW ECONOMICS & ORGANIZATION 20 (2): 299-330 OCT 2004</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Judging the Voting Rights Act Author(s): Cox AB, Miles T Source: COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW Volume: 108 Issue: 1 Pages: 1-54 Published: JAN 2008</p>
Wed., April 15 th	<p>The Voting Rights Act</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Is section 5 of the Voting Rights Act a victim of its own success?</p>

	<p>Author(s): Issacharoff S Source: COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 104 (6): 1710-1731 OCT 2004</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Language provisions under the Voting Rights Act: How effective are they? Author(s): Jones-Correa M Source: SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY 86 (3): 549-564 SEP 2005</p>
Mon., April 20 th	<p>The Media and Campaign Contributions</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Bridging the divide - Interethnic cooperation; Minority media outlets; and the coverage of Latino, African-American, and Asian-American members of congress Author(s): Grose CR Source: HARVARD INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PRESS-POLITICS Volume: 11 Issue: 4 Pages: 115-130 Published: FAL 2006</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Title: Tapping motives and dynamics behind campaign contributions - Insights from the Asian American case Author(s): Cho WKT Source: AMERICAN POLITICS RESEARCH 30 (4): 347-383 JUL 2002</p>
Wed., April 22 nd	<p>Ballot Issues</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: Politics, race, and American state electoral reforms after election 2000 Author(s): Bali VA, Silver BD Source: STATE POLITICS & POLICY QUARTERLY Volume: 6 Issue: 1 Pages: 21-48 Published: SPR 2006</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment: Herron, MC, Sekhon, JS, "Black candidates and black voters: Assessing the impact of candidate race on uncounted vote rates," JOURNAL OF POLITICS, FEB 2005, VL 67, IS 1, 154-177</p>

Mon., April 27 th	<p>The Complexity of Measuring Representation</p> <p>Leaders 1 Assignment: Title: The unequal representation of latinos and whites Author(s): Griffin JD, Newman B Source: JOURNAL OF POLITICS Volume: 69 Issue: 4 Pages: 1032-1046 Published: NOV 2007</p> <p>Leaders 2 Assignment; Title: Descriptive representation as a mechanism to mitigate policy backlash - Latino incorporation and welfare policy in the American states Author(s): Preuhs RR Source: POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY Volume: 60 Issue: 2 Pages: 277-292 Published: JUN 2007</p>
Wed., April 29 th	Discussion of Student Research Papers
Mon., May 4 th	Discussion of Student Research Papers