

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP

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Introduction

This course examines selected theories and studies of presidential leadership and presidential campaigning, and the lives and administrations of selected presidents. It considers an eclectic set of materials contributed by psychologists, political scientists, historians, biographers and journalists. Our goal is to review varied approaches to understanding presidential leadership and apply those treatments to understanding the careers of specific presidents.

Below is a calendar listing topics and readings for each day the class meets. The assigned books for the course are *The Presidential Character: Predicting Performance in the White House* by James David Barber; *His Excellency: George Washington* by Joseph J. Ellis; *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton* by David Gergen; *Presidential Leadership and African Americans: "An American Dilemma" from Slavery to the White House* by George R. Goethals; *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin; *The Presidential Difference and Inventing the Job of President* by Fred I. Greenstein; *George W. Bush and the Redemptive Dream* by Dan P. McAdams; *Where They Stand: The American Presidents in the Eyes of Voters and Historians* by Robert W. Merry; and *The Politics Presidents Make* by Stephen Skowronek. Assigned articles or chapters are posted on Course Reserves, and the Course Reserve number is listed next to the readings (e.g., CR1).

Course Requirements

1. All students are expected to attend class and to come fully prepared to participate in discussion.
2. Each week you should email me brief—about 150 words—questions or comments on either Monday's or Wednesday's reading, depending on whether you are assigned an odd or an even number. Be sure to include a question that you would like us to discuss in class. The comments are due by noon on the day of the class. I will respond to them, ordinarily within a day or two.
3. There will be an exam on the material from the first part of the course on Wednesday, February 27.

4. There will be an exam integrating material from the whole course on Wednesday, April 24.
5. A paper of approximately 15 pages is due on Thursday May 2 at 5:00 PM. We will schedule meetings shortly after spring vacation for you to discuss your paper with me. You may write the paper by yourself or team up with one other person. The paper should discuss a single presidency or a comparison of two presidencies, based on reading that we will plan together. Those who do the paper in pairs must submit assessments of the relative contributions of each member of the pair.
6. The class is going to visit Mount Vernon, George Washington's home on the Potomac River, on Friday April 5. All students must take this trip. We leave on a bus at 9:00 AM and depart Mount Vernon at 3:00 PM. With any luck, we'll be back at UR by 5:30 PM. Lunch will be served at Mount Vernon.

Your course grade will be based on each of the first five requirements above, weighed equally, and any relevant consideration from Mount Vernon.

Class Schedule and Readings

Monday, January 14

Introduction

Wednesday, January 16

Meet the Presidents

Robert W. Merry (2012). *Where They Stand: The American Presidents in the Eyes of Voters and Historians*. New York: Simon & Schuster. Introduction, The Great White House Rating Game, pp. xiii-xxii; Chapter 6, The Stain of Failure, pp. 90-113; Chapter 9, Leaders of Destiny, pp. 164-190.

Wednesday, January 23 (Odd numbers email)

The Presidential Character

Barber, J.D. (1992). *The Presidential Character: Predicting Performance in the White House*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall. Chapter 1, Presidential character and how to foresee it, pp. 1-11; Chapter 9, Franklin D. Roosevelt and active-positive affection, pp. 266-299.

Monday, January 28 (Even numbers email)

The Presidential Difference

Greenstein, F.I. (2006). Plumbing the presidential psyche: building on Neustadt and Barber. In L Berman (Ed.) *The Art of Political Leadership*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, pp. 17-26. (CR18)

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *Inventing the Job of President: Leadership Style from George Washington to Andrew Jackson*. Chapter 1, The presidential difference in the early republic, pp. 1-8; Chapter 4, Thomas Jefferson and the Art of Governance, pp. 35-49; Chapter 6, The Political Competence of James Monroe, pp. 63-73.

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 1, The presidential difference, pp. 1-9; Chapter 2, The Virtuosity leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, pp. 11-25.

Bose, M. (2006) What makes a great president? Analysis of leadership qualities in Fred I. Greenstein's *The Presidential Difference*. In L Berman (Ed.) *The Art of Political Leadership*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, pp. 27-44. (CR25)

Wednesday, January 30 (Odd numbers email)

FDR

Smith, J.E. (2007), *FDR*. New York: Random House. Chapter 21, Four More Years, pp. 456-480; Chapter 22, Arsenal of Democracy, pp. 481-505. (CR4, CR5)

Monday, February 4 (Even numbers email)

The Politics Presidents Make

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *Inventing the Job of President: Leadership Style from George Washington to Andrew Jackson*. Chapter 8, Andrew Jackson: Force of Nature, pp. 85-95.

Skowronek, S. (1997) *The Politics Presidents Make: Leadership from John Adams to Bill Clinton*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Chapter 3, Structure and Action, pp. 33-58; Chapter 5, Part I, Andrew Jackson's Reconstruction, pp. 130-154.

Wednesday, February 6 (Odd numbers email)

Abraham Lincoln, Part I

Goethals, G.R. (2015) *Presidential Leadership and African Americans: "An American Dilemma" from Slavery to the White House*. Routledge. Chapter 3, Abraham Lincoln.

Goodwin, D.K. (2005). *Team of rivals: the political genius of Abraham Lincoln*. New York: Simon & Schuster, pp. 459-501. (CR24)

Monday, February 11 (Even numbers email)

Abraham Lincoln, Part II

Goodwin, D.K. (2005). *Team of rivals: the political genius of Abraham Lincoln*. New York: Simon & Schuster, pp. 627-701. (CR3, CR1)

Wednesday, February 13 (Odd numbers email)

Harry Truman, Part I

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The presidential difference: leadership style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 3, The uneven leadership of Harry S. Truman, pp. 27-41.

Goethals, G.R. (2015) *Presidential Leadership and African Americans: "An American Dilemma" from Slavery to the White House*. Routledge. Chapter 7, Harry Truman, pp. 151-173.

Monday, February 18 (Even numbers email)

Harry Truman, Part II

McCullough, D. (1992) *Truman*. New York: Simon & Schuster. Chapter 13, The Heat in the Kitchen, pp. 584-620; Chapter 14, Fighting Chance, pp. 688-719. (CR8, CR9)

Beschloss, M. (2007) *Presidential Courage*. New York: Simon & Schuster. Chapter 25, No People Except the Hebrews, pp. 196-203; Chapter 26, How Could this Have Happened, pp. 211-220; Chapter 27, I Am Cyrus!, pp. 221-234. (CR14)

Wednesday, February 20 (Odd numbers email)

Dwight David Eisenhower

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 4, The Unexpected Eisenhower, pp. 43-58.

Smith, J.E. *Eisenhower in War and Peace*. New York: Random House. Chapter 22, Dien Bien Phu, pp. 607-633; Chapter 26, Little Rock, pp. 705-730. (CR16, CR15)

Monday, February 25 (Even numbers email)

John F. Kennedy

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 5, Coming to Terms with Kennedy, pp. 59-73.

Dallek, R. (2003) *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917-1963*. Boston: Little, Brown. Chapter 16, To the Brink—and Back, pp. 535-574; Epilogue, pp. 703-711. (CR10, CR17)

Wednesday, February 27

Midterm Exam

Monday, March 4 (Odd numbers email)

Lyndon B. Johnson

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 6, Lyndon Johnson and the Primacy of Politics, pp. 75-89.

Goethals, G.R. (2015) *Presidential Leadership and African Americans: “An American Dilemma” from Slavery to the White House*. Routledge. Chapter 8, Lyndon B. Johnson, pp. 175-196.

Wednesday, March 6 (Even numbers email)**Richard Nixon, Part I**

Barber, J.D. (1992). *The presidential character: predicting performance in the White House*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall. Chapter 5, Richard Nixon: Construction and Destruction, pp. 123-168.

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The presidential difference: leadership style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 7, The Paradox of Richard Nixon, pp. 91-111.

SPRING BREAK**March 9-March 19****Monday, March 18 (Odd numbers email)****Richard Nixon, Part II**

Gergen, David (2000) *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton*, Chapter 1, The stuff of Shakespeare, pp. 19-32; Chapter 2, The Bright side, pp. 33-64; Chapter 3, Why he fell, pp. 65-104.

Wednesday, March 20 (Even numbers email)**Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter**

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 8, The Instructive Presidency of Gerald Ford, pp. 111-125; Chapter 9, Jimmy Carter and the Politics of Rectitude, pp. 127-143.

Wright, L. *Thirteen Days in September: Carter, Begin, and Sadat at Camp David*. Day Thirteen, pp. 253-266; Epilogue, pp. 267-289. (pdf on Blackboard)

Monday, March 25 (Odd numbers email)**Ronald Reagan**

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style*

from FDR to Barack Obama. Chapter 10. Ronald Reagan: the Innocent as Agent of Change, pp. 145-158.

Gergen, David (2000) *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton*. Chapter 5, The Natural, pp. 151-193, Chapter 6, A Rooseveltian Style, pp. 194-209; Chapter 7, Secrets of the Great Communicator, pp. 210-247.

Wednesday, Marcy 27 (Even numbers email)

George Herbert Walker Bush

Jon Meacham (2015) *Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush*. Chapter 37, This Will Not Stand, pp. 421-433; Chapter 38, Not Blood For Oil, pp. 434-442; Chapter 39, Read My Hips, pp. 443-449; Chapter 40, The Threat of Impeachment, pp. 450-457; Chapter 41, Nothing Like It Since Truman, pp. 458-469; Chapter 50, The Buck Stops There, pp. 580-594; Epilogue, I Don't Want to Miss Anything, pp. 595-601. (pdfs on Blackboard)

Monday, April 1 (Odd numbers email)

George Washington, Part I

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *Inventing the Job of President: Leadership Style from George Washington to Andrew Jackson*. Chapter 2, The Foundational Presidency of George Washington, pp. 9-23

Ellis, J.J. (2004). *His Excellency George Washington*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. Chapter 3, First in War, pp. 73-109; Chapter 4, Destiny's Child, pp. 110-146.

Wednesday, April 3 (Even numbers email)

George Washington, Part II

Ellis, J.J. (2004). *His Excellency George Washington*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. Chapter 6, First in peace, pp. 188-240; Chapter 7, Testament, pp. 241-275.

Monday, April 8 (Odd numbers email)

Bill Clinton

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 12, The undisciplined Bill Clinton, pp. 173-188.

Gergen, David (2000) *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton*, Chapter 8, Dreams and Disappointments, pp. 251-271; Chapter 9, Riding the Roller Coaster, pp. 272-312; Chapter 10, Assessing his Leadership, pp. 313-342.

Wednesday, April 10 (Even numbers email)

George W. Bush

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 13, George W. Bush and the Politics of Agenda Control, 191-206.

McAdams, D.P. (2011). *George W. Bush and the Redemptive Dream*. New York: Oxford University Press. Introduction, Why Did President George W. Bush Invade Iraq?, pp. 3-14; Chapter One, The Actor's Traits, pp. 15-50; Chapter Two, Fathers and Sons, pp. 51-97.

Simonton, D.K. (2006) Presidential IQ, openness and intellectual brilliance: estimates and correlations for 42 U.S. Chief Executives. *Political Psychology*, 27, 511-526. (CR20)

Monday, April 15

Barack Obama

Greenstein, F.I. (2009) *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama*. Chapter 14, The Presidential Breakthrough of Barack Obama, pp. 173-188.

Goldberg, J. (2016). The Obama Doctrine: How he's shaped the world. *The Atlantic*, April 2016, 70-90. (pdf on Blackboard)

Wednesday, April 17

Election of 2016 and Donald Trump

Goethals, G.R. (2017) Almost "Nothing New Under the Sun": American politics and the election of Donald Trump. *Leadership*, 13, 413-423. (pdf on Blackboard)

Other reading to be determined.

Monday, April 22

Review and Conclusions

Wednesday, April 24

Exam 2

President Bush and President Clinton at the launch of the PLS program. Photo by Paul Morse. President Bush, Mrs. Bush, and President Clinton at the 2017 graduation in Dallas, TX. Photo by Grant Miller. Presidential Leadership Scholars Graduation in Little Rock, AR. Photo by Grant Miller. Discover, Collaborate, Take Action. We're making a difference in the world applying lessons in leadership learned from the presidential experiences of George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson. LEARN MORE. 4. Presidential Centers. 6. Transformative Sessions. 91%. LDST 305 Innovation Leadership (3) The nature, requirements, and beneficial role of entrepreneurial thinking for the leader as innovator in the organization and in society. Prerequisite: LDST 201. Marketing. HIST 352 Renaissance and Reformation (3) Explores the history of early modern Europe from the origins of the Renaissance in the 14th century down to the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. Major topics include Renaissance Humanism, the fracturing of medieval HIST 368 Modern European History, 1648-1815 (3) Surveys the growth of European society from the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 to the end of the Congress of Vienna. Spring/Summer 2020. Regent University 1000 Regent University Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23464-9800. 800.373.5504 admissions@regent.edu. In his newest book, "Presidential Leadership in Political Time: Reprise and Reappraisal," Skowronek examines both the promise and the potential pitfalls for President Obama as well. Whether or not Obama joins the ranks of our truly transformative presidents or not may well be determined by how well he absorbs the lessons of this outstanding book. SLD - Spartan Leadership Development, Anaheim, California. 54 likes. SLD is an independent broker house affiliated with various companies that have been... SLD - Spartan Leadership Development. Financial Consultant in Anaheim, California. 1. 1 out of 5 stars. Closed Now. CommunitySee All. 54 people like this. 57 people follow this. At present, the Chinese leadership is extensively using nationalist rhetoric to boost its prestige and legitimacy in the eyes of people. China positions itself as a country that is keen to correct the mistakes of the past that led to its national humiliation. Special emphasis is placed on achieving and maintaining the country's sovereignty and independence, because disregard for both led to foreign invasions and the weakening of the country in general.