

Unit 3: Political Parties, Interest Groups, Media

Chapters 7, 8, and 10 (Edwards and Wattenberg)

Key Terms to know and understand:

Chapter 7

Mass media
High tech politics
Press conferences
Investigative journalism
Narrowcasting
Selective exposure
Trial balloons
Sound bites
Talking heads
Policy agenda
Policy entrepreneurs

Chapter 8

Political Party
Linkage institution
Rational choice theory
Ticket-splitting
Patronage
Party machines
Closed primaries
Open primaries
Blanket primaries
National convention
National committee
New Deal Coalition
Party eras
Critical election
Party Dealignment
New Deal Coalition
Proportional Representation
Winner-takes-all system
Blue Dog Democrats

Chapter 10

Iron Triangle
Collective good
Free-rider problem
Single issue groups
Interest Group
Lobbying
Electioneering
Class Action lawsuits
Right-to-work laws
Public interest lobbies

Key Questions to be able to address for the AP Exam:

1. Explain the media's role in providing citizens with political information.
2. Analyze the development, implications, and consequences of increasingly diverse numbers of media and political communication outlets.
3. Explain the functions and impact of political parties with regard to the electorate and the government.
4. Analyze why political parties change and adapt to political realities.
5. Explain structural and cultural barriers to the third party and independent candidate success.
6. Analyze the benefits and potential problems of interest group influences on elections and policy making.
7. Assess the impact of elections, public opinion, interest groups, and political parties on policy outcomes.

Schedule and “To Do” list (Unit 3)

(subject to change, but buckle up because we are about to move quickly!)

The red text is suggested prep for that day in class

Feb 6	“Fake News”, Donald Trump, and Introduction to Media Bias
Feb 7	Evolution of the Media as a Linkage institution <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read sections 7.1 and 7.2 in your text• Media Timeline activity
Feb 8/9	News media and ideological bias / narrowcasting <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Watch Media Institution: Crash Course Government and Politics #44▪ Pew research Center on journalism & media activity
Feb 10	Investigative journalism <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Watch Media Regulation: Crash Course Government and Politics #45▪ Class discussion on the changing role of the media
Feb 13	Party basics <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Read sections 8.1-8.4▪ Watch Political Parties: Crash Course Government and Politics #40 on youtube▪ Discussion over Political Parties
Feb 14	Party Eras and Critical Elections <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Watch Party Systems: Crash Course Government and Politics #41 on youtube▪ Party Era Timeline
Feb 15/16	Third Parties/Interest Group Research <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watch Third parties are the underpants gnomes of American politics on youtube.• Read Chapter 10• Third party discussion• Interest Group activity
Feb 17	Effect of Interest Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Watch Interest Groups: Crash Course Government and Politics #42 on youtube▪ Discussion of Interest Group Research
Feb 21	Lobbying gone wrong <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Youtube: Should lobbying be banned?▪ Jack Abramoff clip and discussion
Feb 23/24	Unit 3 take home test