

Political Studies Program, Summer 2010
CURRENT ISSUES IN AMERICAN POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY
Instructors: William Kristol, Jeff Bergner, John Walters, Jay Lefkowitz, and
Lawrence B. Lindsey
Washington, D.C.

This course is an introduction to public policy in the United States. The first part will introduce students to the political institutions and processes through which public policy is made and implemented in the U.S. The second part of the course applies these concepts to specific policy areas such as national drug policy, human stem cell research, and the economy and debt, as illustrated by real-world case studies and led by expert practitioners.

Monday, July 12, 2010, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

William Kristol

Reading:

- Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, Vol. Two: Preface, Part One (Chapters 11-13 and 20), Part Two (Chapters 1-2, 8-12 and 17), and Part Four (complete)

Tuesday, July 13, 2010, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Jeff Bergner, Conservatism and Progressivism: Domestic Policy Under the Obama Administration

Reading:

- Jeff Bergner, "[Can Republicans Govern? Not Unless They Change the Narrative](#)," *The Weekly Standard*, February 8, 2010
- Harvey Mansfield, "[What Obama Isn't Saying: The Apolitical Politics of Progressivism](#)," *The Weekly Standard*, February 8, 2010
- Jeff Bergner, "[Europe is No Model: The Genius of American Politics](#)," *The Weekly Standard*, May 17, 2010

Wednesday, July 14, 2010, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

John Walters, Case Study One: Making Drug Control Policy

Reading:

- Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), [National Drug Control Strategy](#) (February 2003)

- ONDCP, [Making the Drug Problem Smaller, 2001-2008](#) (December 2008)
- Steven B. Duke, "[Drugs: To Legalize or Not](#)," *The Wall Street Journal*, April 25, 2009
- Jack Maple, *Crime Fighter* [Optional]

Thursday, July 15, 2010, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Jay Lefkowitz, Case Study Two: Making Federal Policy on Human Stem Cell Research

Reading:

- Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973)
- National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act
- Dickey-Wicker Amendment
- Memorandum from Harriet S. Rabb to Harold Varmus, M.D., Director, NIH, January 15, 1999
- NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Human Pluripotent Stem Cells, Federal Register, Vol. 65, No. 166
- Presidential Statement, August 9, 2001
- Presidential Fact Sheet on Embryonic Stem Cell Research
- Statement of Administrative Policy - H.R. 810
- President Bush Stem Cell Bill Veto Message, 2006
- President Bush Stem Cell Bill Veto Message, 2007
- Executive Order 13435
- J. Lefkowitz, "Stem Cells and the President: An Inside Account," *Commentary*, January 2008
- Executive Order 13505
- NIH Guidelines for Human Stem Cell Research, Federal Register, Vol. 74, No. 128

Friday, July 16, 2010, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Laurence B. Lindsay, Case Study Three: The Economy and the Debt