The American Presidency, Political Science 2330/3300
Study Guide for Exam 2, October 31, 2016

The first exam covers the following material:
- Class, October 3 to October 26
- My Gateway: Robertson, *The Original Compromise*, Chapter 11; Skocpol and Jacobs, "Accomplished and embattled;" "Obama Has Come to Embrace Executive Power"; Tichenor, "The Presidency and Interest Groups"; Milkis, “Obama and Mobilization Movements”; "The first president of the social media age"; "To Win the Civil War, Lincoln Had to Change His Leadership"; "Obama After Dark"

The exam includes 20 true/false items worth two (2) points each, two identification items worth ten (10) points each, one essay worth 40 points. The exam counts as twenty percent of your final grade.

**Part 2: Identification:** You will define, illustrate, and explain the importance *for the presidency* of two of the following. You will be able to choose from four on the exam. Each identification item is worth 10 points. (MG=My Gateway; PMR=Pika, Maltese & Rudalevige)

- Madison’s great worry (class on Constitution)
- the president's isolation (class on Constitution)
- the permanent campaign (class on the public presidency)
- The Politics of Affiliation (class on political time)
- The Politics of Reconstruction (class on political time)
- The Politics of Disjunction (class on political time)
- James K. Polk (class)
- the Decay Curve (class on the public presidency)
- Rigging the election (class – current events)
- "Administrative Presidents” (class on presidential skills)
- "Political Presidents” (class on presidential skills)
- The Politics of Preemption (class on political time)
- Organizing for Obama (Milkis, MG)
- Presidential media (PMR 130-132)
- Multiple advocacy (PMR 180-181)
- Obama has come to embrace exec power (MG)
- Transitions to Governing (PMR 89-90)
- Social Background of Presidents (PMR 162-165)
- Divided Party control of government (PMR 224-226)
- “To Win the Civil War, Lincoln Had to Change His Leadership” (MG)
- Reagan’s Adversarial breakthrough politics (Tichenor, MG)
- the permanent campaign (class on the public presidency + PMR 142-143)
- Targeted Communications: Presidents and Interest Groups (PMR, 122-123)
- Targeted Communications: Presidents and Political Parties (PMR, 123-125)
- Presidential Messages to Congress and Agenda Setting (PMR 229-230)
- The president’s indirect informal influence on Congress (PM, 235-236)
- Presidential style and legislative skills (PM, 250-253)

Essay questions are on page 2
Part 3: Essay. You will write an essay in response to one of the following five questions. The best answers will blend evidence from lectures and all the books; they will be clear, concise, and they will use specific examples. Two of these essay questions will appear on the exam. The essay is worth 40 points.

1. The Constitution and the Institution of the Presidency (class, 10/3/16-10/5/16 & Robertson, *The Original Compromise*, Chapter 11, MG). What was Madison’s great worry about designing a republican constitution? How did the Grand Compromise on the presidency shape the standpoint of every president? You should discuss and give examples of the (1) president's constituency, (2) the president’s powers, (3) the president’s constraints, and (4) the president’s isolation. Together, how do these rules empower the president, and how do they constrain the president. Be specific, using examples.

2. Presidents and Interest Groups. What are the two important dimensions of presidential relations with interest groups, according to Tichenor (on My Gateway)? What are the four types of ways that presidents interact with interest groups (table 12.1)? Explain and illustrate each type. Carefully explain the two key cases of "collaborative breakthrough politics" in the administrations of Franklin Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan. How has Obama related with “Obama for America? (Milkis)?

3. Presidents in Political Time. Presidents take office at different “political times” – that is, when established political orders are strong or weak. Using lecture (and readings where appropriate), describe the four types of circumstances in which a president takes office, name the types of presidencies these circumstances produce, and clearly describe an example of a president for each type.


5. Presidential Success in Congress (PMR, 246-257). Discuss thoroughly the ways that (1) Congressional support, (2) Popular support, (3) presidential style and legislative skills, (4) contextual factors, and (5) cyclical trends account for difference in presidential success in Congress. Using the Skocpol and Jacobs article (“Accomplished and embattled,” My Gateway), evaluate how well Obama has done in dealing with Congress. Be specific.