

Foundational Works on American Politics

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Gerald Pomper, SAS - Political Science

W 09:50A-12:50P

Honors College Seminar Room S120

College Ave Campus

Will Count Towards SAS - Political Science Major

Will Count Towards SAS - Political Science Minor

This seminar will examine fundamental writings on American politics, drawn from core works across the subfields of political science. The readings include classics - *The Federalist Papers* and Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*; major modern studies of the empirical realities of our nation's politics, such as *The American Voter* and *Presidential Power*; and theoretical controversies over the current and future viability of democracy in the United States by such authors as Walter Lippmann and Robert Putnam. Structurally, we will seek a deep, collaborative examination of these works through weekly three-hour meetings. Students will write biweekly interpretative papers, shared on the course website before class discussion, and will participate in leading the seminar sessions.

Gerald Pomper is Board of Governors Professor of Political Science (Emeritus). A specialist in American elections and politics, he is the author or editor of 21 books, including a 24-year series on U.S. national elections and, most recently, *The New York Times on Critical U.S. Elections*. A large reference work, the volume covers 21 defining elections in American history. Dr. Pomper's broadest work is *Ordinary Heroes and American Democracy*, nominated for a Pulitzer Prize by Yale University Press. At Rutgers for more than fifty years, he was chairman of the University and Livingston College political science departments. He also has been a visiting professor at Tel-Aviv University, Oxford, and Australian National University.