

Political Parties and Elections

PS 3330 EXL

Fall 2014



MWF 11:30 (class will only meet a few Fridays)

CRN 87520

No Pre-requisites!

In this Experiential Learning class we will learn about American political parties and elections from a hands on perspective!

Everyone will choose a candidate or party to work for and we will see how real campaigns compare to what we learn in class. The course covers a bit of the history and role of American political parties and minor parties, participation in politics and voting behavior, the presidential nomination process, presidential elections, and the role of mass media and campaign finance in elections. We will take an active part in the 2014 elections and put our knowledge to work!

REQUIREMENTS:

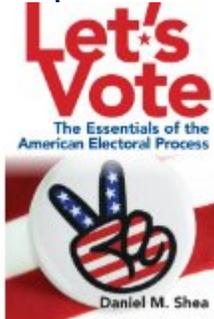
Volunteer 15 hours for your choice of political party or candidate (many are in Murfreesboro or you may choose one in Nashville or further afield)

Keep a journal of your party or campaign work.

Discuss your party or campaign work in class with others.

Write a short reflective essay about your party or campaign work.

Attend class (we meet every Monday and Wednesday and a few Fridays) and read the textbook and assorted articles and sites in D2L. The textbook is by Daniel M. Shea, Let's Vote: The Essentials of the American Electoral Process. 2013. Pearson. ISBN-10: 0205831230 | ISBN-13: 978-0205831234



The book looks like this:

It is about \$20 on Amazon.

There will also be two in class tests based on class lectures and readings.

IMPORTANT:

There are no hidden costs for this course. You do NOT pay an EXL fee. The only costs associated with this course is one (very inexpensive) textbook.

There are no pre-requisites. Anyone can take this course. All that is required is an interest in American politics and political campaigns.

You do not need to apply to the EXL program to enroll in this course. To learn more about adding an EXL certification to your major, click here:

<http://www.mtsu.edu/exl/index.php>

This course is not more work than the regular section of this course, but just a different kind of work.

Who might benefit from this course:

Political Science majors and minors (of course), Civic Engagement minors, Economics, Sociology, Management and Marketing, Mass Comm, Journalism, Electronic Media, History, and others!