PROFESSORS
Office hours will be held after class each week or by arrangement as needed.
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
The Eagleton Seminar in American Politics explores the practical and human side of politics and policymaking. It focuses on how political institutions, political processes and political practitioners operate in the policy arena. The seminar investigates the ways by which political capital is accumulated and how it is expended. It looks at how decisions are made, compromises are struck and policies are enacted. The seminar pays close attention to the leadership traits that are common to successful political leaders from the executive and legislative branches. Participants investigate the practical and political considerations that must be weighed and balanced in the development of policies to address pressing public issues. The course also features a series of lectures by practitioners in politics, government and public affairs who have participated in resolving critical policy issues.

REQUIRED READING
The following books and chapters are required reading. Summer texts should be read before the first class session. Additional articles/resources will be uploaded to the class website during the semester.

Summer Texts
- Excerpts from The Bosses: Michael Curley, Huey Long and Frank Hague (posted to class website)

School Year Texts

GRADING
Your final grade will be calculated based on the following:
- (3) Papers 50%
- Journal 10%
- Class attendance and participation 40%

Late papers will be downgraded for each day they are overdue. Spelling and grammar count. You will be judged by the content of your work.
ATTENDANCE
The course is discussion-based, so attending all classes and participating is crucial. NO surfing the Internet in class. When class is in session we expect you to give the professors and guest speakers your undivided attention. If you need to take a phone call you must excuse yourself from the room.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS
In the development of each of these assignments, you must demonstrate knowledge of the assigned readings. You should be able to relate your analysis to these readings and class discussions.

- **Assignment 1: Journal** (due October 23 & December 4)
  Maintain a weekly journal of the reflections and opinions you have developed after each of the classes. Place emphasis on the issues and concepts that you feel will be important to you in your life and future professional development. Two journals will be required. The first journal will be due at the October 23rd class, and the second is due December 4th.

- **Assignment 2: Leadership Paper** (due October 16)
  Using the knowledge you obtained from reading David Gergen’s book and Jonathan Alter’s book, describe the leadership style of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Then, pick two of the three presidents described by Gergen and identify the Machiavellian traits that FDR and the other two presidents possessed. Describe what Machiavellian principles helped them to perform their presidential duties. Minimum of 1,200 words.

- **Assignment 3: Legislation Paper** (due November 20)
  Using an important concept or issue in your field of study, develop a piece of legislation that can follow the legislative process from introduction through committees, to final enactment and signature by the Governor. Make sure to include the following: message identification; target audiences; coalition building; and lobbying techniques. Minimum 1,000 words.

- **Assignment 4: Policy Paper** (due December 4)
  You have been named as the policy advisor to the presidential nominee from one of the major parties. Please pick two issues that you believe will have saliency in the upcoming campaign, discuss why they will be important and how you would advise the candidate to advance his or her position on those issues. 1,500-2,000 words.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Students in this class and in all courses at Rutgers University are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism in written work, receiving and providing unauthorized assistance, and sabotaging the work of others are among the behaviors that constitute violations of the Policy on Academic Integrity. You are expected to be familiar with this policy. If you have specific questions about this, please go to the web page on academic integrity. [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy)

CLASS SCHEDULE
Class topics and guest speaker dates are subject to change.

- **September 4 (class 1)**
  Course overview, discussion of syllabus, summer readings. Discussion of leadership in mid-20th century America.

- **September 11 (class 2)**
  Leadership lessons from Machiavelli to modern times
  **Text: The Prince**
September 18 (class 3) Leadership for the 20th Century
  *Text: The Defining Moment, FDR’S Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope*

September 25 (class 4) Different perspectives of leadership principles.
  Gergen vs. Alter’s concept of leadership.
  *Text: Eyewitness to Power*

October 2 (class 5) New Jersey State Government
  Executive and Legislative Branches
  Guest speaker

October 9 (class 6) Legislative-Executive dynamics.
  Discussion of Doria dissertation.
  Guest speaker

October 16 (class 7) Running for office; staying in office.
  Media training
  ➢ Leadership paper due

October 23 (class 8) Politics and the press
  Guest speaker
  ➢ Journal due

October 30 (class 9) Campaigns and elections.
  Election preview and discussion.
  Guest speaker

November 6 (class 10) Election wrap-up.
  Values and politics.
  Mario Cuomo’s speech.
  Guest speaker

November 13 (class 11) Lobbying; Access & Accountability
  Guest speaker
  *Text: The Third House*

November 20 (class 12) Politics and terrorism: Government in times of crisis
  Guest speaker
  ➢ Legislation paper due

*November 25 and 27* No class either day – Thanksgiving holiday

December 4 (class 13) Quality of life issues; the “broken window” theory;
  education; the environment.
  Course wrap up.
  ➢ Journal due
  ➢ Policy paper due