

Lecture #13: Political Parties and Elections

I. US vs. Other Democracies

- A. Two-party (US) vs. Multi-party/parliamentary system

II. American Party “Systems”

- A. Critical Elections and Critical Realignment Theory

- B. Periodization: American Party “Systems”

1. Jeffersonian
2. Jacksonian
3. Civil War and Reconstruction
4. Industrial Republican
5. New Deal Coalition
6. “Divided Government”
7. ???Republican Domination???

III. American Party Systems and Realignment: Key Points

- A. Past vs. Present
- B. Pragmatism vs. Ideology

IV. Third Parties

- A. Not permanent, but can be influential
 1. Spoiler
 2. Issue Saliency and Focus
 3. Realignment
 4. Voter Bloc
- B. Notables
- C. Relevancy

V. Parties: Organizing Principles and Purposes