This class focuses primarily on a watershed moment, the period of the New Deal/Fair Deal era led by Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman. It does so because decisions taken about the economy, labor, race, foreign policy, military affairs, civil liberties, and internal security "set the stage and defined the terms of American politics and government for generations to come," as the historian Morton Keller observed. In examining these issues at the crossroads of two disciplines--of American history and political science--the class probes these policy choices in the context of global affairs, and with particular emphasis on the role played by policy intellectuals, members of Congress, and the southern wing of the Democratic Party.

It is imperative that you keep up with the class readings. Active participation in your weekly section is mandatory. Requirements include a mid-term (March 7), a final examination, and a paper, no longer than ten double-spaced pages, due on April 25, the next to last class session. This is a firm deadline; no late papers will be accepted. This essay will formulate an analytical problem and advance an argument focused on one of the subjects covered in the class. A one page proposal outlining the paper’s question and approach is due on March 5. Rules regarding academic honesty must be scrupulously observed. For discussions of academic integrity and the meaning of plagiarism see "The Columbia College Guide to Academic Integrity" and the Lehman Library discussion of plagiarism, respectively at http://www.college.columbia.edu/academics/integrity, and http://library.columbia.edu/indiv/lehman/guides/plagiarism.html.

Grades are a compound of performance on each exam (20 and 30 percent respectively), the paper (25 percent) and contributions to discussions in class and especially in your section (25 per cent). Links to the readings and audio materials can be found on CourseWorks. Most of the readings are available there as a web-link under “Class Files” or as an electronic library reserve under “Libr. Reserves.” Links to these readings are also consolidated for each class meeting in the “Syllabus” section. Readings are on reserve in Lehman Library, and items below marked “[book]” have been ordered at Book Culture on 112th Street.
SYLLABUS

One: Painting the New Deal

January 18: Introduction
   Background reading (not required, but available as resources):
   h. David M. Kennedy, “What the New Deal Did,” Political Science Quarterly, 124 (Summer 2009), pp.251-268

January 23: New Deal Designs: Retrospective Views, Alternative Possibilities

Two: “Fear Itself”

January 25: Inauguration Day:
   a. Franklin Roosevelt, Inaugural Address, March 4, 1933 (web link)

January 30: Fear as Context and Motivation

February 1: March 1933

February 6: Emergency and Exception

Three: Enemies?

February 8: Dictatorship (1)

February 13: Dictatorship (2)

February 15: Dictatorship (3)


**Four: Radical Moment (1)**

February 22: Capitalism


February 27: Labor


**Five: Radical Moment (2)**

February 29: Unrestrained War


March 5: In-class review and study session; paper proposals due

March 7: Midterm Examination

March 19: Borderlands
a. John Sparks, "Civil Liberties in the Present Crisis," Antioch Review, 2 (Spring 1942)

Six: On the South and the Democratic Coalition

March 21: Enlarging the Party


March 26: The Democratic Party, the South, and New Deal Decisions

a. Carter G. Woodson, “Fifty Years of Negro Citizenship as Qualified by the United States Supreme Court,” Journal of Negro History, 6 (January 1921), pp. 1-53. [web link]
c. V.O. Key, Jr. Southern Politics in State and Nation Alfred A. Knopf, 1949, chapters 16, 17, pp. 345-382 [e-reserves]
d. Richard Hofstadter, “From Calhoun to Dixiecrats,” Social Research, 16 (June 1949), pp. 135-150 [e-reserves]

March 28: Southern Power


Seven: Making the Procedural State
April 2: Planning or Fiscal Policy?

April 4: Business, Labor, and the Workplace

April 9: Interest Group Pluralism

Eight: Making the Crusading State

April 9: International Political Economy: Trade

April 11: International Political Economy: Postwar Institutions

Michael J. Hogan, "Revival and Reform: America's Twentieth Century Search for a New Economic Order Abroad," Diplomatic History, 8 (1984), pp.287-310. [e-reserves]

April 16: Might


Marian D. Irish, "Foreign Policy and the South," Journal of Politics, 10 (May 1948) [web link]

April 18: National Security


Nine: Bequests

April 25: End and Beginning [papers due]

Dwight Eisenhower, Inaugural Address, January 20, 1953 [web link]


April 30: In class review and study session