Course Description

This course is an exploration of whether and how racial and ethnic minorities are able to organize effectively and press their demands through the American political system. Specifically, we will focus on the political behavior of minority citizens, the relative strength and effect of these groups at the polls and in political office, the theory and practice of group formation as it applies to minority groups, the responsiveness of elected officials, and the legal and constitutional obstacles and instruments that provide context and shape these phenomena.

The Web, Email, and Office Hours

I have set up a blackboard web page for the course, which you can access through NYU Home. On blackboard you will find the course syllabus, calendar, and links to reading materials as well as interactive features, which we will use for class communications.

My office is located at room 329, 19 West 4th Street. I will generally be available for office hours from 2 to 3 pm on Tuesdays. If you have a class conflict with those times, we can discuss other alternatives. You can also email me at rbm5@nyu.edu. Normally I answer email within 24 hours of receipt on weekdays (responses to email sent on weekends, holidays, or after 5 pm on weekdays will occur within 24 hours of the next weekday).

Reading Material

As a field seminar the class will not be taught in a lecture format, but through class discussion of assigned readings for the day and associated assignments. Furthermore, to maximize our exposure to the wide literature on the subject, the assignments will not always be read by all the class, but instead class members will share information in discussion from other readings. These readings will be academic and typically available online (see links in class schedule below). Therefore, I have not designated particular assigned texts for the class. However, two texts and one journal article will be used for background information and occasional common readings:

1. Morton, Rebecca, *Analyzing Elections*, W.W. Norton Press. We will cover only a few chapters in this book and when we do I will place them on reserve or give you copies.


Weekly Assignments and Class Format

Each week students will be divided into two groups—Group C (for Class) and Group L (for Leader). Group L members will be given a particular assignment (there will be four different assignments each week for Group L members and generally there will be one Group L member per assignment) to read in advance of the class and will write a short four to five page double-spaced review and critique of the reading they have been assigned. There is a Forum on the Blackboard Discussion Board for each class meeting. Each Group L member will post their review/critique to the Forum for the particular class by 5 p.m. on the Sunday before the class. For example, for the class meeting on Tuesday, February 6th, the members of group L must post their reviews/critiques on the Discussion Board by 5 p.m. on Sunday, February 4th.

In the written reviews/critiques Group L members have the following responsibilities: (1) to summarize the work for the rest of the class particularly highlighting those points which are new and important; (2) to compare the work to other research on minority representation that the class has previously discussed or the Group L member is familiar with and to place the work within the larger literature; and (3) to evaluate whether the work is convincing—whether the author is successful in conveying his or her argument and what he or she could have done better to make his or her case.

All students (both Groups C and L) will be expected to read the reviews/critiques by the members of Group L plus a common reading assignment. When class convenes, the members of Group L will direct the class discussion of their readings. The format of the discussion will be as follows: Each work reviewed/critiqued by a Group L member will be the subject of approximately 30 minutes of discussion by the entire class. A Group L member who did NOT review/critique the work will facilitate the discussion.

All class members will be graded on their participation in the discussion; Group L members will be graded on their reviews/critiques as well. The first class we will divide up the dates. In some cases we will have students share an assignment so that all are Group L members the same number of times. Students are free to trade dates after these divisions as long as they get approval from the instructor in advance of the class.

Grades

Course Grades will be computed on the following basis:

Weekly Reviews and Critiques 60%
Class Participation 40%
Schedule of Classes and Readings

Note: To access the readings outside of the texts which do not have urls below, you should go to the Web of Science via Bobst Library. The url for this is at: https://ezproxy.library.nyu.edu/login?url=http://isiknowledge.com/wos
You can use the web of science to then search for the citation of the article. On the right of the description of the article are links to retrieving the article online. Usually this is the link marked “NYU”. If you have trouble, please ask a librarian to help you. Note we will not have class on Tuesday, March 20th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Common Reading</th>
<th>Leader 1 Assign.</th>
<th>Leader 2 Assign.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Jan. 16th</td>
<td>Introduction to Class, General Discussion of Issues of Minority Representation</td>
<td>McClain and Stewart, Chapters 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Title: A brief history of race and the US-Mexican border: Tracing the trajectories of conquest</td>
<td>Title: THE SUPREMACY OF EQUAL-RIGHTS - THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RACIAL-DISCRIMINATION IN ANTEBELLUM MASSACHUSETTS AND THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE 14TH AMENDMENT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>What is a Minority? Who are the minorities in American Politics? What makes minorities minorities?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Author(s): Perea JF</td>
<td>Author(s): KOUSSER JM</td>
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<td>Stable URL: <a href="http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0017-811X%28199306%29106%3A8%3C1926%3ARVAAA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M">http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0017-811X%28199306%29106%3A8%3C1926%3ARVAAA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M</a></td>
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<td>Topic for Class:</td>
<td>Descriptive versus Substantive Representation: What Theorists Think</td>
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<td>Leader 1</td>
<td>Title: Second-order diversity Author(s): Gerken HK Source: HARVARD LAW REVIEW 118 (4): 1099-1196 FEB 2005</td>
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<td>Leader 3</td>
<td>Dovi, S, “Preferable descriptive representatives: Will just any woman, black, or Latino do? AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW, DEC, 2002, VL 9, IS 4, 729-743</td>
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<td>Leader 4</td>
<td>Title: RELATIONSHIPS OF REPRESENTATION IN VOTING-RIGHTS ACT JURISPRUDENCE Author(s): Abrams K Source: TEXAS LAW REVIEW 71 (7): 1409-1435 JUN 1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic for Class:</td>
<td>Descriptive versus Substantive Representation: What Voters Think</td>
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<td>Topic for Class:</td>
<td>Vote Denial and Minority Representation</td>
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| Common Reading  | Title: Ballots and bullets: The exceptional history of the right to vote  
Author(s): Karlan PS  
| Leader 1 Assign. | Title: Race and the right to vote after Rice v. Cayetano  
Author(s): Katz ED  
Source: MICHIGAN LAW REVIEW 99 (3): 491-531 DEC 2000 |
| Tuesday, Feb. 13th | Leader 2 Assign.  
Title: Consent by all the governed: Reenfranchising noncitizens as partners in America's democracy  
Author(s): Evia G  
Source: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW 77 (1): 151-186 NOV 2003 |
| Leader 3 Assign. | Title: Ballot manipulation and the "menace of Negro domination": Racial threat and felon disenfranchisement in the United States, 1850-2002  
Author(s): Behrens A, Uggen C, Manza J  
| Leader 4 Assign. | Title: Dual resident voting: Traditional disenfranchisement and prospects for change  
Author(s): Ostrow AP  
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<tr>
<th>Topic for Class:</th>
<th>Vote Dilution I: Multimember Districts versus Single Member Districts, Majority Requirements, and Cumulative Voting</th>
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<tr>
<td>Common Reading</td>
<td>Morton, Analyzing Elections, Chapter 15, Canon Review Article</td>
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</table>
| Leader 1 Assign. | Title: The changing impact of electoral structure on black representation in the South, 1970-1996  
Author(s): Sass TR, Pittman BJ  
Source: PUBLIC CHOICE 104 (3-4): 369-388 SEP 2000 |
| Tuesday, Feb. 20th |  
Leader 2 Assign. | Title: BLACK SUCCESS IN LOCAL RUNOFF ELECTIONS  
Author(s): BULLOCK CS, SMITH AB  
| Leader 4 Assign. | Title: The determinants of Hispanic representation in municipal government  
Author(s): Sass TR  
Source: SOUTHERN ECONOMIC JOURNAL 66 (3): 609-630 JAN 2000 |
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<th>Topic for Class:</th>
<th>Vote Dilution II: Racial Gerrymandering and Majority Minority Districts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Reading</td>
<td>Morton, Analyzing Elections, Chapters 11 &amp; 15, Canon Review Article</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| Leader 4 Assign.| Title: Resolving the dilemma of minority representation  
Author(s): Hayden GM  
Source: CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW 92 (6): 1589-1637 DEC 2004 |
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<tr>
<th>Topic for Class:</th>
<th>What Do We Know About Minority Voters’ Choices?</th>
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| **Common Reading** | Title: Does the shoe fit? Testing models of participation for African-American and Latino involvement in local politics  
Author(s): Marschall MJ  
Source: URBAN AFFAIRS REVIEW 37 (2): 227-248 NOV 2001  
McClain and Stewart, Chapter 3 |
| **Leader 1 Assign.** | Title: Bloc voting, polarization, and the panethnic hypothesis: The case of Little Saigon  
Author(s): Collet C  
Source: JOURNAL OF POLITICS 67 (3): 907-933 AUG 2005 |
| **Leader 3 Assign.** | Title: The political participation and engagement of muslim americans  
Author(s): Jamal A  
Source: AMERICAN POLITICS RESEARCH 33 (4): 521-544 JUL 2005 |
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<tr>
<th>Topic for Class:</th>
<th>What Do We Know About Minorities as Elected Officials?</th>
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| Common Reading | Canon Review Article & Title: Does political incorporation matter? The impact of minority mayors over time  
Author(s): Pelissero JP, Holian DB, Tomaka LA  
Source: URBAN AFFAIRS REVIEW 36 (1): 84-92 SEP 2000 & McClain and Stewart Chapter 4 |
| Leader 1 Assign. | Title: Latino representation, it's direct and indirect  
Author(s): Kerr B, Miller W  
| Leader 3 Assign. | Title: Bill sponsorship and intraracial voting among African American representatives  
Author(s): Whitby KJ  
<p>| Leader 4 Assign. | Cobb, MD, Jenkins, JA, “Race and the representation of blacks' interests during reconstruction,” POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY, MAR 2001, VL 54, IS 1, 181-204 |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Topic for Class:</th>
<th>What Do We Know About Minorities as Appointed Officials?</th>
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</thead>
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| Common Reading  | Title: Bureaucracy as a representative institution: Toward a reconciliation of bureaucratic government and democratic theory  
Author(s): Selden SC, Brudney JL, Kellough JE  
Source: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE 42 (3): 717-744 JUL 1998 & McClain and Stewart Chapter 4 |
| Leader 1 Assign. | Asian Americans in the Public Service: Success, Diversity, and Discrimination  
Pan Suk Kim; Gregory B. Lewis  
Stable URL: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0033-3352%28199405%2F06%2954%3A3%3C285%3AAAITEPS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-V |
| Tuesday, April 3rd | |
| Leader 2 Assign. | Title: Institutional dynamics on the US Court of Appeals: Minority representation under panel decision making  
Author(s): Farhang S, Wawro G  
| Leader 3 Assign. | Title: Diversity management: An exploratory assessment of minority group representation in state government  
Author(s): Charles J  
| Leader 4 Assign. | Title: The politics of representation in the US national statistical system: origins of minority population interest group participation  
Author(s): Robbin A  
| Leader 1 Assign. | Title: Race-based coalitions among minority groups - Afro-Caribbean immigrants and African-Americans in New York City  
Author(s): Rogers RR  
| Leader 2 Assign. | Title: The limitations of the deracialization concept in the 2001 Los Angeles mayoral election  
Author(s): Austin SDW, Middleton RT  
Source: POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY 57 (2): 283-293 JUN 2004 |
| Leader 3 Assign. | Title: Tapping motives and dynamics behind campaign contributions - Insights from the Asian American case  
Author(s): Cho WKT  
| Leader 4 Assign. | Title: The impact of office on cross-racial voting - Evidence from the 1996 Milwaukee mayoral election  
Author(s): Longoria T  
Source: URBAN AFFAIRS REVIEW 34 (4): 596-603 MAR 1999 |
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<tr>
<th>Topic for Class:</th>
<th>The Future of Voting Rights Legislation I</th>
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</table>
| Common Reading  | Title: Is section 5 of the Voting Rights Act a victim of its own success?  
Author(s): Issacharoff S  
Source: COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 104 (6): 1710-1731 OCT 2004 |
| Leader 1 Assign.| Title: Language provisions under the Voting Rights Act: How effective are they?  
Author(s): Jones-Correa M  
Source: SOCIAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY 86 (3): 549-564 SEP 2005 |
| Tuesday, April 17th | |
| Leader 2 Assign.| Title: A critical guide to Bush v. Gore scholarship  
Author(s): Hasen RL  
Source: ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL SCIENCE 7: 297-313 2004 |
| Leader 3 Assign.| McLoughlin LP  
Gingles in limbo: Coalitional districts, party primaries and manageable vote dilution claims  
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 80 (1): 312-349 APR 2005 |
| Leader 4 Assign.| Title: Racial identity, electoral structures, and the First Amendment right of association  
Author(s): Charles GUE  
Source: CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW 91 (5): 1209-1280 OCT 2003 |
**Topic for Class:**

The Future of Voting Rights Legislation II

**Common Reading**


Title: America's changing color lines: Immigration, race/ethnicity, and multiracial identification

Author(s): Lee J, Bean FD

Source: ANNUAL REVIEW OF SOCIOLOGY 30: 221-242 2004

**Leader 1 Assign.**

Title: NOT BY MONEY BUT BY VIRTUE WON - VOTE TRAFFICKING AND THE VOTING-RIGHTS SYSTEM

Author(s): KARLAN PS

Source: VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW 80 (7): 1455-1475 OCT 1994

**Leader 2 Assign.**

Title: Resurrecting the white primary

Author(s): Katz ED


**Leader 3 Assign.**

Title: But some are more equal: Race, exclusion, and campaign finance

Author(s): Overton S

Source: TEXAS LAW REVIEW 80 (5): 987-1056 APR 2002

**Leader 4 Assign.**

Title: Connecting minorities to the Swiss Federal system: A frozen conception of representation and the problem of "requisite variety"

Author(s): Papadopoulos Y