

Spring 2003
Wednesday 5-6 periods
(2:50-5:50 p.m.)
Eagleton Drawing Room

Professor Susan Carroll
Office: Eagleton-3rd Floor
Phone: 932-9384, Ext. 235
Email: scarroll@rci.rutgers.edu
Hours: 1:45 - 2:45 Wednesday and
by appointment

POLITICAL SCIENCE 335: WOMEN AND AMERICAN POLITICS

Course Description

This seminar will analyze the participation of women in American political life. The first section of the course will examine women's public roles and the effects of feminism in altering women's public roles in both historical and contemporary contexts. The second section will focus on women's participation in electoral politics as citizens, as party activists, and as candidates for elective office. The third section will analyze women's behavior and influence as officials within governing institutions.

Course Requirements

This will be a very participatory class that will require your active involvement. Consequently, each student is expected to have read **all** required readings **prior to** coming to class and to be prepared to contribute her/his insights to class discussions.

Since the class meets for two consecutive periods, students will be divided into small groups, which will be rotated every few weeks, and for many of the class sessions, one of the two class periods will be devoted to small group discussions. The small group discussions will be structured by questions on the readings which are passed out one week in advance. Students are expected to think about the questions while doing the readings for the week.

This class is offered in conjunction with the Douglass College PLEN (Public Leadership Education Network) Forum. The PLEN Forum provides students with a unique opportunity to hear and learn first-hand from three political women about their experiences and paths to politics. One-half of seven class sessions over the course of the semester will be devoted to PLEN Forum discussions with political women. These sessions are informal, and PLEN speakers expect students to ask lots of questions and engage them in discussion. Students should take notes during PLEN sessions and draw upon the PLEN sessions just as they would draw upon class readings in developing their written assignments for class.

There will be two short papers focusing on class readings/assignments and a take-home final exam. The two short papers will be 4-6 pages in length and due on March 5 and April 16. The final exam will cover course readings, class discussions, and PLEN sessions. The first short paper, the second short paper, the final exam, and class participation will contribute to the final grade in approximate proportions of 20%, 20%, 40%, and 20%, respectively.

Required Readings

There are three required books for the course:

Glenna Matthews, *The Rise of Public Women: Woman's Power and Woman's Place in the United States, 1630-1970* (Oxford, 1994)

Barbara Mikulski et al., *Nine and Counting: The Women of the Senate* (Harper Perennial, 2001)

Eleanor Clift and Tom Brazaitis, *Madam President: Shattering the Last Glass Ceiling* (Scribner, 2000)

Books can be purchased from the Student Co-op Store, Douglass Campus. Online readings (readings with URL addresses) are available at <http://webct.rutgers.edu>. A packet of all other readings can be purchased from Joanne Pfeiffer on the 2nd floor of Eagleton.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

January 22 Introductory Session

Feminism, Activism, and Women's Public Roles

January 29 Historical Perspectives on Women's Political Activism and Public Roles

Matthews, *The Rise of Public Women*

February 5 The Contemporary Women's Movement and Women's Public Roles

Jo Freeman, "The Women's Liberation Movement: Its Origins, Structure, Activities, and Ideas," at <http://www.jofreeman.com/feminism/liberationmov.htm>

"The Struggle for Political Rights," Chapter 1, in Nancy McGlen, Karen O'Connor, Laura van Assendelft, and Wendy Gunther-Canada, *Women, Politics, and American Society*, pp. 23-66

Paula Giddings, *When and Where I Enter*, pp. 299-324, 337-357

PLEN Forum Speaker: Regena Thomas, Secretary of State for New Jersey

February 12 The Contemporary Women's Movement: Is Feminism Still Politically Relevant?

Amy Schriefer, "We've Only Just Begun: Translating Third Wave Theory into Third Wave Activism" at <http://www.gwu.edu/~medusa/thirdwave.html>

"Education," in Nancy McGlen, Karen O'Connor, Laura van Assendelft, and Wendy Gunther-Canada, *Women, Politics, and American Society*, pp. 163-170

"What You Need To Know: Title IX" at <http://womensissues.about.com/library/blwyntktitleix.htm>

Mariah Burton Nelson, "And Now They Tell Us Women Don't Really Like Sports?" *Ms.* December 2002/January 2003, pp. 32-36

"Masters Facing A Major Revolt," *Irish Times*, October 15, 2002

Clifton Brown, "GOLF: At Club in Augusta, Policy of Chairman Remains 'Men Only,'" *New York Times*, November 12, 2002

PLEN Forum Speaker: Deborah Jacobs, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union-New Jersey

February 19 Women's Involvement in Other Forms of Grassroots Activism: The Case of Environmental Activism

Listen to interview with Lois Gibbs about Love Canal at <http://www.entertainmentstudios.com/everywoman/index.asp?ID=1498#>

Visit <http://www.webactive.com/pacifica/demnow/dn980508.html> and click on LOIS GIBBS LOVE CANAL UPDATE - TOXIC DUMPING to listen to a longer interview with Lois Gibbs

Kimberly Fry and Cheryl Lousley, "Girls Just Want to Have Fun with Politics: Out of the Contradictions of Popular Culture, Eco-grrrls Are Rising to Redefine Feminism, Environmentalism, and Political Action," *Canadian Business and Current Affairs*, Spring 2001, pp. 24-28

Andrea Simpson, "Who Hears Their Cry? African American Women and the Fight for Environmental Justice in Memphis, Tennessee," in Joni Adamson, Mei Mei Evans, and Rachel Stein, eds. *The Environmental Justice Reader*, pp. 82-104

Participation in Electoral Politics

February 26 Women as Citizens: Participation in Electoral Politics

M. Margaret Conway, Gertrude A. Steuernagel, and David W. Ahern, "Women's Political Participation," Chapter 5, in *Women and Political Participation*, pp. 77-94

Pei-Te Lien, "Linking Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Gender: Asian American Women and Political Participation," Chapter 6, in *The Making of Asian America through Political Participation*, pp. 198-226

Jewel L. Prestage, "In Quest of African American Political Women," *The Annals*, 515 (May 1991), pp. 88-103

"Political Involvement," in Nancy McGlen, Karen O'Connor, Laura van Assendelft, and Wendy Gunther-Canada, *Women, Politics, and American Society*, pp. 78-86

March 5 Women as Citizens: The Gender Gap in Public Opinion and Voting

Susan J. Carroll, "Women's Autonomy and the Gender Gap: 1980 and 1982," in Carol Mueller (ed.), *The Politics of the Gender Gap*, pp. 236-257

Cal Clark and Janet Clark, "The Gender Gap in 1996: More Meaning Than a 'Revenge of the Soccer Moms,'" in Lois Duke Whitaker (ed.), *Women in Politics: Outsiders or Insiders?*, pp. 68-84

Carol Hardy-Fanta, "A Latino Gender Gap? Evidence from the 1996 Election," at <http://www.gaston.umb.edu/publications/gr/5xxnl/5nl.articles/505research.html>

Anna Greenberg, "Where Were the Women?" *The Nation*, December 30, 2002 at <http://www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20021230&s=greenberg>

- March 12 Women and Political Parties: Historical Perspectives
 Kristi Andersen, "Women in Party Politics," Chapter 4, in *After Suffrage: Women in Partisan and Electoral Politics before the New Deal*, pp. 77-109.
 Anne N. Costain, "After Reagan: New Party Attitudes Toward Gender," *The Annals*, 515 (May 1991), pp. 114-125
 Jo Freeman, "Whom You Know versus Whom You Represent: Feminist Influence in the Democratic and Republican Parties," at <http://www.jofreeman.com/conventions/feminfluence.htm>
- PLEN Forum Speaker: Regena Thomas, Secretary of State for New Jersey**
- March 19 Spring Recess -- No Class
- March 26 Women and Political Parties: Contemporary Perspectives
 Jo Freeman, "Feminism vs. Family Values: Women at the 1992 Democratic and Republican Conventions," at <http://www.jofreeman.com/conventions/1992conven.htm>
 Jo Freeman, "Lots of Show but Little Substance at the 2000 Republican and Democratic Conventions," at <http://www.jofreeman.com/conventions/2000conven.htm>
- April 2 Women as Candidates
 Richard L. Fox, "Gender and Congressional Elections," in Sue Tolleson-Rinehart and Jyl J. Josephson, *Gender and American Politics*, pp. 227-256
 Irene Natividad, "Women of Color and the Campaign Trail," in Paula Ries and Anne J. Stone, *The American Woman 1992-93*, pp. 127-148
 Elizabeth Adell Cox, "Voter Reaction to Women Candidates," in Sue Thomas and Clyde Wilcox (eds.), *Women and Elective Office: Past, Present, and Future*, pp. 56-72
 Brigid C. Harrison, "Women and Political Action Committees," Chapter 4, in *Women in American Politics*, pp. 78-95
- PLEN Forum Speaker: Marge Roukema, Former Congresswoman, Fifth District of New Jersey**

Women in Governing Institutions

- April 9 Women in Legislatures: Do They Make a Difference?--Part I
 Mikulski et al., *Nine and Counting*
- PLEN Forum Speaker: Deborah Jacobs, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union--New Jersey**

- April 16 Women in Legislatures: Do They Make a Difference?–Part II
 Susan J. Carroll, “Representing Women: Congresswomen’s Perceptions of Their Representational Roles,” in Cindy Simon Rosenthal (ed.), *Women Transforming Congress*, pp. 51-74 at <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/Facts.html#research>
 Susan J. Carroll, “Representing Women: Women State Legislators as Agents of Policy-Related Change,” in Susan J. Carroll (ed.), *The Impact of Women in Public Office*, pp. 3-21
 Lyn Kathlene, “In a Different Voice: Women and the Policy Process,” in Sue Thomas and Clyde Wilcox (eds.), *Women and Elective Office: Past, Present, and Future*, pp. 188-202
 Edith J. Barrett, “Black Women in State Legislatures: The Relationship of Race and Gender to the Legislative Experience,” in Susan J. Carroll (ed.), *The Impact of Women in Public Office*, pp. 185-204
PLEN Forum Speaker: Marge Roukema, Former Congresswoman, Fifth District of New Jersey
- April 23 Women as Chief Executives: A Woman President?
 Clift and Brazaitis, *Madam President*
Final PLEN Forum Session with All Three Speakers
- April 30 Other Frontiers for Women in Politics: The Judiciary, Presidential Appointees, and the Foreign Policy Establishment
 Susan Gluck Mezey, “Gender and the Federal Judiciary,” in Sue Tolleson-Rinehart and Jyl J. Josephson, *Gender and American Politics*, pp. 205-226
 Janet M. Martin, “Women Who Govern: The President’s Appointments,” in MaryAnne Borrelli and Janet M. Martin, *The Other Elites: Women, Politics, and Power in the Executive Branch*, pp. 51-72
 Nancy E. McGlen and Meredith Reid Sarkees, “Foreign Policy Decision Makers: The Impact of Gender,” in Susan J. Carroll (ed.), *The Impact of Women in Public Office*, pp. 117-148