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American Government and Politics Today

BRIEF EDITION
2004–2005

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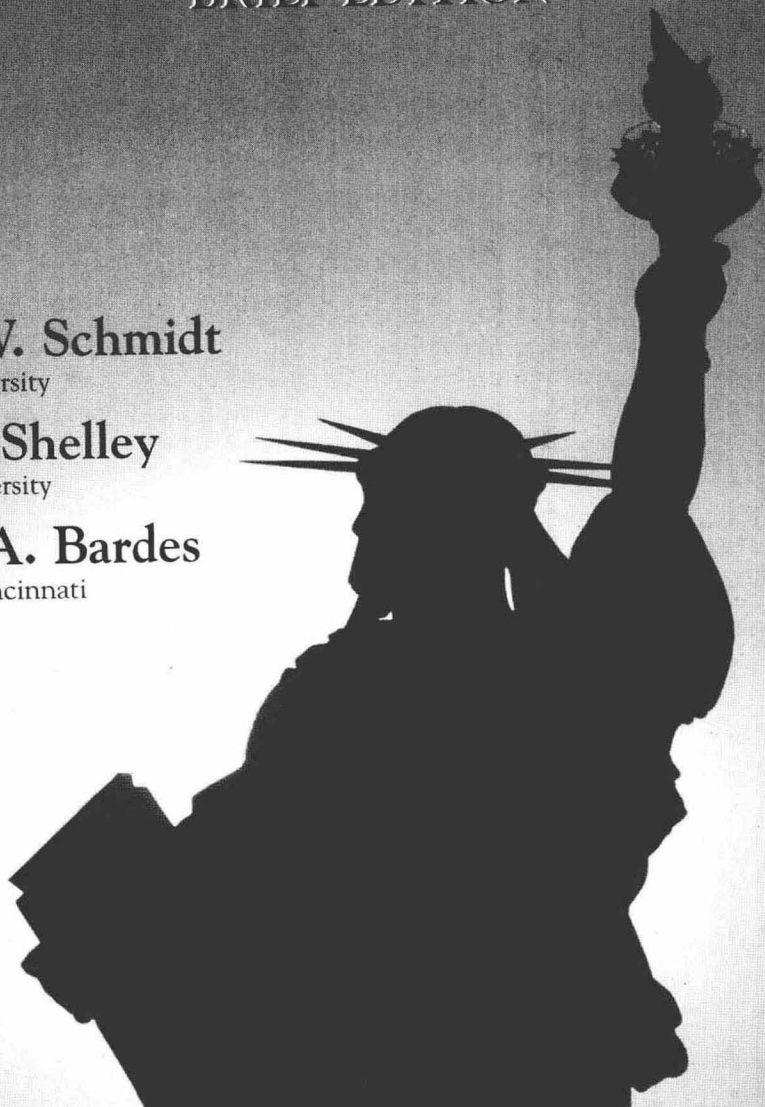


American
Government
and Politics
2004 - 2005
BRIEF EDITION Today

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American Government and Politics Today: 2004–2005 Brief Edition

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Preface

The terrorist acts of September 11, 2001, marked a pivotal moment for the American people, their government, and their political system. Throughout this Brief Edition of *American Government and Politics Today*, you will read about how our government's responses to the events of that day have affected the course of American government and politics. The war on terrorism has meant tightened domestic security, and many citizens have expressed concerns over the effect of these measures on our civil rights and liberties. Wars against terrorist-friendly governments in Afghanistan and Iraq have raised major questions about what the United States should do to help rebuild those countries. These and other aspects of the war on terrorism are addressed not only in the text of this edition but also in a special new feature entitled *America's Security* that appears in many chapters.

This edition is basically a condensed and updated version of the larger editions of *American Government and Politics Today*. It has been created specifically for those of you who want, for reasons of course length or design, a text that presents the fundamental components of the American political system while retaining the quality and readability of the larger editions. You will find that this edition is up to date in every respect. The text, figures, tables, and all pedagogical features are current so that your students have the latest available data. We have also included coverage of all recently issued laws, regulations, and court decisions that have—or will have—a significant impact on American society and our political system.

As with the larger editions, this volume places a major emphasis on political participation and involvement. Our *At Issue* features present controversial issues that can elicit classroom debate, and each one ends with a *For Critical Analysis* question that encourages students to think critically about a specific aspect of the issue under discussion. Finally, we have added for this edition a special new feature entitled *Making a Difference* that gives students practical information on political participation and involvement.

The Most Complete Web Connection

While this edition may be physically brief, its scope is enlarged by numerous resources that are available on the World Wide Web. Your students can access these resources to gain a fuller understanding of the political issues dominating today's politics. Students can begin their journey by accessing a Web site specific to the Brief Edition:

<http://politicalscience.wadsworth.com/schmidtbrief2004>

At this address, students will find:

- **Internet Activities**—three exercises for each chapter. Each activity takes the student to a specific online site for research. The activities also provide essay questions that can be automatically e-mailed to the instructor.
- **The Citizen's Survival Guide**—answers questions such as “How do I vote?” and “Who can vote?”
- **Issues in the News**—highlights key issues, updated monthly.
- **Current Events Quiz**
- **Thinking Globally, Acting Locally**
- **English/Spanish Glossary**
- **Links to political science Web sites**
- **InfoTrac American Government Reader**—a list of key words by topic that makes searching in InfoTrac a breeze.
- **Career Resources**
- **American Government Internet Activities**—provides activities that take students through the best sites available on the Web.
- **InfoTrac College Edition**—an online search engine that will take the student exactly where he or she needs to go to find relevant information, including full-text articles in important political science journals and other sources. A special icon in the text margin indicates that InfoTrac will provide information and links relating to the particular topic being discussed in the text.
- **InfoTrac College Edition Student Guide for Political Science**—shows students how to use InfoTrac College Edition, searching tips, and useful key-word search terms and suggestions by subject area.

High-Interest Features

In this edition, we have included two special features designed to pique the student's interest. These features are interspersed throughout the text.

At Issue Features

Each *At Issue* feature focuses on a controversial topic and concludes with a *For Critical Analysis* question to invite critical thinking. Some examples of the *At Issue* topics are the following:

- Should National Security Outweigh Civil Liberties? (Chapter 1).
- Same-Sex Marriages (Chapter 3).

- Does the Endangered Species Act Cause More Harm Than It Prevents? (Chapter 11).
- The Debate over Marijuana (Chapter 13).
- Should the United States Abandon the UN and Go It Alone? (Chapter 14).

America's Security Features

Each *America's Security* feature looks at an issue raised by the events of 9/11 and our government's responses to the terrorist attacks. Each feature ends with a *Critical Analysis* question. Some of the topics addressed in these features are listed here.

- Military Tribunals for Suspected Terrorists (Chapter 2).
- Should We Shut the Immigration Door? (Chapter 5).
- Was the Airline Bailout Necessary? (Chapter 9).
- The President's Role in Wartime (Chapter 10).
- Nuclear Proliferation and Terrorists (Chapter 14).

Making a Difference Features

Finally, at the end of every chapter, a new feature titled *Making a Difference* enhances our emphasis on participation. These features provide the student with information useful for active citizenship. We give the students tips on how to find information on issues, how to learn about their elected representatives, how to join and participate in advocacy organizations, how to protect their civil rights and liberties, and more.

Other Special Pedagogical Aids

The 2004–2005 Brief Edition of *American Government and Politics Today* retains many of the pedagogical aids and features of the larger editions, including the following:

- **Key Terms**—Important terms that are boldfaced and defined in the text when they are first used. These terms are defined in the text margins, listed at the end of the chapter with the page numbers on which they appear, and included in the Glossary at the back of the book.
- **Chapter Summary**—A point-by-point summary of the chapter text.
- **Selected Print and Electronic Resources**—Suggested readings and media resources on topics covered in the chapter text.
- **Logging On**—A section at the end of each chapter that lists and briefly describes important Web sites relating to topics covered in the chapter.
- **Using the Internet for Political Analysis**—A feature concluding each chapter that takes the student to the Internet Activities mentioned earlier and to other resources for a better understanding of American government.

Appendices

The Brief Edition of *American Government and Politics Today* includes, as appendices, both the Declaration of Independence (Appendix A) and the U.S. Constitution (Appendix B). The text of the Constitution has been annotated to help students

understand the meaning and significance of the various provisions in this important document. New to this edition is an appendix presenting *The Federalist Papers* No. 10 and No. 51. These selections are also annotated to help students grasp their importance in understanding the American philosophy of government.

A Complete Supplements Package for Instructors

We are proud to be the authors of a text that has the most complete, accessible, and fully integrated supplements package on the market. The text, along with the supplements listed below, constitute a total learning/teaching package for you and your students. For further information on any of these supplements, contact your West/Wadsworth/Thomson Learning sales representative.

Instructor's Resource CD-ROM

This invaluable resource contains the *Instructor's Manual*, the Test Bank, ExamView, and text-specific Microsoft PowerPoint slides.

- **Instructor's Manual**—includes learning objectives, outlines, teaching suggestions, examples, presentation suggestions, and a wealth of ideas for supplementing your lectures. It also contains references to the InfoTrac articles and other supplemental materials, and correlations to the CCN video clips and to the acetate package (see below).
- **Test Bank**—gives you a strong mix of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions.
- **ExamView**—Create, deliver, and customize text-specific tests and study guides (both print and online) in minutes with this easy-to-use assessment and tutorial system. You can build tests of up to 250 questions using up to 12 question types, enter an unlimited number of new questions, or edit existing questions.

Other Supplements for Instructors

- **American Government Transparency Acetate Package**—Illustrate and enhance your lectures with more than seventy full-color acetates featuring diagrams, charts, tables, and figures from the text and additional sources.
- **Multimedia Manager for Political Science 2004**—If you would rather display text images electronically, you can! This powerful set includes images from the transparency package above on multiplatform CD-ROM. This is a Microsoft PowerPoint Link Tool, and is available for Windows and Macintosh.
- **Political Science Video Library**—An exciting collection of videos to enrich your lectures and extend discussions of text materials.
- **Video Case Studies in American Government**—Twelve new video case studies, free to instructors, serve as lecture launchers for classroom use. Each case study covers a contemporary policy issue and concludes with questions for classroom discussion. A free instructor's manual provides suggestions on how to best use this resource.

- **CNN Today: American Government Today**—Get students involved, excited, and engaged with these four to six-minute video clips featuring point-counterpoint debates on current and controversial issues. Four tapes are available, ranging from forty-five to sixty minutes in length. Topics include the Internet and free speech, negative campaign ads, gun control, executive privilege, the death penalty in the United States, the fight against terrorism, and the elections of 2000 and 2002.
- **America's New War: CNN Looks at Terrorism**—This great discussion starter includes sixteen two- to five-minute segments featuring news footage, commentary, and speeches dealing with the terrorist attacks on U.S. targets throughout the world. Topics include anthrax and biological warfare, new security measures, Osama bin Laden, al Qaeda, asset freezing, homeland defense, and more.

Supplements for Students

- **Study Guide**—The Study Guide has been updated and is now offered free on the text Web site. The Study Guide includes chapter summaries, key terms, and practice exams.
- **Readings in American Government, Fourth Edition**—Written by Steffen W. Schmidt, Mack C. Shelley, and Jane E. Clayton. This volume contains numerous readings that deal with controversial issues, legal conflicts, and ethical judgment calls directly related to academia and students. The reader is free when bundled with this text.
- **American Government: Using MicroCase ExplorIt, Eighth Edition**—This award-winning workbook contains fifteen computer-based assignments, MicroCase's Student ExplorIt software, and the highest-quality data sets available to professional researchers. Each assignment is packed with dozens of issues that are guaranteed to grab students' interest.
- **An Introduction to Critical Thinking and Writing in American Politics**—Helps students question and think critically about the political process and write a successful research paper. This handy booklet is filled with useful rules, guidelines, and techniques.
- **Grade Improvement: Taking Charge of Your Learning Video**—An upbeat video that gives first-year and reentry college students tips on how to better enjoy success in school.
- **The College Survival Guide: Hints and References to Aid College Students**—By Bruce M. Rowe.
- **America at Odds CD-ROM**—The America at Odds CD-ROM will engage students in the study of American government through twenty interactive modules covering enduring and multidimensional issues in American politics. These issues are presented in a rich mix of media including digital video and audio, photos, graphics, text, and Internet technology.
- **InfoTrac College Edition Student Guide for Political Science**—Shows students how to use InfoTrac College Edition, searching tips, and useful key-word search terms and suggestions by subject area.

- **American Government Internet Activities, Third Edition**—Contains activities for all major topics in the text. Students are asked to surf the Web to obtain answers to thought-provoking questions.
- **HITS on the Web: Political Science**—An exciting, class-tested product specially designed to help students use the Internet for studying, conducting research, and completing assignments. This guide provides quick links to hundreds of valuable online resources: free interactive study aids, course quizzing, exercises to reinforce student knowledge, Web activities, up-to-date topical content, and related materials.
- **Election 2002: An American Government Supplement**—Election 2002 is a unique supplemental booklet with analysis that includes maps, charts, and graphs. Some factors discussed by the authors are the unpredictable national political climate after September 11 and subsequent economic slowdown, how congressional redistricting may affect the partisan control of the House and Senate, and the impact of the thirty-two gubernatorial elections across the country. The use of real examples in this election booklet makes the concepts covered come alive.
- **9/11: The Giant Awakens**—A short text that puts the tragic events of 9/11 into political context. The focus is on how the American political system is responding to the challenges posed by the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The author looks at how the major institutions, such as the presidency, the Congress, and our system of civil liberties and rights, is changing in response to this challenge. The book also provides historical context by considering how other major crises have been handled.
- **Handbook of Selected Court Cases**—Includes over thirty Supreme Court cases.
- **Handbook of Selected Legislation and Other Documents**—Includes excerpts from twelve laws passed by the U.S. Congress that have had a significant impact on American politics.
- **American Government: Readings and Responses**—Monica Bauer, Metropolitan State College of Denver, has assembled an impressive selection of up-to-date, universally themed readings to illustrate the main debates of key issues in American government. The readings cover both pro and con positions on various issues, and major writers from right, left, and center are represented. In a unique feature, the author includes an edited dialogue among students of varying political orientations. This anthology also includes Web site selections, press releases, congressional testimony, and student-led interviews with major political figures.
- **Thinking Globally, Acting Locally**—By John Soares. Designed to help students get involved and become active citizens. Topics include writing letters to the editor, volunteering, changing laws, and registering to vote.

For Users of the Previous Edition

We thought that those of you who have been using the Brief Edition of *American Government and Politics Today* would like to know what major changes have been made for the 2004–2005 Brief Edition. Generally, we have rewritten much of the text; added numerous new features, as described on previous pages; and updated the

text to reflect the latest developments in the war on terrorism. Each chapter contains updated information and tabular data, and, whenever feasible, the most current information available on the problems facing the nation. The effects of emerging technology, including the Internet, are emphasized throughout. To draw student attention, we make more use of political cartoons. In addition, we have made other significant changes in many chapters, as described next.

- Chapter 1 (The Foundations of American Government)—This chapter has been almost completely rewritten to better capture the student's interest. It begins by examining the concepts of order and liberty in the context of post-war Iraq. There is new material on theories of American politics. The concluding section on ideology now separates social liberalism and conservatism from economic liberalism and conservatism for a more detailed analysis.
- Chapter 3 (Federalism)—We now include a section on state governments.
- Chapter 4 (Civil Liberties)—We have added a new, more compelling introduction.
- Chapter 6 (Public Opinion, Political Socialization, and the Media)—The chapter has new analyses of the impact of religion and economic class on political socialization. These updates reflect the expanded treatment of ideology in Chapter 1.
- Chapter 7 (Interest Groups and Political Parties)—We have included additional material on campaign finance. The history of political parties in the United States has been completely rewritten to more fully describe the impact of cultural and economic factors on the evolving two-party system. In particular, we note the importance of cultural factors in the post-Civil War period and the current era. The discussion of the two-party system now contrasts the American and European experiences more strongly.
- Chapter 8 (Campaigns, Elections, and Voting Behavior)—We have made major updates to the discussion of voting behavior based on the most recent research.
- Chapter 9 (The Congress)—The chapter contains new material on congressional committees.
- Chapter 10 (The Presidency)—The text has been updated to describe more fully the administration of President George W. Bush.
- Chapter 11 (The Bureaucracy)—The chapter has a new, more lively introduction. The treatment of the history of the civil service has been improved.
- Chapter 13 (Domestic and Economic Policy)—We have added new material on the war against terrorism and a new discussion of federal drug policy. The discussions of welfare and Social Security have been revised to improve student understanding of these issues.
- Chapter 14 (Foreign Policy)—The chapter has been revised to reflect the dramatic developments in foreign policy in the years following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In addition, the discussion of Chinese-American relations has been updated, and the sections on the Middle East, the Balkans, and Africa have been rewritten to bring out more completely the underlying causes of conflict in these regions.

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Any errors, of course, remain our own. We welcome comments from instructors and students alike. Suggestions that we have received on previous editions have helped us to improve this text and to adapt it to the changing needs of instructors and students.

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