

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

N I N T H E D I T I O N



SUSAN WELCH • JOHN GRUHL • JOHN COMER • SUSAN RIGDON

NINTH EDITION

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

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PREFACE

A great deal has happened in American politics since our last edition. The attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon dramatically affected the politics and the psyche of the nation. The reaction to 9/11 gave the administration new stature and popularity at home and thus has shaped both domestic and foreign politics since then.

The fiasco over the 2000 presidential election is another major event that had immediate as well as longer-term effects on American politics. This series of events offers an opportunity to understand not just the role of the Electoral College but also the importance of the judiciary and the role of the states in our federal system.

A third major set of events since our last edition is the widespread corruption and looting of stockholders uncovered in several of America's major corporations. Though the focus of most news coverage has been on private corruption, these crises have implications for campaign finance laws, the federal government's role in regulation of the economy, and the government's ability to protect unsuspecting shareholders and employees of major corporations.

But despite these striking events, not all has changed. Much of American politics has reverted to its pre-9/11 form. Popular esteem for American political institutions grew after 9/11 but then dropped to pre-9/11 levels as months went by. Sales of flags boomed, and the national anthem was played at every occasion. But despite this surge in the manifestation of patriotic sentiment, the public remains suspicious of, if not outright negative toward, politics and politicians. Yet the role of government in our lives remains crucial, as 9/11 and the later corporate scandals so starkly demonstrated.

The ninth edition of our text, *American Government*, tries, as did the previous editions, to demon-

strate to students why government is important and to interest students in learning about the exciting, important, and controversial issues in American public life. We believe an introductory course succeeds if most students develop an understanding of major ideas, an interest in learning more about American government, and an ability to begin to understand and evaluate the news they hear about American political issues. Although a firm grounding in the essential "nuts and bolts" of American government is crucial, other approaches are helpful in motivating students' interest in government.

We offer the essentials of American government, but we also want the student to understand why (and sometimes how) these important features have evolved, their impact on government and individuals, and why they are controversial (if they are) and worth learning about.

For example, we prefer students to leave the course remembering why government tries to regulate corporations, how it does so, and the political factors that lead to stronger or weaker regulations rather than specific regulatory acts. The latter will change or soon be forgotten, but understanding the "whys" will help the student understand the issues long after the course is over.

We have also tried to interest students by describing and discussing the impact of various features of government. For example, students who do not understand why learning about voter registration laws is important may "see the light" when they understand the link between such laws and low voter turnout. Therefore, a particular emphasis throughout the book is on the *impact* of government: how individual features of government affect its responsiveness to different groups (in Lasswell's terms, "Who gets what and

why?”). We realize that nothing in American politics is simple; rarely does one feature of government produce, by itself, a clear outcome. Nevertheless, we think that students will be more willing to learn about government if they see some relationships between how government operates and the impact it has on them as American citizens.

The Organization and Contents of the Book

While the basic organization of American government books is fairly standard, our text has a unique chapter on money and politics and a half-chapter on environmental politics. Other features include a civil rights chapter that integrates a thorough treatment of constitutional issues concerning minorities and women, a discussion of the civil rights and women's rights movements, and contemporary research on the political status of these groups. We include in this chapter the special legal problems of Hispanics and Native Americans.

Substantive policy chapters reinforce the emphasis on the impact of government action. The chapter on social welfare and health policy now includes major sections on types of policies: income support programs, health care programs, other subsidized services (including education, insurance, mortgages, and agriculture), and tax subsidies. A chapter on economic policymaking complements the section on budgeting found in the chapter on Congress. The treatment of economic policy highlights the relationship between politics and the economy, and it should help the student better understand issues such as the deficit, inflation, and unemployment. The chapter on regulation emphasizes the underlying rationale for regulation and its problems and benefits, with special emphasis on environmental regulation. The chapter on foreign policy places current foreign policy issues in the context of the history of our foreign policy aims, especially since World War II, and features new issues arising in the post-Cold War world.

Some instructors will prefer not to use any of the policy chapters. The book stands as a whole without them, as many policy examples are integrated into the rest of the text. Different combinations of the policy chapters may also be used, as each chapter is independent.

The organization of the book is straightforward. After material on democracy, the Constitution, and federalism, the book covers linkages, including money and politics, then institutions, and finally policy. Civil liberties and rights are treated after the chapter on the judiciary.

But the book is flexible enough that instructors can modify the order of the chapters. Some instructors will

prefer to cover institutions before process. Others may prefer to discuss civil liberties and rights when discussing the Constitution.

Changes in the Ninth Edition

The attack on 9/11, the 2000 election fiasco, the Bush administration, and now the recapture of the U.S. Senate by the Republicans have created many new issues for analysts of American government. We explore these recent phenomena in light of the fundamentals about American government that students should learn.

We highlight the effect of 9/11 by adding a new feature in most chapters: “After 9/11,” described below under “Special Features.” Other revisions also allow us to explore the impact of 9/11. For example, the controversies over the president's Homeland Security Department are featured in the bureaucracy and foreign policy chapters.

The 2000 election and especially its aftermath are treated extensively through an analysis of the role of the media in the Florida recount in the media chapter, exploration of the Gore and Bush postelection strategies in the elections chapter, and the role of the Supreme Court in the election outcome in the judiciary chapter. In the elections chapter, we also explore several aspects of election laws that affected the Florida outcome.

The role of government in the corporate scandals of 2002 is featured in the chapter on money and politics as well as in the regulation and environmental policy chapter. We explore the influence of the accounting lobby and other major corporate lobbies on campaign funding, and in turn, the impact of that funding on the way members of Congress seek to influence regulatory agencies.

The text of every chapter has been substantially revised. Throughout we have also replaced photos and cartoons to complement the new material and to give students a chance to learn through graphic as well as textual material. Discussions of the Bush administration, its organization, operation, and policies are integrated into relevant portions throughout the book. As always, we have updated the judiciary, civil liberties, and civil rights chapters to incorporate new Supreme Court decisions. Chapter 15, “Civil Rights,” also includes a new treatment of how Arabs and Arab Americans have been scrutinized in the post-9/11 environment and a focus on discrimination against homosexuals.

Of course, all the policy chapters have been revised to reflect new public policy developments. The economic policy chapter covers the economic downturn of the past two years and how government policy is or is

not coping with it. The social welfare chapter has been reorganized to reflect economic changes, too. The foreign policy chapter contains a substantial discussion of U.S. policy toward Iraq in the context of presidential foreign policy decision making.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to write this ninth edition and to improve the text further in ways suggested by our students and readers. We have been extremely pleased by the reaction of instructors and students to our first eight editions. We were especially gratified to have won three times the American Government Textbook Award from the Women's Caucus for Political Science of the American Political Science Association.

Special Features

Student interest and analytic abilities grow when confronted with a clash of views about important issues. Today there is much discussion about how to stimulate the critical thinking abilities of students. Beginning with the first edition, our text has provided features especially designed to do this by involving students in the controversies—and excitement—of American politics.

You Are There

Each chapter opens with a scenario called “You Are There.” In a page or two, the student reads about a real-life political dilemma faced by a public official or a private citizen involved in a controversial issue. Students are asked to put themselves in that individual's shoes, to weigh the pros and cons, and to decide what should be done. The instructor may want to poll the entire class and use the “You Are There” as a basis for class discussion. In the “Epilogue” at the end of the chapter, we reveal the actual decision and discuss it in light of the ideas presented in the chapter.

Nearly two-thirds of the “You Are There” features in this edition are new. They focus on contemporary topics such as, for example, the controversy over the party switch of Senator Jeffords (Chapter 7), the Florida election strategies of the presidential candidates (Chapter 8), the impeachment controversy in Congress (Chapter 10), whether the FBI should be part of a homeland security department (Chapter 12), whether the Boy Scouts can discriminate against homosexuals (Chapter 14), and whether Congress should give the president a blank check to invade Iraq (Chapter 19).

After 9/11

Each of these new features highlights an issue posed by 9/11 and its aftermath that is relevant to the chapter's subject. For example, in the introductory chapter, we

feature the impact of 9/11 on immigration policy; in the interest group chapter, we discuss how lobbyists used 9/11 to further their existing agendas; in the bureaucracy chapter, we explore government's new emphasis on secrecy; in the civil liberties chapter, we examine how 9/11 fears have affected the civil liberties of Americans.

American Diversity

In many chapters, “American Diversity” boxes illustrate the impact of the social diversity of the American population on political life. These boxes help students understand how a variety of backgrounds and attitudes shapes views of politics and positions on issues.

Boxes

In each chapter, several boxes highlighting interesting aspects of American politics draw the students into the material. Many illustrate how government and politics really work in a particular situation—how a corporation lobbies for government benefits, how a seemingly powerless group is able to organize for political action, how interest groups solicit money by mail, and how political polls are done—while others highlight features of government that may be of particular interest to students—how ethnicity shapes voting behavior and how teen pregnancies and abortions affect the abortion debate.

Other Features

Several other features also help students organize their study.

Outline

Each chapter begins with an outline of its contents.

Key Terms

Key terms are boldfaced within the text and listed at the end of each chapter and in the glossary.

Further Reading

A brief, annotated list of further readings contains works that might be useful to a student doing research or looking for additional material.

Electronic Resources

Each chapter lists addresses of particularly interesting or useful sites on the Internet that relate directly to the topics covered in the chapter.

InfoTrac College Edition®

At the end of each chapter are lists of suggested topic-related articles that they can access in InfoTrac College Edition's extensive online library of important political science and other popular sources.

American Government Resources

A reminder for students to visit the Wadsworth American Government Resources Web site, with its many helpful tools, appears at the end of each chapter.

Ancillaries for Instructors

NEW!

Instructor's Resource Guide CD-ROM

This instructor's resource provides a wealth of materials available electronically, including the full Instructor's Manual, ExamView, a Video Case Study Instructor's Manual, PowerPoint images of new graphics in the text, a resource integration guide, interactive timelines, and InfoTrac activities.

Instructor's Manual

Corresponding to each text chapter, every chapter in the manual contains chapter outlines, suggested assignments, recommended Internet sites, and an extensive section correlating the chapter's content to other components of the complete ancillary package for this text, including relevant InfoTrac articles, transparencies, PowerPoint slides, and clips from the Political Science Video Library (including CNN). One version of the Instructor's Manual accompanies both versions of this text.

Test Bank

A large selection of test items appears here, including multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, short-answer, and essay questions. One version of the Test Bank accompanies both versions of the text.

ExamView® Computerized Testing for Windows and Macintosh

Create, deliver, and customize tests and study guides (both print and online) in minutes with this easy-to-use assessment and tutorial system. ExamView offers both a Quick Test Wizard and an Online Test Wizard that guide instructors step by step through the process of creating tests, while its unique "WYSIWYG" capability allows users to see the test they are creating on the screen exactly as it will print or display online. You can build tests of up to 250 questions using up to twelve question types. Using ExamView's complete word-processing capabilities, users can enter an unlimited number of new

questions or edit existing questions. ExamView is available on the *Instructor's Resource Guide* CD-ROM.

American Government Transparency Acetate Package, 2004 Edition

Includes more than 165 full-color acetates (tables, charts, and figures from the text and additional sources).

Multimedia Manager for Political Science: A Microsoft PowerPoint Link Tool

An advanced PowerPoint presentation tool containing text-specific lecture outlines, figures, and images that allows instructors to deliver dynamic lectures quickly. In addition, it provides the flexibility to customize each presentation by editing what we have provided or by adding a personal collection of slides, videos, and animations. All of the acetates and selected photos have also been incorporated into each of the lectures.

CNN Today Videos for American Government

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NEW!

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NEW!

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Wadsworth Political Science Video Library

So many exciting new videos . . . so many great ways to enrich your lectures and spark discussion of the material in this text. Your Wadsworth/Thomson represen-

tative will be happy to provide details on our video policy by adoption size.

Ancillaries for Instructors and Students

Book-Specific Web Site

Easily accessible from the Wadsworth Political Science Resource Center at <http://politicalscience.wadsworth.com>, this site is the ultimate in interactive learning. Linking online material to the text at every opportunity, it includes the following:

- Interactive quizzes for each chapter where students can self-assess and review their knowledge
- Interactive timelines
- Hypercontents for each chapter—an extensive hypertext list of sites that provide reviews of related material, supplemental media, and chapter-related news and research
- Simulations that encourage students to role-play various political actors
- Video case studies
- Flashcards
- InfoTrac exercises
- Internet exercises based on the “You Are There” features in the text
- The instructor’s resource integration guide
- Learning objectives

NEW!

Wadsworth American Government Resource Center

By linking each of eighteen American government topic areas to eight different types of activities, this site actively involves students in the course and in civic participation. The activities include simulations, participation activities, MicroCase exercises, video clips, the InfoTrac College Edition Reader, primary and secondary source documents, Internet activities, and more links.

InfoTrac® College Edition

Free access to an extensive online library of current articles! Available exclusively from Wadsworth/Thomson Learning, four months of access to the InfoTrac College Edition library is included *free* to adopters and their students. Featuring thousands of full-length articles (not abstracts) from such publications as *National*

Review, *Washington Monthly*, and many others, this online resource opens new worlds of information for your students.

WebTutor™

Takes your course beyond classroom boundaries! Rich with content for your American government course, this Web-based teaching and learning tool includes course management, study/mastery, and communication tools. Use WebTutor to provide virtual office hours, post your syllabus, and track student progress with WebTutor’s quizzing material. For students, WebTutor offers real-time access to interactive online tutorials and simulations, practice quizzes, and Web links—all correlated to *American Government* and *Understanding American Government*. Available in WebCT and Blackboard.

NEW!

MyCourse 2.0

Whether easy-to-use tools to build a course Web site or the content to fill it, MyCourse 2.0 offers a simple solution for custom Web site design that allows instructors to assign, track, and report on student progress; load a syllabus; and more.

Student Resources

NEW!

American Government: Using MicroCase Explorer, Eighth Edition

Windows-compatible package that Includes a CD-ROM and workbook. Students make their own decisions about the issues as they analyze and interpret current NES and GSS data.

America at Odds CD-ROM

Your students actually participate in American politics with the twenty interactive modules in this CD-ROM as they research the issues, discuss ideas, formulate opinions, and interpret data! Features a rich mix of media, including digital video and audio, photos, graphics, and Internet technology.

American Government: Readings and Responses

By Monica Bauer. A wonderful collection of readings from prominent writers, plus “Chat Room” conversations with students who debate the topics in the readings.

Study Guide

Features (in each chapter) a chapter summary; key terms, and fill-in-the blank, true/false, multiple-choice, and short essay questions.

NEW!

Practice Tests

Twenty-five multiple-choice items for each chapter of the text allow students to prepare for tests using items similar to those instructors may use.

NEW!

9/11: The Giant Awakens

By Jeremy Meyer. Focuses on how the American political system is responding to the challenges posed by the 9/11 attacks.

Critical Thinking and American Government, Second Edition

By Kent M. Brudney, John H. Carver, and Mark E. Weber. Provides information and exercises that help students hone the skills necessary for interpreting and analyzing American government issues.

Thinking Globally, Acting Locally

By John Soares. Designed to help students get involved and become active citizens. Topics include tips for writing letters to the editor, volunteering, how to change laws, and registering to vote.

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.

An Introduction to Critical Thinking and Writing in American Politics

Introduces a number of critical thinking and writing techniques, helping students make better use of the information they receive in class and in the text.

InfoTrac College Edition Student Guide for Political Science

Helps students make the most of the InfoTrac database available with their textbook, including suggested keyword search terms for political science.

The Handbook of Selected Court Cases

Includes more than thirty Supreme Court cases.

The Handbook of Selected Legislation and Other Documents

Features excerpts from twelve laws passed by the U.S. Congress that have had a significant impact on American politics.

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BRIEF CONTENTS

PART ONE

The American System

- 1 *American Democracy* 2
- 2 *The Constitution* 22
- 3 *Federalism and the Growth of Government* 50

PART TWO

Links between People and Government

- 4 *Public Opinion* 78
- 5 *News Media* 108
- 6 *Interest Groups* 144
- 7 *Political Parties* 176
- 8 *Elections* 206
- 9 *Money and Politics* 250

PART THREE

Institutions

- 10 *Congress* 278
- 11 *The Presidency* 316
- 12 *The Bureaucracy* 358
- 13 *The Judiciary* 388

PART FOUR

Civil Liberties and Rights

- 14 *Civil Liberties* 420
- 15 *Civil Rights* 460

PART FIVE

Public Policies

- 16 *Economic Policy* 504
- 17 *Social Welfare and Health Policy* 536
- 18 *Regulation and Environmental Policy* 562
- 19 *Foreign Policy* 598

CONTENTS

Preface xiii

About the Authors xxi

PART ONE

The American System

CHAPTER 1

American Democracy 2

YOU ARE THERE *Who, Me?* 3

The American People 5

Immigration and Ethnic Diversity 5

Immigration and Political Cleavage 7

Religious Diversity 7

AFTER 9/11 *Immigration: Is the Door Still Open?* 8

Economic and Geographic Diversity 10

Diversity and Identity Politics 11

Political Culture 11

The Significance of Political Culture 11

Learning Political Culture 11

AMERICAN DIVERSITY *Census and Sensibility* 12

American Democracy: The Core Values 14

Individual Liberty 14

Political Equality 15

Majority Rule 15

Minority Rights 16

Economic Rights 16

American Democracy in Practice 16

Classical Democracy 16

Pluralism 17

Elitism 18

Pluralism Reconsidered 18

Conclusion: Is Government Responsive? 19

EPILOGUE *Who, Me?* 20

Key Terms 21

Further Reading 21

Electronic Resources 21

InfoTrac College Edition 21

American Government Resources 21

CHAPTER 2

The Constitution 22

YOU ARE THERE *The Case of the Confidential Tapes* 23

The Articles of Confederation 25

National Government Problems 25

State Government Problems 26

AMERICAN DIVERSITY *Founding Mothers* 27

The Constitution 27

The Constitutional Convention 27

Features of the Constitution 30

Motives of the Founders 33

AMERICAN DIVERSITY *Did the Iroquois Influence the Founders? 34*

Ratification of the Constitution 37

Changing the Constitution 38

AFTER 9/11 *Interrogating Terrorists 40*

Impact of the Civil War and the Great Depression 40

The Civil War and Reconstruction 40

The Great Depression and New Deal 44

A Combination of Constitutions 45

Conclusion: Does the Constitution Allow Government to be Responsive? 45

EPILOGUE *The President Complies in the Case of the Confidential Tapes 47*

Key Terms 49

Further Reading 49

Electronic Resources 49

InfoTrac College Edition 49

American Government Resources 49

CHAPTER 3

Federalism and the Growth of Government 50

YOU ARE THERE *Should the President Expand Federal Lands? 51*

Federal and Unitary Systems 52

Federal Systems 52

Unitary Systems 53

Why Choose Federalism? 53

The Political Bases of American Federalism 54

Political Benefits of Federalism 54

Political Costs of Federalism 55

Political Culture and Federalism 55

The Constitutional Bases of Federalism 56

Major Features of American Federalism 56

Interpretations of the Constitutional Provisions 57

Federalism and the Growth of Government 59

Small-Scale Government 59

The Civil War 60

Government as a “Bully Pulpit” 60

The New Deal and World War II 61

Social Justice and the Great Society 62

New Federalism 63

The New New Federalism 63

A Return to State-Centered Federalism? 66

The Practice of Federalism 70

Federal-State Relations 70

Interstate Relations 71

AFTER 9/11 *The States’ Role in National Defense 72*

State-Local Relations 73

People, States, and the Federal Government 74

Conclusion: Is Federalism Responsive? 75

EPILOGUE *Clinton Expands Federal Lands 76*

Key Terms 76

Further Reading 77

Electronic Resources 77

InfoTrac College Edition 77

American Government Resources 77

PART TWO

Links between People and Government

CHAPTER 4

Public Opinion 78

YOU ARE THERE *How Can the President Maintain Popularity and Help Republican Candidates? 79*

Nature of Public Opinion 80

Formation of Public Opinion 81

Agents of Political Socialization 82

Impact of Political Socialization 86

AFTER 9/11 *Attacks Affect Opinion about Government 87*

Measuring Public Opinion 88

Early Polling Efforts 88

Emergence of Scientific Polling 88

Polls and Politics 89

How Informed Is Public Opinion? 94

Public Opinion 95

- Ideology* 95
- Social Welfare and the Proper Role of Government* 97
- Social Issues* 98
- Race* 100
- Political Tolerance* 102
- Trust in Government* 102

Conclusion: Is Government Responsive to Public Opinion? 104

- EPILOGUE** *President Bush Ties the Economy to the War on Terrorism* 105
- Key Terms* 106
- Further Reading* 106
- Electronic Resources* 106
- InfoTrac College Edition* 107
- American Government Resources* 107

CHAPTER 5

News Media 108

- YOU ARE THERE** *Should You Torpedo the Admiral?* 109

The Media State 110

- Roles of the Media* 111
- Concentration of the Media* 112
- Atomization of the Media* 113

Relationship between the Media and Politicians 116

- Symbiotic Relationship* 116
- Adversarial Relationship* 119
- Relationship between the Media and Recent Administrations* 121
- Relationship between the Media and Congress* 124
- Relationship between the Media and the Supreme Court* 124

Bias of the Media 124

- Political Bias* 125
- Commercial Bias* 129
- AMERICAN DIVERSITY** *Color and the Clicker* 130

Impact of the Media on Politics 134

- Impact on the Public Agenda* 135
- Impact on Political Parties and Elections* 135
- Impact on Public Opinion* 137
- AFTER 9/11** *The CNN of the Middle East* 138

Conclusion: Are the Media Responsive? 140

- EPILOGUE** *Evans Pursued the Admiral* 142
- Key Terms* 143
- Further Reading* 143
- Electronic Resources* 143
- InfoTrac College Edition* 143
- American Government Resources* 143

CHAPTER 6

Interest Groups 144

- YOU ARE THERE** *Do You Make More Concessions, or Do You Fight?* 145

Group Formation 147

- Why Interest Groups Form* 147
- Why People Join* 148
- Who Joins?* 148
- Have Americans Stopped Joining?* 148

Types of Interest Groups 149

- Private Interest Groups* 150
- AFTER 9/11** *Feeding Frenzy* 152
- Public Interest Groups* 155

Tactics of Interest Groups 162

- Direct Lobbying Techniques* 162
- Indirect Lobbying Techniques* 165
- Protest and Civil Disobedience* 168

Success of Interest Groups 170

- Resources* 170
- Competition and Goals* 172

Conclusion: Do Interest Groups Help Make Government Responsive? 172

- EPILOGUE** *The Tobacco Industry Fights Back* 173
- Key Terms* 175
- Further Reading* 174
- Electronic Resources* 175
- InfoTrac College Edition* 175
- American Government Resources* 175

CHAPTER 7

Political Parties 176

- YOU ARE THERE** *Should You Switch Parties?* 177

What Are Political Parties? 179

Development and Change in the Party System 180

- Preparty Politics: The Founders' Views of Political Parties* 181
- First Party System: Development of Parties* 182
- Second Party System: Rise of the Democrats* 182
- Third Party System: Rise of the Republicans* 182
- Fourth Party System: Republican Dominance* 183
- Fifth Party System: Democratic Dominance* 183
- The Post-Fifth Party System: Disengagement and Competition* 184
- AFTER 9/11** *Bipartisanship for a While* 188

Characteristics of the Party System 188

- Two Parties* 188
- Fragmentation* 190

- Moderation* 191
- Minor Parties in American Politics* 191
- Party in the Electorate** 194
 - Party Identification* 194
 - Characteristics of Democrats and Republicans* 194
- Party in Government** 195
- Party Organization** 196
 - National Party Organization* 197
 - State and Local Party Organizations* 198
 - Big-City Party Organizations* 198
- The Nominating Process** 200
 - Caucuses* 200
 - Conventions* 200
 - Primaries* 200
- Conclusion: Do Political Parties Make Government More Responsive?** 202
 - EPILOGUE** *Jeffords Switches* 203
 - Key Terms* 204
 - Further Reading* 204
 - Electronic Resources* 204
 - InfoTrac College Edition* 205
 - American Government Resources* 205

CHAPTER 8

Elections 206

- YOU ARE THERE** *How Do You Recount?* 207
- The American Electorate** 210
 - Early Limits on Voting Rights* 210
 - Blacks and the Right to Vote* 210
 - The Voting Rights Act and Redistricting* 212
 - AMERICAN DIVERSITY** *Blacks and Hispanics in Office* 212
 - Women and the Right to Vote* 213
 - AMERICAN DIVERSITY** *Women in Office* 216
 - Young People and the Right to Vote* 216
 - Felons and the Right to Vote* 216
- Voter Turnout** 217
 - Political Activism in the Nineteenth Century* 217
 - Progressive Reforms* 218
 - Recent Turnout* 218
 - Who Does Not Vote?* 218
 - Why Turnout Is Low* 219
- Other Campaign Participation** 223
- Presidential Nominating Campaigns** 223
 - Who Runs for President and Why?* 223
 - How a Candidate Wins the Nomination* 224
 - AMERICAN DIVERSITY** *Can An African American Be Elected President?* 225

- Presidential Caucuses and Conventions* 227
- Presidential Primaries* 227
- Reforming the Nomination Process* 228
- The National Conventions* 229
- Independent and Third-Party Nominees* 232

The General Election Campaign 232

- Campaign Organization* 233
- Images and Issues* 233
- The Electoral College* 233
- Campaign Strategies* 234
- The Media Campaign* 235
- Use of the Media* 236
- Campaign Funding* 238

The Permanent Campaign 238

Congressional Campaigns 239

- Incumbents: Unsafe at Any Margin?* 239
- Challengers* 239
- AFTER 9/11** *Patriotism and Partisanship* 240
- Campaigns* 240

Voting Choices 241

- Party Loyalties* 242
- Candidate Evaluations* 243
- Issues* 243
- Parties, Candidates, and Issues* 244
- Voting for Congress* 244

Conclusion: Do Elections Make Government Responsive? 245

- EPILOGUE** *Gore Asks for a Limited Recount* 246
- Key Terms* 248
- Further Reading* 249
- Electronic Resources* 249
- InfoTrac College Edition* 249
- American Government Resources* 249

CHAPTER 9

Money and Politics 250

- YOU ARE THERE** *Should You Vote to Regulate?* 251
- Money and Politics in Earlier America** 254
 - Money in Nineteenth-Century American Politics* 254
 - Early Reforms* 255
- Regulating Money in Modern Campaigns** 255
 - Reforms of the 1970s* 255
 - Failures of the Campaign Finance Laws* 256
 - Reforms in 2002* 260
 - Sources of Campaign Funds* 261
- The Impact of Campaign Money** 264
 - Does the Campaign Finance System Deter Good Candidates?* 264

Does Money Win Elections? 265
Does Money Buy Favorable Policies? 266
Campaign Money and Public Cynicism 271

Conflicts of Interest 272

Conclusion: Does the Influence of Money Make Government Less Responsive? 273

EPILOGUE *Schumer Discourages Tighter Accounting Regulations* 275

Key Terms 277
Further Reading 277
Electronic Resources 277
InfoTrac College Edition 277
American Government Resources 277

PART THREE

Institutions

CHAPTER 10

Congress 278

YOU ARE THERE *Should the President Be Removed from Office?* 279

Members and Constituencies 281

Members 281
Constituencies 283

The Representative on the Job 285

The Advantages of Incumbency 285
Working with Colleagues 288
"Going Public" 289

AMERICAN DIVERSITY *Women in Congress* 290
Voting as Representation 292
Party and Constituency 292

How Congress Is Organized 294

How Congressional Organization Evolved 294
Contemporary Leadership Positions 295
Committees 298

AMERICAN DIVERSITY *Minority Power in Congress* 302
Staff 302

What Congress Does 304

Lawmaking 304
AFTER 9/11 *Continuity in Government* 306
Overseeing the Federal Bureaucracy 309
Budget Making 310

Congress and the Public 311

Conclusion: Is Congress Responsive? 313

EPILOGUE *Snowe Votes against Removal* 314
Key Terms 314
Further Reading 315
Electronic Resources 315

InfoTrac College Edition 315
American Government Resources 315

CHAPTER 11

The Presidency 316

YOU ARE THERE *Should the President Get a New Cabinet Department?* 317

The Growth of the Presidency 320

Terms of Office 321

Qualifications 321
Rewards 321
Tenure 322
Succession 323

Duties and Powers of Office 324

Chief Executive 324
AFTER 9/11 *A Return of the Imperial Presidency?* 328
Head of State 328
Chief Diplomat 330
Commander in Chief 331

Presidential Staff and Advisors 332

The Executive Office of the President 333
The White House Office 333
Office of the First Lady 335
Office of the Vice President 338

The President and the People 339

The Personal Presidency 339
Persuading the Public 340
Public Opinion and Effectiveness in Office 343

The President and Congress 344

Party Leadership 344
Divided Government 345