



## “House Rule Choice”

Prof. Anthony Madonna  
 POLS 4620E  
 Lecture #17  
 University of Georgia

## House Rule Choice – Outline and Lecture

### I. Introduction

- a. Course updates

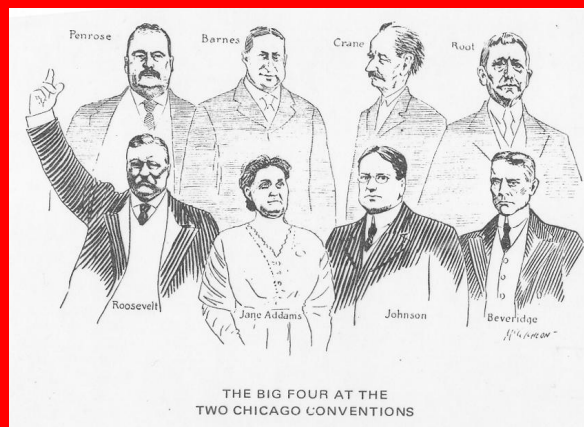
### II. Schickler and Rich (1997)

- a. Who cares?
- b. The conventional wisdom
- c. Their theory
- d. Hypotheses
- e. Methods
- f. Conclusion
- g. Critiques?

### III. Cox and McCubbins

#### Response

- a. argument
- b. Of course the condition matters
- c. Partisan NEED
- d. Punishing defectors?
- e. Thoughts?



### IV. Midterm #1 Overview

### V. Conclusion

- a. Have a great day

## Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

**Midterm Exam #1** – The first class midterm is Thursday, June 24th. It will cover Shepsle & Bonchek, Ch. 5; Committee-Gatekeeper Games; House Floor Procedure; Cooper & Brady (1981); How a Bill Becomes a Law; the U.S. Constitution; Cox (2000); the Committee System; House Party Leaders; the House Rules Committee; Vick et al. (2020); House Voting Procedures; House Rule Choice; Schickler and Rich (1997); Cox and McCubbins (1997); Ideological Scaling; Using Legislative History Resources.

This exam is open book and open note. I'll be e-mailing a link to it to you at 8 am. You will have until 8 am the following day to complete it. Most of you will be able to finish it in under an hour or two. So you're welcome to take it at any time in that 24 hour window. The exam is being given through qualtrics. It will feature the following sections:

- Section 1: Identifying Information
- Section 2: Multiple Choice & Fill-in-the-Blank
- Section 3: Short Essays
- Section 4: Committee Gatekeeper Games
- Section 5: Identifying a Special Rule
- Section 6: Ideological Scaling
- Section 7: Using Resources/Legislative History Questions



## Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

**Section 1** – Basic identification questions. These are not graded.

Section 1: Identification Questions: The questions below are identification questions and not graded for points.

---

What is your full name? (i.e. Jonathan Smith)

---

What is your UGAID number? (This is the 9-digit number beginning with "810" or "811" that appears on your UGACard).

---

For the POLS 4600: Maymester 2020 course, what enactment group were you placed in?

- Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994
- Homeland Security Act of 2002
- Gun Control Act of 1968
- Civil Rights Act of 1957

## Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

**Section 2** – A handful of multiple choice/fill in the blank questions. Don't whiff on these.

Section 2: Multiple Choice.

Questions 1-20 are multiple choice questions. Please select the best answer. (1 point each)

#1. Preferences are said to be \_\_\_\_\_ if the alternatives under consideration can be represented as points on a line, and each of the utility functions representing preferences over these alternatives has a maximum at some point on the line and slopes away from this maximum on either side.

Multi-dimensional

Intransitive

Zero-sum

Single-peaked

## Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

**Section 3** – Short essay questions will look like the one below:



#24. Congratulations! You've just been elected to the House of Representatives. One of your campaign promises was that you would author and pass a bill providing miniature American flags to all Americans. After introducing your bill, the Miniature Americans Flags for all Patriotic Americans Act of 2020, the Speaker of the House refers it to a committee. While in the committee a constituent calls and asks you to explain to him what will happen to the bill during the rest of the legislative process. Once the committee passes it, what happens? Then what? What happens in the Senate? What if the Senate passes a different version? What happens if the President vetoes it? (7 points)

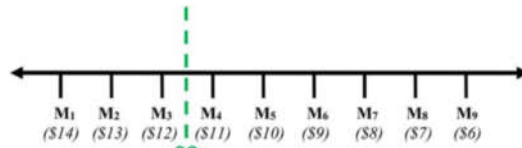
# Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

## Section 4 – Committee Gatekeeper Game. This will look identical to the examples on the website.

Section 4: Committee Gatekeeper Game. Questions #20-26 correspond to the figure below. (15 points total).

Assume the figure below represents a nine-member legislature. These nine members are ordered on a left (liberal) – right (conservative) ideological spectrum, with M1 being the most liberal, and M9 being the most conservative.

These members hold preferences on the federal minimum wage that vary from \$14 dollars (M1) to \$6 dollars (M9). In this example, the dashed line green line labelled SQ represents the existing (status quo) policy of \$11.50.



# Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

## Section 5 – Identifying a Special Rule type.

Section 4: Special Rule Questions.

Questions #20-26 correspond to the special rule below. (18 points total).

Hres 163 (114th Congress)

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025. The first reading of the concurrent resolution shall be dispensed with.

All points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution are waived. General debate shall not exceed four hours, with three hours of general debate confined to the congressional budget equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget and one hour of general debate on the subject of economic goals and policies equally divided and controlled by Representative Brady of Texas and Representative Carolyn Maloney of New York or their respective designees. After general debate the concurrent resolution shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule.

The concurrent resolution shall be considered as read. No amendment shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, and shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. All points of order against such amendments are waived. If more than one such amendment is adopted, then only the one receiving the greater number of affirmative votes shall be considered as finally adopted. In the case of a tie for the greater number of affirmative votes, then only the last amendment to receive that number of affirmative votes shall be considered as finally adopted.

After the conclusion of consideration of the concurrent resolution for amendment and a final period of general debate, which shall not exceed 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget, the Committee shall rise and report the concurrent resolution to the House with such amendment as may have been finally adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution and amendments thereto to adoption without intervening motion except amendments offered by the chair of the Committee on the Budget pursuant to section 305(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to achieve mathematical consistency. The concurrent resolution shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question of its adoption.

#26. This rule could be best characterized as which of the following? (2 points)

- Unanimous Consent
- Open
- Modified-Open
- Structured
- Closed

#27. Which of the following "creative rule" features are included in Hres 163? Select all that apply. (4 points)

# Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

## Section 6 – Ideological Scaling Exercise.

For questions 26-29, assume a five person legislature with members Blair, Tootie, Edna, Jo and Natalie. Further assume the table below captures their votes on thirteen proposals. (10 points total).

Proposal	Blair	Tootie	Edna	Jo	Natalie
A bill taxing violent video games	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO!	NO!
The Starving Adorable Mongoose Act of 2021	NO!	Yes	NO!	NO!	NO!
A bill providing 15 billion in federal aid to Volcano victims in Indonesia	Yes	Yes	NO!	NO!	Yes
Declaration of war on Arendelle	NO!	NO!	NO!	Yes	NO!
Renaming a Federal Post Office in Tulsa, Oklahoma for Even Felker	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
An amendment providing for a tax increase on trillionaires	NO!	Yes	Yes	NO!	NO!
A special rule providing for the Pet Health Care Subsidy Act of 2021	NO!	Yes	Yes	NO!	Yes
Passage of the Pet Health Care Subsidy Act of 2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO!	NO!
A resolution making the KFC Double-Down the official sandwich of Congress	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
A motion to approve the journal	Yes	NO!	NO!	Yes	NO!
A bill providing 700 billion for infrastructure upgrades	NO!	Yes	NO!	NO!	NO!
A motion giving emergency powers to the Supreme Chancellor	Yes	NO!	NO!	Yes	NO!
A bill providing \$10,000 to Professor Madonna to study how legislative procedure has evolved	NO!	NO!	NO!	NO!	NO!

#26. Using the ideological scaling tools discussed in class, who are the two most ideologically extreme voters? (2 points)

Edna and Jo

Tootie and Jo

Natalie and Jo

Edna and Tootie

Blair and Natalie

# Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

## Section 7 – Enactment Research Questions (Using Resources)

For this section, please refer to the table below for the relevant bill or bills that correspond to your enactment. Questions #33-41 will be referring to initial Senate consideration of those bills only. If there is more than one bill listed for your group, assume the initial passage vote occurs on the second bill, but all other votes occurred on the first (i.e. amendments, motions to proceed, etc.). Finally, the date listed corresponds to the day of the initial passage vote in the Senate.

Enactment	Bill(s)	Date
Violent Crime Act of 1994	S 1607/HR 3355	11/19/1993
Homeland Security Act of 2002	HR 5005	11/19/2002
Gun Control Act of 1968	S 3633/HR 17735	9/18/1968
Civil Rights Act of 1957	HR 6127	8/7/1957
No Child Left Behind of 2001	S 1/HR 1	6/14/2001
Economic Assistance Act of 1950	S 3304	5/5/1950
Refugee Act of 1980	S 643	9/6/1979
Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977	S 252/HR 6161	6/10/1977
Equal Rights Amendment of 1972	HJR 208	3/22/1972
Espionage Act of 1917	S 2/HR 291	5/14/1917
Affordable Care Act of 2010	HR 3590	12/24/2009
Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002	S 27	4/2/2001
Telecommunications Act of 1996	S 652	6/15/1995

# Midterm Exam 1 – POLS 4620E

## Section 7 – Enactment Research Questions (Using Resources)

#34. Was there a recorded cloture vote during initial Senate consideration? You can determine this using either congress.gov, voteview.com or the Congressional Record. (2 points)

Yes/No

#35. Who was the Senate Republican Whip during the Congress your enactment was passed? What was his or her party? What state did they represent? (3 points)

\_\_\_\_\_

#40. Using the Congressional Record, provide a quote from a Senator in support of the bill in the space below. This quote may be from debate on the bill or the special rule if one exists. If you believe no members spoke in favor of the bill, simply write "none." (3 points)

Please also include the proper citation in the following form: "Quote (Congressional Record, ## Congress, Month, Day, Year, Page #)" So, for example:

Senator Barry Goldwater (R-AZ) argued against an amendment to the bill: "Mr. President, I would like to suggest that we look at every amendment we have and ask ourselves, do we have to have this? [The] election is two years away. We do not have to start kissing this and rubbing that to get elected next time. And, thank God, I do not have to do it ever again (Congressional Record, 96th Congress, December 11, 1980, 16227)."

\_\_\_\_\_

#35. Using Historical Newspapers, please provide a quote from a newspaper article about your enactment. It may be critical, supportive or merely descriptive. If you believe no article was written, simply write "none." It does not have to be about the specific bill listed above, you are welcome to use other related bills (i.e. Senate companions or a related House bill). (4 points)

Please also include a proper citation. The citation should look like this:

Jones, Kevin. 2018. "Here's a Newspaper Story." The Washington Post, May 1.

\_\_\_\_\_

#37. In addition to the key questions I have provided, list another question on your enactment, a rule or procedure employed during its consideration or a member involved in its passage that you find interesting and would like to examine. What do you find interesting about it? (5 points)

\_\_\_\_\_

## Questions, Concerns, Angry Rants?



Don't hesitate to e-mail me.