THE ROOSEVELT PROMISE: PATRICIAN GOVERNANCE IN A DEMOCRATIC AGE


Facilitator: Robert Haws
rjhaws64@gmail.com.  (662) 801-7841

Advanced societies require government to flourish. Debates focus on what sort of government each society requires to meet its aspirations. American society, for example, cherishes freedom, but debates focus on whether government limits or secures that freedom. This course examines the practice of government in 20th century America through the public careers of Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt. The weekly reading is intended to provide some background for class discussions. Discussion will be supplemented by excerpts from the PBS series *The Roosevelts: An Intimate History.*

Week 1: January 13, 2020
Reading: *The Three Roosevelts, 1-59*

Session 1: Origins of a Patrician Family
Session 2: Emergence of Theodore Roosevelt as a National Leader

Week 2: January 20, 2020. MLK Holiday—No Class

Week 3: January 27, 2020
Reading: *The Three Roosevelts, 61-111*

Session 1: Transformation of American Government
Session 2: TR and the Modern Presidency

Week 4: February 3, 2020
Reading: *The Three Roosevelts, 113-168*
Session 1: Election of 1912
Session 2: World War I and FDR’s Rise to National Prominence

Week 5: February 10, 2020
Reading: The Three Roosevelts, 170-203

Session 1: Franklin, Eleanor and the Challenge of Polio
Session 2: Another Roosevelt in the White House

Week 6: February 17, 2020
Reading: The Three Roosevelts, 252-276, 286-329, 336-346

Session 1: The New Deal Transforms America
Session 2: Success, Hubris and the Limits of Government

Week 7: February 24, 2020
Reading: The Three Roosevelts, 403-433, 435-455

Session 1: FDR and the Fascist Challenge
Session 2: Election of 1940 and the Onset of Global War

Week 8: March 2, 2020
Reading: The Three Roosevelts, 388-404, 457-496

Session 1: The Atlantic Charter and Global Strategy
Session 2: Wartime Government and the Roosevelt Vision for America’s Future

Week 9: March 9, 2020
Reading: The Three Roosevelts, 500-532

Session 1: Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Session 2: Eleanor Roosevelt and Modern America