

READ ME FILE

The lecture topics, lectures, and reading are organized by the lecture date, e.g., “Oct16L” are the **L**ecture outlines for that day, and the **R**eading associated with them is indicated by “Oct16Ra,” “Oct16Rb,” “Oct16Rc,” “Oct16Rd,” Oct16Re,” Oct16Rf,” Oct16Rg” and “Oct16Rh” for the October 16, 2025, class. The pound sign (#) before the reading title indicates that the reading is required. The lack of a # designation before a reading title means that it is NOT REQUIRED, e.g., Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, “Political Polarization in the American Public: How Increasing Ideological Uniformity and Partisan Antipathy Affect Politics, Compromise and Everyday Life.” The X1, X2, X3, X4, X5, X6, X7, X8, X9 and X10 designations are for transcripts of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States with its Amendments, Louisiana Voter Registration Card (used to maintain *de facto* racial segregation), *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2012*, Section 7, Elections, which is a compilation of tables (Table 397 to Table 427; pp. 244-264) with political information published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, and the National Exit Polls done in conjunction with the 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2024 Presidential Elections and the 2010 and 2014 midterm elections. The *Statistical Abstract*, while compiled and published every year, began to be compiled by a non-government organization in 2013.