

Ryan Coonerty
Coonerty@ucsc.edu
Office Hours:

Law & Democracy

Law and Democracy will study the development of democracy in the United States by looking at the past (efforts to limit and expand vote), the present (election reform, campaign finance reform, and the initiative process), and the future (public financing of elections and expansion of voting rights).

Reading:

Law & Election Politics by Matthew Shreb (2nd Edition, Routledge)

New York Times (M-F) Subscription: www.nytimes.com/student

Reader (available at Bookshop Santa Cruz)

Course Requirement:

There will be midterm, a response paper and a research paper (7 pages) based on the assigned readings and lectures. The exam and the papers will each represent 30% of the student's final grade. Participation and attendance will make up the remaining 10% of grades.

Weekly Readings:

Class 1: Overview of the American Legal and Political Systems

Class 2: The History of Voting

Class 3: Modern Issues in Voting (ID Laws & Early Voting)

Class 4: Political Parties, Primaries & Third Parties

Class 5: Redistricting

Class 6: Midterm

Class 7: Direct Democracy & Judicial Elections

Class 8: Money in Elections (Response Paper Due)

Class 9: Money in Elections Part II

Class 10: Wrap Up & Paper Due