

**Historisches Seminar der Universität Heidelberg
Heidelberg Center for American Studies**

Prof. Dr. Manfred Berg, Curt Engelhorn Professor of American History

Lecture Course: America Divided: The Polarization of American Politics and Society since the 1960s

Wintersemester 2019/20

Raum: Hörsaal des Historischen Seminars

Zeit: Montag, 11.00 - 13.00 Uhr

Beginn: 14. 10. 2019

Phone: 542276

E-Mail: manfred.berg@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de

Office Hours: Tuesday, 11.a.m.-1.p.m. Historisches Seminar Office 041

Syllabus

1st Lecture: 14 October 2019: General Introduction - Polarization and the Decline of Political Trust

2nd Lecture: 21 October 2019: The Unraveling of the Liberal Consensus in the 1960s

3rd Lecture: 28 October 2019: The Rise of Partisanship and the Polarization of American Politics, 1964-2000

4th Lecture: 4 November 2019: Economic Inequality in the Age of Neoliberalism

5th Lecture: 11 November 2019: Racial Polarization in the Post-Civil Rights Era

6th Lecture: 25 November 2019: Immigration and the Demographic Transformation of America

7th Lecture: 2 December 2019: Crime, Violence, and Fear

8th Lecture: 9 December 2019: Feminism, Gender Relations, and Sexuality

9th Lecture: 16 December 2019: The Culture Wars

10th Lecture: 13 January 2020: The Media Revolution, Alternative Facts, and the Decline of Expert Authority

11th Lecture: 20 January 2020: At the Water's Edge? Disputes over Foreign Policy and National Interest from the Cold War to the War on Terror

12th Lecture: 27 January 2020: Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and the Crisis of American Democracy

13th Lecture: 3 February 2020: Exams

Selected Bibliography

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Useful Links

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

The Library of Congress website “American Memory” offers various collections dedicated to U.S. History that provide documents, images, research tools, information about the Library's holdings.

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/>

The Avalon Project at Yale University is a major collection of treaties, legal documents, and other sources spanning pre 18th century resources up to the modern day.

<http://www.nara.gov>

The National Archives and Records Administration is the federal agency that oversees the management of federal records. This site contains, among other things, a Digital Classroom for students, an Online Exhibit Hall containing historical documents and images and research information about the National Archives holdings.

<https://www.census.gov/>

The Bureau of Census is a division of the federal government of the United States Department of Commerce that is responsible for conducting the national census at least once every 10 years, in which the population of the United States is counted. The Bureau is responsible for collecting data on the people, economy and country of the United States. The website is a gateway to innumerable data on population, economics, etc.

<https://www.pewresearch.org/>

The Pew Research Center is nonpartisan think tank and research institution based in Washington, D.C. It conducts research on public opinion, demographic trends, social issues, media reporting, religion, etc.