

## **POLI 100B: Congress**

### **Agenda Topic 3: Congress and the Political-Economic System: 1879 - 2009**

#### **A. The Democrat-Republican Political Party System in Congress: 1879 – 2008**

#### **B. Where Does the Money Go? The Federal Budget**

- 1. The Economy From 1929 - 2009**
- 2. Basic Outline of U.S. Federal Budget**
- 3. The Level of Debt**
- 4. Medicare and Social Security**

#### **C. The New World of U.S. Senators (D&O Chapter 1)**

- 1. Individualism and Partisanship**
- 2. The Role of Senate Rules**

#### **D. The Politics of the Contemporary House (D&O Chapter 2)**

- 1. The Republican Era of Control – 1995 - 2006**
- 2. The Democratic Takeover in 2006**

#### **E. Is Congress Still the Broken Branch? (D&O Chapter 3)**

- 1. Political Polarization: The Venomous Partisan Atmosphere**
- 2. Political Polarization and its Impact on Internal Procedure in the House and Senate**