“States Respond to President Trump” with Professor James Carville

POLA 4011-01
Mondays, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
3 credits

Pre-requisites: POLA 2100 and POLS 2010

Course Information and Application

STUDY THE EVOLVING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STATE GOVERNMENTS AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WITH A LEGENDARY POLITICAL STRATEGIST

Professor of Practice James Carville will teach a seminar, “States Respond to President Trump,” in the Fall 2017 semester. This course is designed for students with a love of politics who are comfortable in a class environment that relies on very significant class participation. Whereas Professor Carville’s spring course is a large class that features a wide variety of guest speakers, the fall course will be a smaller, more intimate seminar held in Professor Carville’s home. Admission to the course is by application only. Applicants are encouraged to turn in their applications as soon as possible. Admission is on a rolling basis. Submit your application via email to sherman@tulane.edu. All questions regarding the course should be directed to Adjunct Professor Michael Sherman at 504.250.2257 or via e-mail at: sherman@tulane.edu.

Since joining the faculty in 2009, Professor Carville has taught classes on Contemporary American Politics, the 2008 Presidential Election, the 2012 Presidential Election, and the 2016 Presidential Election. These courses have combined class discussions and lectures with presentations by guest speakers. Over the past five years, guests have included former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, ABC’s George Stephanopoulos, Governors Bobby Jindal and Elliot Spitzer, economist and President Reagan’s economic advisor Art Laffer, pollster Stan Greenberg, NBC's Chuck Todd, Bloomberg's Al Hunt, The Washington Post's Dan Balz, and presidential candidate John McCain’s campaign manager Steve Schmidt. “States Respond to President Trump” will follow the same model of discussions, lectures, student presentations, and guest speakers.

The Course

This course will examine current American politics through the lens of political messaging, with a focus on the competition for political power and resources at each level of American government – local, state, and federal. We will also conduct a comparative analysis with countries where Professor Carville has guided presidential campaigns in Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. We will seek to identify and define political culture and understand the sources of power in each political system we study. We will also spend a significant amount of time understanding the role and effects of different types of political persuasion.

The class meets Monday evenings from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. Attendance at all class meetings is
mandatory. If you anticipate a busy travel schedule in the fall, this course is not for you. If you can commit to regular attendance, and want to learn about state and federal politics from one of the great political minds of our time, this course may be just what you are looking for to complete your schedule! Enrollment will be open to 15 full-time students of all majors enrolled in all colleges.

The Instructor

James Carville is one of the best known and most successful election strategists of our time. His leading role in Bill Clinton’s winning campaign in 1992 was documented in the Academy Award-nominated film *The War Room*. He has since worked on national campaigns around the world, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Israel, Afghanistan, and Bolivia. He is a well-known media personality, appearing regularly on Good Morning America and other broadcast news programs. His professional interests have expanded in recent years, to embrace films (he was executive producer of *All the King’s Men*, which had its world premiere at McAlister Auditorium), sports (he co-hosted an XM Satellite Radio sports talk show), and books (he has authored or co-authored numerous books).

The Application

The course will be capped at a maximum enrollment of 15 students and will make demands on the students who are permitted to enroll. Students must come to class prepared to vigorously debate and discuss the assigned material. Students will also complete an in-depth, semester-long research project analyzing a specific aspect of public policy debate. Some of the questions we ask will help us assess your readiness to engage in the course; others are designed to enable us to assemble a diverse class of students who can learn from one another as they examine political cultures from many parts of the United States and the world beyond our borders.

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<th>Student Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td>What college are you enrolled in?</td>
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<td>City/State where you reside (when not at Tulane):</td>
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<td>Phone:</td>
<td>Anticipated graduation date:</td>
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<td>Major(s):</td>
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Are you a registered voter?  YES  NO
If so, where are you registered?

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<th>Political Party Affiliation (if any):</th>
<th>G.P.A. (cumulative):</th>
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<td>What state(s) have you resided in?</td>
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<td>Have you applied previously to one of Professor Carville’s courses? (If so, were you admitted?)</td>
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Age (optional):  Race (optional):

Are you a member of ROTC?
Identify by name and email a Tulane professor who can confirm that you actively participated in a course:

**Short Answers:**

1. **In a single paragraph, state why you want to be in this course, and what if any special experiences, point of view, or personal background information you believe might make you stand out as a potential contributor to a lively debate within a group of diverse individuals.**
2. In fewer than 200 words, identify a current public policy debate you would like to explore in the course and, more importantly, why you find this issue fascinating.

Bullet Points:

3. List any political experience including but not limited to internships, volunteer activities, and work experience. (Note: there are no pre-requisites.)

4. List courses you have taken that you believe will assist you in excelling in this course. Be sure to note the course title and instructor name.
5. List any extra-curricular activities in which you participate.