

**2020 Election Postscript
Topics Outline
Dr. Martin Shaffer**

~April 14, 2021

Voting Patterns in the 2020 Election: Continuity and Change

This session will look at voting behavior and patterns over time and examine how the 2020 election exhibited both continuity and change in the electorate. We will discuss the big ideas of electoral realignments, dealignment, and secular realignment as approaches to understanding electoral politics. We will particularly look at changes in voting patterns since the 1960's as well as more recent changes since 2000. We will place the voting group patterns in the 2020 election into this larger context and think about what the changes mean for the future.

~April 21, 2021

The Biden Presidency: A "100 Days" Assessment

This session will look at the first "100 days" of the Biden administration using the 100 days benchmark that started with FDR's presidency in the 1930's. We will examine President Biden's legislative strategies and accomplishments and explore the divided nature of our politics today. We will also look at President Biden's cabinet selections and his administrative policy strategies such as the use of executive orders. Finally, we will assess the Biden administration's public relations approach in his new presidency.

~April 28, 2021

An Early Look at the 2022 Midterm Elections

Although the 2022 midterm elections seem far off before too long candidates will decide to run and the stage will be set for the midterms. We will talk about midterm elections historically, and begin to speculate about what the 2022 midterm elections might mean for the Biden administration and for American politics more generally.