

Contents

<i>List of Plates</i>	ix
<i>List of Figures</i>	xi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xiii
<i>Preface to the Sixth Edition</i>	xv
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xvii
1 Limited versus Active Government in an Uncertain Age	1
The Chapters to Come	4
2 Beliefs, Values and American Society	6
The Nature of American Beliefs and Values	6
Values and American Society	19
Social Structure	28
3 Constitutional Government	39
Origins	40
The American Constitution	43
Ratification	50
The Adaptive Constitution	51
Assessing the Constitution	55
4 Federalism: Why the States Still Matter	59
Federalism in Theory and Practice	60
The Evolution of American Federalism	63
Fiscal Federalism: The Rise, Fall and Rise of the Federal Role	66
A Changing Court Role?	73
The Pressure for National Standards	75
American Federalism Under Pressure	76

5	The Changing Role of Political Parties	79
	The Functions of Parties	80
	Crisis and Change in the American Party System	85
	Party Decline?	91
	Explaining Party Change	97
	After 2000 - Political Party Revival?	99
6	Elections and Political Participation	103
	Patterns of American Electoral Behaviour	105
	The <i>American Voter</i> Model and the New Deal Coalition	111
	The Decline of Partisanship and the New Deal Coalition, 1960-92	117
	The Return of Ideology? Electoral Politics after 2000	121
	Non-electoral Political Participation	127
7	The Media and American Politics	135
	Media Structure and Organization	136
	Organization and Ownership	138
	News, Bias and Political Influence	139
	Censorship and Control	143
	The Media and American Democracy	144
8	US Legislators and Their Constituents	146
	Representation and Congress	147
	Congressional Elections	149
	Legislators as Rational Actors	155
	The Work of Members of Congress	160
	Conclusions	162
9	Congress as Legislature: Functions and Powers	165
	The Functions of Congress	166
	The Structure of Power in Congress	166
	Congress: The People's Branch?	175
	Reform and Change in Congress	182
	Can the New Ideological Congress Lead?	188
10	The Presidency	192
	Formal Sources of Power	193
	Informal Powers	195
	The Changing Nature of the Presidency	197
	The Presidency in a Changing America	206
	Presidential Abuse of Power and the Congressional Response	210
	Presidential Resources	213
	Assessing the Presidency: Presidential Power at Home and Abroad	223
11	Bureaucratic Power: Federal Departments and Agencies	227
	The Federal Bureaucracy: Organization and Function	228

The Bureaucracy: How Uncontrollable?	234
The Inherent Power of Bureaucracy	235
The Bureaucratic Hydra: A Uniquely American Phenomenon?	236
Reform Attempts	240
Concluding Remarks	243
12 The Security State	246
The Rise of the Security State	247
9/11, The Patriot Act and the Department of Homeland Security	249
Threats to Civil Liberties	251
The Security State and American Values	253
13 Organized Interests: The Real Power?	256
Interests, Groups and Lobbyists	258
Economic Groups	259
Professional Groups	266
Promotional Groups	268
Political Action Committees	270
The Washington Lobby	274
Interest Groups: For and Against	275
14 The Supreme Court and Judicial Politics	280
The American Legal System	282
The Supreme Court: Decision-making	284
The Court and Political Power	290
The Polarized and Activist Rehnquist Court	302
Conclusions: The Court and American Democracy	304
15 Regulating Morality: Civil Rights, Liberties and the Conscience Issues	307
Introduction	307
Regulating Public Morality	308
Civil Liberties	308
Equality and Civil Rights	315
Conclusions	320
16 Social Policy in America: Self-reliance and State Dependence	322
The Federal Government and Social Welfare in America:	
The Reluctant Provider	322
Federalism	324
Social Security, Medicare and the Electoral Connection	325
The Continuing Importance of Self-reliance	327
Healthcare Reforms	329
Conclusions	330
17 Managing Economic Change	332
State and Economy in the United States	333

Ideology and Economic Policy	335
Institutions and Economic Policy	339
Conclusions: Economic Policy in an Age of Uncertainty	347
18 The American World Role	349
The Institutional Context	350
American Foreign Policy in the Post-9/11 World	353
Conclusions: Bound to Lead or Bound to Fail?	358
19 The American Political System in the Post-9/11 World	360
Assessing the American Polity	360
Reform and Renewal	364
<i>Websites</i>	367
<i>Appendix: The Constitution of the United States</i>	370
<i>Index</i>	392