



## American Government and Politics Today: Essentials 2015-2016 Edition (with MindTap Political Science, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card) (I Vote for MindTap)

*By Barbara A. Bardes, Mack C. Shelley, Steffen W. Schmidt*

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AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS TODAY: THE ESSENTIALS, 2015-2016 Edition inspires readers to join the exciting process of being active, informed citizens. Unbiased, concisely organized, and updated with Election 2014 coverage, the book's fundamental theme continues to be the importance of participating in active citizenship, emphasizing critical thinking about political issues and encouraging readers to become involved in the political process. The authors incorporate compelling and thought-provoking current examples to stimulate learning and excitement. MindTap™ for Bardes, Shelley, and Schmidt's AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS TODAY: THE ESSENTIALS-Cengage Learning's fully online learning solution-is automatically included with this text.

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### **About the Author**

Barbara A. Bardes is professor emerita of political science at the University of Cincinnati. She received her B.A. and M.A. from Kent State University and her Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati. She served as a faculty member in political science and dean of Mundelein College at Loyola University of Chicago. In 1993, she was appointed dean of Raymond Walters College of the University of Cincinnati, where she served until 2003. She returned to the political science department where she held the position of graduate director before retiring. Bardes has written articles on public and foreign policy, and women and politics. She also has co-authored *Declarations of Independence: Women and Political Power in 19th Century American Novels*; *Thinking About Public Policy*; *Public Opinion: Measuring the American Mind*; and *American Government and Politics Today*.

Mack C. Shelley, II is a professor of political science and statistics at Iowa State University. After receiving his bachelor's degree from American University in Washington, DC, he went on to graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where he received a master's degree in economics and a Ph.D. in political science. He arrived at Iowa State in 1979. From 1993 to 2002, he served as elected co-editor of the *Policy Studies Journal*. Shelley has also published numerous articles, books, and monographs on public policy, including *The Permanent Majority: The Conservative Coalition in the United States Congress*; *Biotechnology And The Research Enterprise: A Guide to the Literature* (with William F. Woodman and Brian J. Reichel); *American Public Policy: The Contemporary Agenda* (with Steven G. Koven and Bert E. Swanson); and *Quality Research in Literacy and Science Education: International Perspectives and Gold Standards* (with Larry Yore and Brian Hand).

Steffen W. Schmidt is a professor of political science at Iowa State University. He grew up in Colombia, South America, and has studied in Colombia, Switzerland, and France. He has a B.A. from Rollins College and obtained his Ph.D. from Columbia University, New York, in public law and government. Dr. Schmidt has published 14 books and over 130 articles in scholarly journals and is the recipient of numerous prestigious teaching prizes, including the Amoco Award for Lifetime Career Achievement in Teaching and the Teacher of the Year award. He is a pioneer in the use of web-based and real-time video courses and is a member of the American Political Science Association's section on Computers and Multimedia. He is known as "Dr. Politics" for his extensive commentary on U.S. politics in U.S. and international media. He is a weekly blogger for Gannett, and comments on CNN en Espanol and Univision, as well as WNYC, New York. Dr. Schmidt is on Facebook (Steffen W Schmidt) and Twitter (DrPolitics).

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