

Midterm Examination POLI 100B Congress

16 July 2008

Professor Poole

**ALL QUESTIONS HAVE EQUAL VALUE SO BUDGET YOUR
TIME ACCORDINGLY. GOOD LUCK!**

1. Why did the authors of the Constitution consider both the Continental Congress and the Confederation Congress abject failures?

2. Explain why Public Opinion is contradictory about Congress.

3. What is a *marginal* Congressional district? Why are they important? What does a “Mayhew Diagram” tell us about their number?

4. **Using Barbara Sinclair (and what you can see every day on the news!), how does the Senate get its work done? That is, explain the role of the filibuster, blue slips, and holds in the operation of the current Senate.**