



Course: UNIV 100 – Section H08 **Theme:** History & Politics

Course Topic: *The Politics of the West Wing*

Description: "Decisions are made by those who show up." - Jed Bartlet (played by Martin Sheen). For 7 seasons, the tv show *The West Wing* brought the drama, frustration, and optimism of American politics into people's homes. The show's creator, Aaron Sorkin, worked with real political operatives to show us a compelling and accurate representation of how the US presidency works. In this class, we will watch key episodes to motivate a discussion of modern American politics. Each episode will be accompanied by readings that are representative of the academic scholarship that this drama is based on. We will research areas of importance for American politics and discuss their implications for current events.