



# The Promise and Performance of American Democracy

By Jon R. Bond, Kevin B. Smith

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Grounded in current political science research and the latest scholarship, **THE PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY**, 10th Edition, uses the title's theme as an organizing framework, effectively engaging students in American politics. The "promise" of democracy is analyzed using three core principles: majority rule, political freedom, and political equality. Bond and Smith further explore these principles in features such as "Living the Promise" and "Promise and Policy" boxes, the latter of which integrates the policy discussion into the chapter, rather than at the end of the book as many other texts handle policy. The "performance" of democracy is integrated into the book with an assessment at the end of every chapter, along with a concluding policy chapter. Adopting instructors praise **THE PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY**, 10th Edition for its great command and incorporation of political science literature and research, including a wealth of quality data in well-illustrated tables and figures. Not only the ideal text for reading and learning, it also is a standard-setting example of how political science is researched and written by the practitioners in academia.

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## **The Promise and Performance of American Democracy By Jon R. Bond, Kevin B. Smith Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #608669 in Books
- Published on: 2011-01-10
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .90" h x 7.30" w x 9.10" l, 2.20 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 720 pages

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"Students enjoy the book's narrative and I enjoy how it conveys scholarly material in a way that's accessible to even those without a Political Science background."- Jeff Fine, Clemson University

### **About the Author**

Jon R. Bond, professor of political science at Texas A&M University, received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research analyzes the policy-making process and the operation of democracy in American politics. Professor Bond has published articles on presidential-congressional relations, congressional elections, and public policy in the discipline's major journals. He is coauthor of *THE PRESIDENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE ARENA*, and coeditor of *POLARIZED POLITICS: CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT IN A PARTISAN ERA*, and *INSTITUTIONAL GAMES AND THE U.S. SUPREME COURT*. In 1987 and 1988, Dr. Bond was An APSA Congressional Fellow, working on the staffs of Senator Lloyd Bentsen and Representative Norman Mineta. He has served as coeditor of the *JOURNAL OF POLITICS*, and as president of the Southern Political Science Association, the oldest regional political science association, and Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society.

Kevin Smith, Professor of Political Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, received his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and works in the fields of biology and politics, public policy, and American politics. He is the coauthor of *THE PUBLIC POLICY THEORY PRIMER* (Westview Press, 2009), *PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: POWER AND POLITICS IN THE FOURTH BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT* (Oxford University Press, 2006), and of numerous articles that have appeared in *SCIENCE*, *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE*, *THE JOURNAL OF POLITICS*, *POLITICAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY*, *PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REVIEW*, and other journals.

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