[](http://k7moa.com/raillink.htm)  
(Photo by Joe O'Connell, 5 February 2005)

**POLS 4555: RAILROADS AND AMERICAN POLITICS**

**Spring Semester AY2019-2020  
Department of Political Science  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA, 30602-1615**  
  
**Classroom: Baldwin 301  
Time: 2:30 - 3:20PM Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

Instructor: **Keith T. Poole**

Office: Room 304D Baldwin Hall  
E-Mail: [ktpoole@uga.edu](mailto:ktpoole@uga.edu)  
WebSite: [Voteview Home Page](http://k7moa.com/)  
  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
  
The following texts will be used in this course:

* John F. Stover, ***American Railroads***
* **Albro Martin, *Enterprise Denied***
* **John Steele Gordon, *The Scarlet Woman of Wall Street***
* **John Steele Gordon, *An Empire of Wealth***
* **Harold C. Livesay, *Andrew Carnegie and the Rise of Big Business***

**Requirements  
  
Grades will be determined by three examinations -- two mid-semester exams and a final exam. The exams will be multiple choice. The midterms will be worth ¼ each and the final 1/2 of the course grade.  
  
The first Mid-Semester exam will be on Friday, 28 February 2020, one hour, in class.  
The second Mid-Semester exam will be on Friday, 3 April 2020, one hour, in class.  
The final is scheduled for Wednesday, 6 May 2020 from 3:30 to 5:30PM**

**Course Outline**

1. **Introduction: Why are Railroads Important?  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapters 1, 2 and 3, *An Empire of Wealth*  
       
     Agenda For Topic 1**[**<="" a="">Agenda For Topic 1**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_1_2015.pdf)

[**<="" a="">  
[http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_1_2015.pdf)**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_1_2015.pdf)[**Why are Railroads Important? (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Why_are_Railroads_Important_2.pptx) **http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Handout for Topic 1 (Part 1, PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_1_1_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Railroads are the best way to move heavy freight**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Railroads_are_the_best_way_to_move_heavy_freight.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**The Alameda Corridor**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Alameda_Corridor_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**The Railroad in American Life**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/The_Railroad_in_American_Life_2013.ppt)

1. **American Politics, Economics, and Business prior to the Railroads: 1800 - 1830  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapters 4 - 8, *An Empire of Wealth***
   * **Chapters 1 and 2, *American Railroads***
   * **Chapters 1 - 3, *A Most Magnificent Machine*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 2**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_2_2011.pdf)

**http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Handout for Topic 2**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_2_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**St. Louis Museum of Transportation**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Big_Boy_St_Louis.pptx)

1. **Railroads as Big Business  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapters 9 - 12, *An Empire of Wealth***
   * **Chapter 3, *American Railroads***
   * **Chapters 4 - 10, *A Most Magnificent Machine*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 3**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_3_2011.pdf)

**http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 3 (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_3_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Oil Refining and Coke Production (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Fractional_Distillation_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Early Railroad Corporate Charters (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Early_Railroad_Corporate_Charters_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**The Trunk Lines as Big Business (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/The_Trunk_Lines_as_Big_Business_2013.ppt)

1. **Andrew Carnegie, the Standard Railway of the World, and the Industrialization of the U.S.  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapter 13, *An Empire of Wealth***
   * **Chapters 1 - 11, *Andrew Carnegie***
   * **Chapters 11 - 14 and Conclusion, *A Most Magnificent Machine*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 4**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_4_2011.pdf)

**http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 4 (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_4_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**1937 Newspaper Article about the Lucy Blast Furnace being Torn Down**](http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1144&dat=19370824&id=wkwbAAAAIBAJ&sjid=2EsEAAAAIBAJ&pg=2563,4355962) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**New Tunnels Being Bored in Manhattan and Queens, New York (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Manhattan_Tunnels.pptx)

1. **The Nature of Railroad Competition  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapter 5, *American Railroads*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 5**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_5_2011.pdf)

**http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**The Political Problems of the Railroads (PDF)**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/The_Sources_of_the_Railroads_Political_Problems_2013.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 5 (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_5_2013_NEW2.pptx) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 5 (PDF)**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_5_2013_NEW.pdf)

1. **Railroads and the Development of Agriculture  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapter 4, *American Railroads***
   * **Chapter 14, *An Empire of Wealth*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 6**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_6_2011.pdf)

**http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**The Political Problems of the Railroads (PDF)**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/The_Sources_of_the_Railroads_Political_Problems_2013A.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 6 (PowerPoint)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_6_2013_NEW.pptx) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**What is Truth?**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Truth.pdf)

1. **Railroads and Government Regulation: 1887-1920  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapters 6 to 8, *American Railroads***
   * **Chapters 15 to 17, *An Empire of Wealth*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 7**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_7_2011.pdf)

**http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Corrupt Practices by Railroad Managers**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Corrupt_Practices_by_Railroad_Managers.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 7 (Part 1)**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_7_2010_A.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Supreme Court Rulings on State Regulation**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Supreme_Court_Rulings_on_State_Regulation.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**The Interstate Commerce Act of 1887**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/The_Interstate_Commerce_Act_of_1887.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Regulatory Acts 1903-1916**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Regulatory_Acts_1903-1916.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 7 (Part 2)**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_7_2010_B.pdf) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 7 (PowerPoint, Part 1)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_7_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 7 (PowerPoint, Part 2)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_7A_2013.ppt) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Handout For Topic 7 (PowerPoint, Part 3)**](http://k7moa.com/PowerPoint/Handout_Railroads_UGA_Topic_7B_2013.ppt)

1. **Railroads Triumphant: 1980 - 2012  
     
   Assignment:**
   * **Chapters 9 and 10, *American Railroads***
   * **Chapters 18 to 20, *An Empire of Wealth*  
       
     http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Agenda For Topic 8**](http://k7moa.com/pdf/Agenda_Topic_8_2013.pdf)
2. **Railroads and the Future of the American Transportation System  
     
   Assignment:**
   * [**Stop This Train! Are Trains Slower Now than they were in the 1920s?**](http://www.slate.com/id/2218394/)**Tom Vanderbilt, *Slate*, May 15, 2009**
   * [**Beware of Low Flying Aircraft!**](http://www.nwownrailfan.com/archives/features/0204camp.html)**Chris Camp, *The Northwest's Own Railfan***
   * [**Improve Existing Rail Lines for Passenger Trains**](http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2010/10/13/will-we-ever-have-high-speed-trains/add-passenger-trains-to-freight-railroads)

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http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Course Web Pages: UC San Diego**](http://k7moa.com/courselinks_ucsd.htm)**(2004 - 2010)  
http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**University of San Diego Law School**](http://k7moa.com/courselinks_usd.htm)**(2005)  
http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Course Web Pages: University of Houston**](http://k7moa.com/courselinks_uh.htm)**(2000 - 2005)  
http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Course Web Pages: Carnegie-Mellon University**](http://k7moa.com/courselinks_cm.htm)**(1997 - 2000)  
http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[***Analyzing Spatial Models of Choice and Judgment with R***](http://k7moa.com/asmcjr.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[***Spatial Models of Parliamentary Voting***](http://k7moa.com/Spatial_Models_of_Parliamentary_Voting.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Recent Working Papers**](http://k7moa.com/recentpapers.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/goldball.gif**[**Analyses of Recent Politics**](http://k7moa.com/recentpolitics.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**About This Website**](http://k7moa.com/about_this_site.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/goldball.gif**[**K7MOA Log Books: 1960 - 2014**](http://k7moa.com/page3.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/blueball2.jpg**[**Bio of Keith T. Poole**](http://k7moa.com/bio.htm) **http://k7moa.com/images/redball2.jpg**[**Related Links**](http://k7moa.com/relatedlinks.htm)