

Discussion Questions for 17.951, Political Behavior

Political Information

- What is political information? Factual information? A skill set? Where is the line between information and heuristics? What is political sophistication? How do we measure these concepts?
- Is politics a unique arena (Luskin) or do people pick up politically relevant information in their everyday lives (Popkin)?
- What is low-information rationality?
- Do low- and high-information or sophistication groups make their political decisions in similar or different ways? Who uses heuristics?
- What happens when the information environment provides misinformation? Who reacts to changing information environments?
- How does the source of information matter?
- Do those who float between parties suffer from low information or do they respond to a changing reality?