

POLI 100E: Interest Groups

Agenda Topic 3: Theories of Interest Group Politics: Ideology, Polarization, and Pluralism

A. The Ideological Structure of American Politics

- 1. The Basic Space of American Politics**
- 2. Measuring Ideology through the Construction of Spatial (Geometric) Maps**
- 3. Using Congressional Roll Call voting to measure ideology over time**
- 4. Ideological Polarization since the 1970s**

B. The Concept of Pluralism

- 1. The Basics of Pluralism**
- 2. The Problems with Pluralism**
- 3. The Geometry of Pluralism**
- 4. Pluralism vs. Social Choice Theory**