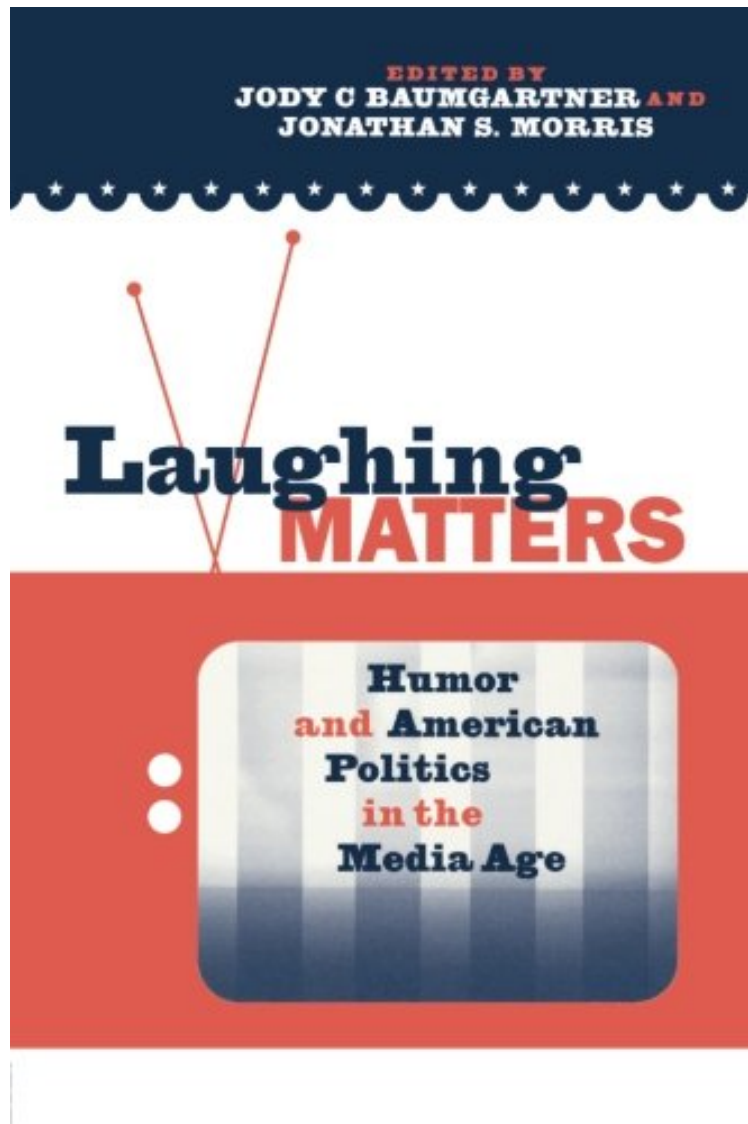


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Laughing Matters: Humor and American Politics in the Media Age

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From Routledge : Laughing Matters: Humor and American Politics in the Media Age before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Laughing Matters: Humor and American Politics in the Media Age:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Clara Calderoniperfect1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great addition to your libraryBy J. AragonI found this book at the university library and was glad that I was "cruising" the new book stacks. This book was fun to read and some chapters even offered some

statistics! This timely book makes the correlation between political humour and satire and the ways in which a good comedian or personality can educate, alienate, and humour audiences alike. I was the most interested with the sections that discussed the "Daily Show," since I am a big fan of Jon Stewart. I plan on using 3-4 chapters in my American Politics during the summer and fall terms. I also appreciated how the anthology as a whole understands the importance of humor to youth today. The audience for this book would be primarily college educated and college students in the social sciences and humanities. What would be interesting to read as a companion piece would be a similar anthology looking at more conservative comedians and analyzing their effects on listeners and viewers. This book looked at mainstream comedians who were primarily center or center/moderate/left. While I'm not too keen on giving more Fox News type more air time, since they pretty much dominate the air waves, I would find this sort of study interesting for teaching purposes. Overall, this anthology was educational and not surprisingly hilarious. I'm hopeful that other political scientists will use this book, as well.

This book examines the role of humor in modern American politics. Written by a wide range of authors from the fields of political science and communication, this book is organized according to two general topics: how the modern media present political humor the various ways in which political humor influences politics. *Laughing Matters* is an excellent text for courses on media and politics, public opinion, and campaigns and elections.

About the Author Jody Baumgartner is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science at East Carolina University. Jonathan S. Morris is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at East Carolina University.