



# Séminaire Général du Centre d'études européennes

## *Ideology in America*

Christopher Ellis & James A. Stimson, Cambridge University Press, 2012

Tuesday 28 October 2014  
12.30-2.30 pm

Sciences Po  
Room Jean Monnet  
56, rue Jacob  
75006 Paris

### Speaker

**James Stimson** (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill & Associate Researcher to Sciences Po, CEE)

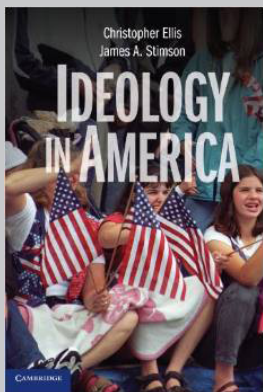
James Stimson, Raymond Dawson Professor of Political Science, returned to Chapel Hill in 1997 after appointments to the political science faculties of SUNY at Buffalo, Florida State, and the Universities of Houston, Iowa, and Minnesota.

He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has won the Eulau and Kammerer Awards of the American Political Science Association, the Chastain Award Graduate of the Southern Political Science Association, the Pi Sigma Alpha Award of the Midwest Political Science Association, and the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching from the State University of New York system.

Former editor of *Political Analysis*, he has served on the editorial boards of *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Methodology*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, and *American Politics Quarterly* and authored articles in all the major journals of political science. He has recently co-authored with Christopher Ellis *Ideology in America* (Cambridge University Press, 2012).

### Discussion

**Adrien Degeorges** (Sciences Po, CEE) & **Patrick Le Galès** (Sciences Po, CEE, CNRS)



Public opinion in the United States contains a paradox. The American public is symbolically conservative: it cherishes the symbols of conservatism and is more likely to identify as conservative than as liberal. Yet at the same time, it is operationally liberal, wanting government to do and spend more to solve a variety of social problems. This book focuses on understanding this contradiction. It argues that both facets of public opinion are real and lasting, not artifacts of the survey context or isolated to particular points in time. By exploring the ideological attitudes of the American public as a whole, and the seemingly conflicted choices of individual citizens, it explains the foundations of this paradox. The keys to understanding this large-scale contradiction, and to thinking about its consequences, are found in Americans' attitudes with respect to religion and culture and in the frames in which elite actors describe policy issues.

Free entrance according to available places  
Contact: [vincent.tiberj@sciencespo.fr](mailto:vincent.tiberj@sciencespo.fr)