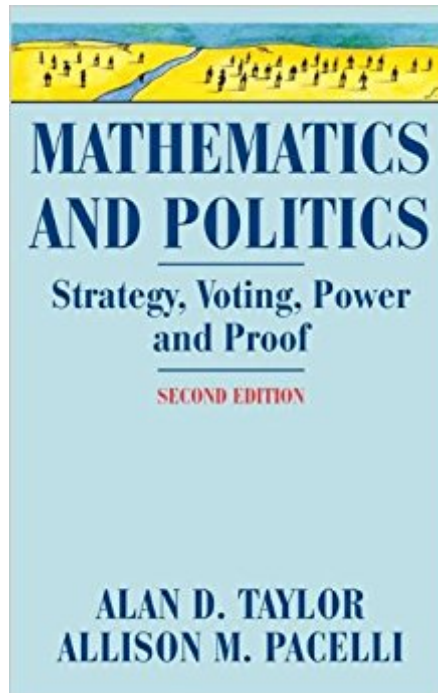


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# Mathematics And Politics: Strategy, Voting, Power, And Proof



## Synopsis

As a text for an undergraduate mathematics course for nonmajors, *Mathematics and Politics* requires no prerequisites in either area while the underlying philosophy involves minimizing algebraic computations and focusing instead on some conceptual aspects of mathematics in the context of important real-world questions in political science. Five major topics are covered including a model of escalation, game theoretic models of international conflict, yes-no voting systems, political power, and social choice. Each topic is discussed in an introductory chapter and revisited in more depth in a later chapter. This new edition has added co-author, Allison Pacelli, and two new chapters on "Fairness" and "More Fairness." The examples and the exercises have been updated and enhanced throughout. Reviews from first edition: This book is well written and has much math of interest. While it is pitched at a non-math audience there is material here that will be new and interesting to the readers... -Sigact News For mathematicians, Taylor's book shows how the social sciences make use of mathematical thinking, in the form of axiomatic systems, and offers a chance to teach this kind of thinking to our students. - The College Mathematics Journal The writing is crisp and the sense of excitement about learning mathematics is seductive. The political conflict examples are well thought out and clear. -Michael C. Munger

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lucidly written exposition with stress on concepts rather than notation manipulation. Dollar auctions, Arrow's theorem, Power indices were especially interesting reading. Probably the best place for a

layman to get the dope on Arrow's impossibility theorem. Does get a bit tedious in some spots with some numerical permutations, but on the whole, I recommend it highly.

that covers the topic in an approachable way. It brings up interesting and theoretical issues with voting systems that have not been solved or overcome.

This book is a very easy read on the mathematics and theory behind voting procedures. It is easy to follow and pretty straightforward in nature.

Beginning chapters are lucid with examples - but towards the end of book, things get rather cloudy - and at the fag end it's almost impossible when the author arrives at the Impossibility Theorem of Kenneth Arrow! Looks like somebody hurried up the author to finish the book and dash it off to the press!

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