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‘Featuring contributions from leading commentators on contemporary US politics, this book is an excellent guide to understanding the Obama Administration and the domestic challenges it has faced’.

Professor Mark Phythian, *University of Leicester, UK.*

‘John Dumbrell has brought together a collection of first rate scholars to review President Obama’s first term. Whether you agree or disagree with the Obama policy agenda, this book will enable you to understand his presidency from a sophisticated perspective’.

James P. Pfiffner, *George Mason University, USA.*

‘This collection of essays, edited by one of Britain’s leading authorities on America, is essential reading for those wishing to understand the Obama presidency and the polarized political culture in which he has tried to lead’.

Mark White, *Professor of History, Queen Mary, University of London, UK.*

‘John Dumbrell has pulled together an outstanding set of essays on modern American politics. These not only illustrate how polarized the United States has become in the age of Bush and Obama. They also reveal – once more – what a fascinating and exceptional country America remains. This is by far the most penetrating and wide-ranging volume on the key issues now facing the US in the opening decades of the 21st century’.

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This wide-ranging book provides readers with a reliable and lively guide to contemporary American political practices, processes and institutions.

Chapters cover phenomena such as the Tea Party upsurge in the Republican Party, Obama’s health care reforms, recent changes to campaign funding emanating from the key Citizens United Supreme Court decision, US foreign policy after the War on Terror, Obama’s presidential strategy and issues relating to polarization and partisanship in US politics.

This work is essential reading for all students of American politics and US foreign policy.

**John Dumbrell is Professor in the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University, UK.**

POLITICS AND AMERICAN STUDIES

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# Issues in American Politics

Polarized politics in the age of Obama

Edited by John Dumbrell

