* Voters and Voter Behavior
* The History of Voting Rights
* Suffrage (franchise) -
* Five Stages
  + 1800’s -
  + Civil War -
  + 19th Amendment -
  + 1960’s -
  + 26th Amendment -
  + Power to set voting qualifications is the states.
* Voter Qualifications
* Citizenship, Residence & Age
* Registration -
* Literacy & Poll tax are banned
* Who may not vote - people in mental institutions, convicted of crimes, dishonorable discharge in armed forces, vagrants, polygamist etc.
* Suffrage and Civil Rights
* How important is the right to vote?
* 15th Amendment - (1870) right to vote cannot be denied to any citizen of the US because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude
* Civil Rights Acts
* Civil Rights Act of 1957 - Civil Rights commission & Attorney general
* Civil Rights Act of 1960- federal voting referees
* Civil Rights Act of 1964 - outlaws discrimination in job-related matters
* Civil Rights Act of 1965 - gets rid of poll tax, literacy tests, allows examiners to oversee elections
* How to Vote
* <http://sos.mt.gov/elections/Vote/index.asp>
* Nonvoting or Idiots
* Problem example - 196.5 million possible voters only 96.3 voted
* Why People Do Not Vote:
  + “Cannot-Voters”-
  + Actual Voters -
* Factors that affect voting - income, education, age, marriage, occupation, issues, competition etc.
* Voter Behavior
* Sociological Factors
  + Income Occupation -
  + Education -
  + Gender & Age -
  + Religious, Ethnic background -
  + Geography -
* Psychological Factors
* Party Identification -
  + Straight-ticket -
  + Split-ticket -
  + Independents
* Candidates and Issues -