

American Grace: how religion divides and unites America

Tuesday 5 April, 2011 5 – 6.30pm

Professor Robert D Putnam Harvard University

The Molonglo Theatre New Crawford School Building #132, Lennox Crossing, The Australian National University



The London Sunday Times has called him "the most influential academic in the world today."

Robert D Putnam is Malkin Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University, and Visiting Professor, University of Manchester (UK). He was the 2006 recipient of the Skytte Prize in political science and has served as an adviser to presidents and national leaders around the world.

He has written more than a dozen books, including 'Bowling Alone' and 'Making Democracy Work', both among the most cited publications in the social sciences in the last half century. Both these works explore aspects of **social capital**. 'Bowling Alone' argues that the United States has undergone an unprecedented collapse in social capital (civic, social, associational, and political life) since the 1960's, with serious negative consequences.

Putnam's most recent book, 'American Grace', co-authored with David Campbell of Notre Dame, focuses on the role of religion in American public life. 'American Grace' is a major achievement in the study of America's religious landscape, and has received advance praise from notable academic, literary, and civic leaders around the country.

Professor Putnam is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the British Academy, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and past president of the American Political Science Association. In this public lecture, hosted by the Crawford School of Economics and Government and the HC Coombs Policy Forum at the ANU, and in partnership with the United States Studies Centre, Professor Putnam will speak about themes from his most recent book, 'American Grace'.

Professor Putnam is currently Visiting Professor at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney.

Presented by

HC Coombs Policy Forum & The Crawford School of Economics & Government, ANU

The United States Studies Centre, University of Sydney

Registration required

E rsvp.crawford@anu.edu.au T 02 6125 0567 This lecture is free and open to the public ANU Public Lecture Series information: anu.edu.au/publiclectures

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