January 20 was the midpoint of this presidential term. So it seems time for some midterm grades – not of his policies but his use of the presidency. Logical "subjects" include:

* How has the president done in terms of getting what he wants from Congress?
* How successfully has he used his appointment powers?
* Has he used his executive power to get the bureaucracy to change domestic policy?
* Has he kept support from his party, and has he been good for his partisan allies?
* How does his public support compare to other presidents at this point in their presidencies?
* How well has he managed the "institutional presidency" – the White House staff and related organizations – to achieve his political and policy goals?

*Is he on track for re-election?

President Trump, however, provokes a question that isn't always asked: namely, how has he affected the broad parameters of American politics – how "the system" works?

It's fair to say that President Trump's ways of relating to the public and the internal workings of his administration have not been the norm. So for assessing his presidency so far, it is especially good to welcome Professor Cohen, a leading scholar of White House organization, to consider how successful President Trump has been separate from what we may think of his goals.

The Friday Public Affairs Discussion Lunch is an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, emeriti and other members of our communities to learn and question each other about public policy issues at the international, national, and local levels. Faculty and other speakers share their research and experience to get beyond the headlines and repetition in the mass media, and the wild rumors of the internet. Lunch is brown bag, but cookies and some beverages are provided by the Center for Policy Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

http://fridaylunch.case.edu/