

FRANK J. GOODNOW

Team: Brooklyn Take Out

Position: Sweeper

Status: In thirty minutes or less

You probably didn't expect to see Frank J. Goodnow (1859–1939) highlighted as a theorist. This is mostly because you are students in an intro course, and if you knew enough to know who should be highlighted as a theorist of bureaucracy, then you wouldn't need to take an intro course and then you wouldn't be reading this book. However, Goodnow is also kind of a dark-horse candidate when it comes to the theorists I might have chosen. Your instructor probably expected Max Weber, but I decided to feature him in a different chapter, and unless your beloved teacher's primary field of interest is public administration, Goodnow probably isn't a familiar name.

Goodnow was a lawyer who studied administrative law. At the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth, he wrote book after book about public administrative law and administrative practice, covering topics ranging from city government to how to rule China. He was also the first president of the American Political Science Association and, as such, was something of a founding father for the modern study of politics. Conceptually, it is fair to say that the legalistic and procedural emphasis in the modern study of public administration comes from his work. I suspect he also invented the pen chained to a desk thing, but the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is hiding the evidence, for obvious reasons.



**THINKER
IN
BOXES**