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DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

Political Science 201-L01 Winter 2018
Introduction to Government and Politics

INSTRUCTOR: Chance A. Minnett Watchel

OFFICE: SS 749

EMAIL: wcaminne@ucalgary.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 11:00am – 12:00pm or by appointment

COURSE DAY/TIME: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 – 10:45am

COURSE LOCATION: CHC 119

COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None

TUTORIAL/SEMINAR: DAY/TIME/LOCATION If the below information changes, please consult your Student Centre record

Tutorial #	Day and Time	Building and Room
TUT 1	Mondays 10:00 – 10:50am	SS 012
TUT 2	Tuesdays 11:00 – 11:50am	SS 012
TUT 3	Thursday 12:30 – 1:20pm	ST 064
TUT 4	Friday 1:00 – 1:50pm	SH 274
TUT 5	Friday 2:00 – 2:50pm	ST 064

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Taruneek Kapoor (tkkapoor@ucalgary.ca)

Christopher Kleingertner (christopher.kleinger@ucalgary.ca)

Yolande Hasselo-de Witte (yolande.hasselodewit@ucalgary.ca)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to the basic concepts, theories, theorists, language, and institutions of politics and political science. Students will examine the foundational ideas and institutions that make up government, both in Canada and around the world. This course provides students with an understanding of government and politics, but also an introduction to political science as a discipline and the prominent subfields within, including political theory and philosophy, public policy, Canadian and comparative politics, and international relations.

This course is delivered by Mr. Chance A. Minnett Watchel.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students are expected to develop a working, introductory vocabulary on subjects of politics and political science to help them critically engage with current issues and debates, and to think critically about the world around them. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Use the “language of political science” appropriately to engage in discussions of politics, government, and governance academically and socially;
- Understand how political institutions and actors shape and inform society, both domestic and international;
- Communicate ideas and arguments critically and concisely, through written assignments, class discussions, and oral presentations.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S):

Garner, Robert, Peter Ferdinand, Stephanie Lawson, and David B. MacDonald. *Introduction to Politics, Second Canadian Edition* (Oxford University Press, 2017).

Additional reading will be made available to students through the D2L course website (d2l.ucalgary.ca).

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Tutorial Attendance	5%	N/A
Tutorial Participation	10%	N/A
Group Presentation	10%	TBD
Assignment #1	5%	Friday, Feb 2, 2018
Quiz #1	15%	Thursday, Feb 8, 2018
Quiz #2	15%	Thursday, March 15, 2018
Assignment #2	20%	Friday, March 23, 2018
Final Exam	20%	TBD
Total	100%	

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS: The schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	COMMENTS
Jan 9 and 11	Introduction to the Course	Garner Introduction	No tutorials
	Introduction to the	Plato’s Cave	

	Study of Politics		
Jan 16 and 18	The State, Authority, and Power	Garner Ch. 1 & 2	Tutorials Begin
Jan 23 and 25	Ideologies I	Garner Ch. 4	
Jan 30 and Feb 1	Ideologies II	Garner Ch. 5 & 6	Assignment #1 Due Fri, Feb 2
Feb 6 and 8	Law, Constitutions, and Federalism	Garner Ch. 8	Quiz #1 Thurs, Feb 8
Feb 13 and 15	Legislatures	Garner Ch. 9	
Feb 20 and 22	NO CLASS – READING WEEK		
Feb 27 and Mar 1	Votes, Voters, Elections, and Parties	Garner Ch. 11	
Mar 6 and 8	Civil Society, Social Movements, and Interest Groups	Garner Ch. 12, D2L Reading	
Mar 13 and 15	Local Politics	D2L Reading	Quiz #2 Thurs, Mar 15
Mar 20 and 22	International Relations	Garner Ch. 14 & 15	Assignment #2 Due Fri, Mar 23
Mar 27 and 29	Politics of Gender	D2L Reading	
Apr 3 and 5	Indigenous Politics	D2L Reading	
Apr 10 and 12	Course Wrap up and Final Exam Review		

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment #1:

The purpose of the first assignment is to challenge students to present competing arguments and evaluate them in a concise manner. As such, students are required to answer one of two set questions in a four-paragraph essay.

You may choose one of the two following questions:

1. Should Canada make voting mandatory? Why or why not?
2. Does using the courts to achieve policy goals subvert democracy? Why or why not?

This assignment must include:

- A title page, including a title related to the content of your paper, your name, the due date, the course number, and the instructors name
- An introductory paragraph, including a thesis statement. The thesis statement articulates what is argued in the assignment and must appear within the introductory paragraph.

Your position is not a mystery the reader uncovers as they read your paper. The reader should know your general position up front.

- Two body paragraphs summarizing and evaluating opposing positions on the topic
- Proper transition statements between paragraphs
- A conclusion paragraph providing a summary of the arguments, the position you have taken, and an explanation as to why you find that position more convincing.
- Be ***no more*** than 800 words
- Assignment is double-spaced, uses 12 pt., Times New Roman font
- Cite three or more (3+) scholarly sources. You may include, but not exclusively rely on, readings assigned in class. You must engage with academic journal articles and/or books.

In this assignment, students are required to quickly and concisely summarize two opposing positions and provide compelling arguments for why one side of the debate is more persuasive. Students should not simply rely on Google to find the answers, but should consult with academic journals and books (digital and in print) to accurately present various positions. Academic work should be integrated into your argument rather than treated as stand-alone statements.

Assignment #2:

The second assignment provides students more space to develop arguments in a scholarly fashion. While the first assignment forces students to be concise, the second provides additional space for students to engage a broader body of literature and develop more complex and nuanced arguments.

Students have two options for this assignment. They may choose from a list of questions provided by the professor after the first assignment is complete

-OR-

students may write on the topic from the first list of questions on which they did not previously write.

Much like the first assignment, this assignment must include:

- A title page, including a title related to the content of your paper, your name, the due date, the course number, and the instructors name
- An introductory paragraph, including a thesis statement. The thesis statement articulates what is argued in the assignment and must appear within the introductory paragraph. Your position is not a mystery the reader uncovers as they read your paper. The reader should know your general position up front.
- A number of body paragraphs summarizing and evaluating positions on the topic
- Proper transition statements between paragraphs
- A conclusion paragraph providing a summary of the arguments, the position you have taken, and an explanation as to why you find that position more convincing.
- Be ***no more*** than 2000 words
- Assignment is double-spaced, uses 12 pt., Times New Roman font
- Cite five or more (5+) scholarly sources. You may include, but not exclusively rely on,

readings assigned in class. You must engage with academic journal articles and/or books.

Essay Style and Formatting:

Students must use Chicago (footnotes) citation style. A portion of a lecture will be devoted to an overview of the citation style and formatting in Microsoft Word.

All essays must be

- Type written
- Double spaced
- Written in 12 point, Times New Roman font
- Left and right margins set at 1" or 2.54cm
- Top and bottom margins set at 1.25" or 3.17cm

Submission:

All assignments must be uploaded to D2L by 23:59 (or 11:59pm) on the day they are due. Do not hand in a physical copy of your paper to your TA, to the professor, or to the Department of Political Science office. Do not email a copy of your paper to the professor or your TA. Assignments must be uploaded to the appropriately named dropbox file. D2L will provide a confirmation message and send a confirmation email once the file has been successfully uploaded.

If you do not receive a confirmation email or a confirmation message stating that your paper was successfully uploaded, please try again. Not successfully uploading your assignment and missing the deadline will result in late penalties. Make sure to keep a copy of your confirmation email until the end of semester.

LATE PENALTIES

Deadlines are treated seriously. It is unfair to students who meet deadlines if those who take extra time are given special treatment. Late papers, those without an extension granted by the instructor, are docked 5 % per day (including weekends). Papers more than 7 days late will not be marked and shall receive a mark of 0%. This penalty applies to all assignments. Beware: computer failure is not grounds for an extension. Always back up your work in order to avoid last-minute catastrophes.

WRITING STATEMENT

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

Group Presentation:

All students are required to participate in group presentations, which are organized by your tutorial leaders and presented to your tutorial sections throughout the course of the semester. While speaking in public is often nerve-wracking for some, it is a useful skill to develop early in one's academic career. In higher level courses, you are expected to participate and contribute substantively on the topics of the day. In your first tutorial, you will arrange yourself into groups and decide on which topic and on which date you will present. Topics are chosen from a list of topics provided by the professor.

PARTICIPATION

Participation in class is encouraged but not required. At times, the professor will call on students during lecture to provide an assessment, give an opinion on a concept covered, or to comment on a topic. It is critical to engage students at the early stages of their academic career and encourage them to participate, as it is expected in higher level courses and in the work force.

Tutorials are where students will earn their participation grade. Attendance is mandatory, but mere attendance is not enough to justify participation marks. Student attendance is recorded each week by the teaching assistant leading tutorials, and constitutes 5% of your overall grade.

Participation in tutorials is worth 10% of your grade. Students are expected to participate in tutorial discussions critically rather than simply offering their thoughts and feelings. To that end, quality of participation is emphasized over quantity. You may have spoken a number of times throughout the tutorial, but if you were off topic or your comments demonstrated no relevance to the discussion at hand, you may receive a lower grade. Saying something matters; what you say and how you engage with your peers matters more.

QUIZZES

There are two quizzes in this course. Quiz #1 will consist of 45 multiple choice questions, covering the reading and lecture material from the beginning of class up to and including the material covered on February 6th. It is a closed book exam and, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Student Accessibility Services, students are expected to write in class.

Quiz #2 will consist of 45 multiple choice questions, covering the reading and lecture material from February 13th up to and including the material covered on March 13th. It is a closed book exam and, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Student Accessibility Services, students are expected to write in class.

FINAL EXAMINATION

The final examination is a three-hour exam scheduled by the registrar. The exam is closed book, and consists of multiple choice and short answer questions. This exam is cumulative, with an emphasis on the material covered after Quiz #2. Completion of the final exam is required.

Documentation must be provided to the Office of the Registrar in order to reschedule the exam.

PLEASE NOTE: STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL COMPONENTS OF THE COURSE TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE.

GRADE SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (94-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-93)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions. If you cannot make office hours, please request a one on one meeting outside of these hours.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cellphones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons (e.g. illness with the appropriate documentation) are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the

examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head.

University Regulations:

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests will be destroyed after three months; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints

and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca