



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

*POLI 321 – Section 1 - Fall 2019*  
*Politics and Government in Canada*

INSTRUCTOR: Jack Lucas  
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 1-4pm  
COURSE DAY/TIME: Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00-9:15am  
COURSE LOCATION: TI Forum

COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None  
TEACHING ASSISTANTS: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This lecture course will provide an intensive introduction to Canadian government and politics. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with the institutional “machinery” of Canadian government and politics (the Constitution, Parliament, and federalism) and Canadian electoral processes (the electoral system, the party system, and voter behaviour). This course will also introduce students to key moments in the development of Canadian politics, as well as scholarly debates about how best to understand and explain the political process in Canada.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who commit themselves to the readings, tutorial discussions, lectures, and assignments in this course will finish the course with (a) the ability to clearly describe the major institutions and processes of Canadian government, (b) the ability to articulate key debates about Canadian politics and an understanding of how the key arguments in these debates can be tested, (c) improved research and writing skills, and (d) an increased ability to think like a social scientist!

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Malcolmson, Patrick, Richard Myers, Gerald Baier, and Thomas Bateman. 2016. *The Canadian Regime*. Sixth edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Russell, Peter. 2017. *Canada's Odyssey*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

**COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS:***Schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.*

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
September 5	Introduction	
<b>PART ONE: CANADIAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT</b>		
September 10	Colonialism and Empire 1	<i>CO</i> 1,3
September 12	Colonialism and Empire 2	<i>CO</i> , 6
September 17	Responsible Government	<i>TCR</i> , 3
September 19	Confederation 1	<i>CO</i> , 7
September 24	Confederation 2	BNA Act (D2L)
September 26	Provincial Rights 1	<i>CO</i> , 9
October 1	Provincial Rights 2	<i>CO</i> , 11
October 3	Charter of Rights and Freedoms 1	<i>CO</i> , 14
October 8	<b>Unit 1 Test</b>	
<b>PART TWO: CANADIAN ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS</b>		
October 10	Elections and the Franchise	“History of the Vote” D2L
October 15	Electoral Systems 1	<i>TCR</i> , 9
October 17	Electoral Systems 2	
October 22	Political Parties	<i>TCR</i> , 10
October 24	Political Party Systems	
October 29	<b>Unit 2 Test</b>	
<b>CANADIAN GOVERNING INSTITUTIONS</b>		
October 31	Legislature 1	<i>TCR</i> , 7
November 5	Legislature 2	
November 7	Cabinet and Prime Minister 1	<i>TCR</i> , 6
November 19	Cabinet and Prime Minister 2	White (D2L)
November 21	Senate	
November 26	Federalism 1	<i>TCR</i> , 4
November 28	Federalism 2	
December 3	Charter of Rights and Freedoms 2	<i>TCR</i> , 5
December 5	Course Review and Conclusion	

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

Evaluation	Due date	Value
Assignments		
Leaders Debate & CPD	October 22	15%
Book Review	November 21	15%
Tests and Exam		
Unit 1 Test	October 8	20%
Unit 2 Test	October 29	20%
Final Exam	Exam Period, Dec 9-19, 2019	30%

**Assignments (30%):** These assignments are intended to refine the research and analysis skills needed to understand Canadian politics, while also connecting class material to ongoing events in Canadian politics. The details for each assignment are available on D2L; I will also discuss each assignment in class before it is due. All assignments will be submitted to the instructor electronically via D2L.

- 1) Leaders debate and Canadian political development. In this assignment, you will write a short paper on the Canadian federal leaders debate, assessing the strategies and performance of each leader and making connections between the debate and key themes in Canadian political development explored in class. This paper will be approximately 750 words in length. It is due on **October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59pm.**
- 2) Book review. In this assignment, you will write a short review of a recent book in Canadian political science; I will provide a list of books on D2L. Your review will summarize the arguments and evidence of the book and offer an analysis of how the book contributes to Canadian political science. The book review will be approximately 1000 words in length. It is due on **November 21<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.**

**Unit Tests (40%):** These 60-minute, closed-book, in-class tests will take place on October 8 and October 29. The tests will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions related to course lectures and readings. More details will be provided in class and on D2L.

**Final Exam (30%):** This 120-minute, closed-book exam will take place during the exam period. The exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions along with one or more synthetic essay questions. No aids will be permitted during the final examination. More details will be provided in class and on D2L.

### LATE PENALTIES

In the absence of formal approval from the instructor, all late assignments will **receive a grade of zero**. Please speak with the instructor **well in advance of the due date** if you have any concerns about assignment or test timelines.

## **GRADE SCALE**

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

## **CONTACT AND ASSISTANCE**

Students who wish to discuss course material, or who have questions about assignments or any other aspects of the course, are encouraged to meet with the instructor during class or office hours. Outside of class or office hours, the best way to reach the instructor is by email.

## **COMPUTERS AND MOBILE DEVICES**

Current research on laptops and mobile devices in the classroom shows that student performance, participation, and attention are reduced when electronic devices are present. Please be considerate of others and switch off all mobile devices when you enter the classroom. Texting, web browsing, tweeting, facebooking, instagramming, snapchatting, and all other forms of instant mobile communication are extremely disruptive to others (and probably not great for your brain chemistry) and they will not be tolerated!

Laptops and other electronic note-taking devices are permitted in the classroom for purposes of note-taking and course-related activities only.

## **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 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

## IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

### Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioner for Oaths, visit [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

*Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.*

#### Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons 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 then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

#### University Regulations:

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://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/](http://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.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

#### Copyright Legislation:

As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, “students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.”

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

#### 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 meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; 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](http://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](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)  
Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)  
URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

#### **Campus Mental Health Resources:**

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>  
Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>