



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

FACULTY OF ARTS

Poli 321 02

**Politics and Government in Canada
Winter 2019**

INSTRUCTOR	Dr. David Stewart
TELEPHONE	220-6727
OFFICE	SS 716
EMAIL	dstewart@ucalgary.ca
WEBSITE	http://d2l.ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS	TBA
LECTURE LOCATION	AD 140
LECTURE TIMES	MWF 9:00-9:50

Course Description

The course will examine Canadian politics with a particular emphasis on the formal institutions of the Canadian State. Throughout the term students will examine key institutions such as the constitution, federalism, and parliament. The course will also look at some of the key cleavages in Canadian politics as well as the bureaucracy and political parties, elections, and interest groups. The course will basically follow a lecture format, although guest speakers and video presentations may also be used. The course has a seminar component in which all students must be registered. This seminar will provide opportunities for small group discussions of issues related to the course material. Some time at the beginning of classes may be given to a discussion of contemporary Canadian political issues.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Students will become familiar with the history and evolution of politics and government in Canada

Students will develop ability to describe the major institutions and processes of Canadian government

Students will develop research and writing skills

Students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to critically evaluate democracy in Canada

Students will develop the ability to discuss issues relating to Canadian political institutions and processes

Required Texts

The required text is: Stephen Brooks, Canadian Democracy, (8th Edition, 2016). The text will be available from the bookstore.

Grade Distribution

Quizzes (5)	25%
Term Paper	30%
Final Exam	45 %
	100%

Grades

Students should be aware that writing and the grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work.

Quizzes: 25%

There will be five quizzes throughout the course, but only the grades of the best three will be used. The quizzes will test students' knowledge of the course material covered in the assigned readings as well as lectures. Quizzes will be multiple choice and take place at the beginning of class. Students will have 20 minutes to complete the quiz. The first two missed quizzes will be treated as the quiz scores to be dropped.

Quizzes will be held on:

- January 25
- February 8
- March 1
- March 22
- April 12

Term Paper 30%

A list of term paper topics will be provided in class at least six weeks prior to the due date. Other topics may be pursued only with the prior written consent of the instructor. The papers will be evaluated on writing as well as content. A hard copy of the paper must be submitted by the beginning of class on March 29.

There will be a penalty of 3 percentage points for every day a paper is late. Papers not submitted in class will be considered late. Papers more than two weeks late will not be accepted.

Final Exam 45% (Registrar scheduled April 15-27)

Travel arrangements should not be made until the Exam schedule is released. The exam will be two hours in length and include an essay question and multiple choice questions. The exam will be closed book and no aids are permitted.

Grade Equivalencies

A+	=	90-100	B+	=	77-79	C+	=	66-69	D+	=	55-59	F	=	0-49
A	=	85-89	B	=	74-76	C	=	63-65	D	=	50-54			
A-	=	80-84	B-	=	70-73	C-	=	60-62						

Course Outline*

Opening Class: January 11: Discussion of Syllabus and general course overview

COURSE OUTLINE:

Topic 1/ Introduction: Politics, Liberal Democracy and Confederation*

Required Readings:
Brooks, Chapter 1

Topic 2/ The Canadian Political Environment

Required Readings:
Brooks, Part Two and Chapters 14-16

Topic 3/ Constitutional Documents and Reform, the Charter and Courts

Required Readings:
Brooks, Chapters 6-7.
Constitution Acts <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/index.html>

Topic 4/ Federalism:

Required Readings:
Brooks, Chapter 8

Topic 5/ Parliament and Cabinet:

Required Readings:
Brooks, Chapter 8

Topic 6/ Bureaucracy and Public Policy:

Required Readings:
Brooks, Chapter 9

Topic 7/ Political Participation

Required Readings:
Brooks, Part IV

8/ Course Wrap-up April 12

*The course schedule is tentative and may be revised according to the availability of guest speakers. Students are responsible for finding out about schedule changes announced in class. Equal time will not be given to all topics. Quizzes will be based on materials and readings corresponding to the classes between the last quiz and the class prior to the quiz date. Other readings may be added.

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 cell phones 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

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). 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 Commissioners for Oaths, visit 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/n-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.

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 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 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

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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

Campus Mental Health Resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>