COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This is a lecture-based course introducing students to the formal study of Canadian politics. It explores political processes and institutions such as the constitution, federalism, regionalism, elections, political parties, parliament, the bureaucracy, and interest groups.

Where possible, we will cover and discuss contemporary issues and debates in Canadian politics. Students are encouraged to stay abreast of Canadian politics via reliable news outlets as a means of giving substance to information covered in class.

The course schedule outlining weekly topics is below. While departures may occasionally occur, such as guest lectures and video presentations, the course will generally follow that schedule. The assigned reading is from the text available at the University of Calgary Bookstore. Supplementary materials are listed at the end of each chapter of the text and are available via the University of Calgary Library.

After completing the course, students will:

- Be able to identify critical features of Canadian democracy
- Have developed a sophisticated understanding of important institutional and procedural elements of the Canadian politics
- Understand key concepts such as democracy, representation, and accountability
- Have honed their research and essay writing skills.
COURSE RESOURCES

Course Textbook

The text may be purchased in hard copy or electronic form. Check to see if the book is available from closed reserve or electronically via the Library.

Course Website
There is a course D2L site at https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home. D2L will also be used for announcements and to facilitate communication among students and between students and the instructor/s. Additional information on various aspects of the course may be placed on the website.

Websites
Whereas most books and journal articles available through the University of Calgary library will have passed several rigorous tests of their scholarship and veracity, this is not the case for websites, which can be published with little or no checking of their content. While many websites offer useful and trustworthy information, you should not accept at face value everything you read or see on the web.

University of Calgary Library
The Political Science & Public Policy Librarian Mr. John Wright can assist you in finding your way around the various resources available in the library. Conducting a simple subject search using 'Canadian politics', 'Canadian Constitution', ‘Federal government Canada' or individual topics such as parliament, constitutions, and so forth should produce a list of resources for essay writing.

Academic Journals and Databases for Essays
Relevant journal articles are a most impressive addition to any research paper. Making use of the electronic database search engines – such as Web of Science or International Political Science Abstracts – found on the University of Calgary Library website should furnish a range of valuable articles. The following journals may be particularly useful and are easily accessible via a library search:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canadian Journal of Political Science</th>
<th>Publius (Journal of Federalism)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Political Science Review</td>
<td>The Journal of Canadian Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Public Policy</td>
<td>The American Review of Canadian Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Public Administration</td>
<td>Policy Options</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSESSMENT

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A+= 90-100 = 4.00</th>
<th>B+ = 77-79 = 3.30</th>
<th>C+ = 67-69 = 2.30</th>
<th>D+ = 55-59 = 1.30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 85-89 = 4.00</td>
<td>B = 74-76 = 3.00</td>
<td>C = 64-66 = 2.00</td>
<td>D = 50-54 = 1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A- = 80-84 = 3.70</td>
<td>B- = 70-73 = 2.70</td>
<td>C- = 60-63 = 1.70</td>
<td>F = 0-49 = 0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. **Quizzes (30% of final grade)**
There will be three closed book in-class multiple choice quizzes at the beginning of class on the dates noted. Only the grades of the best two will count toward your final grade. Students will have 15 minutes to complete the quiz. A missed quiz will be treated as the quiz score to be dropped.

Subsequent missed quizzes may be retaken if appropriate documentation excusing the absence is made available to the instructor. Please confirm a score has been recorded for each quiz you sit once the instructor indicates that the results have been posted.

The quizzes test students’ knowledge of the course material covered in the assigned readings as well as the lectures and discussions. The first quiz covers material up until the previous lecture. Subsequent quizzes cover classes from the last quiz to the lecture preceding the quiz.

Quizzes (2 x 15% - lowest quiz grade omitted)
Quiz 1, **Friday, February 7th**; Quiz 2, **Friday, March 13th**; Quiz 3, **Wednesday, April 8th**.

2. **Research Essay (30% of final grade)**
A 10 page, 2,500-word research essay is due in the course Dropbox in D2L by **21:00 Hrs, Friday, March 20, 2020**. Essays submitted after this time will not receive detailed grading comments. Essays received after 21:00 Hrs, Monday, March 23, 2020 will incur a grade penalty of 3% for each day they are late, beginning at 21:01 on March 23, 2020.

*Essay Topics and instructions will be available on the course website under ‘Assignments.’*

The research essay allows students to extend their understanding of the ideas and frameworks introduced in the lectures. They must consistently follow scholarly conventions for footnoting, referencing and bibliography. The essay should contain a thesis statement that responds to the question asked, a body that presents a logical argument, and a conclusion consistent with these other features. The bibliography should contain at least 10 relevant sources. Remember that a well-chosen journal article is likely to indicate you have worked hard to explain your answer.

Please use the American Psychology Association (APA) format of in-text, parenthetical citations for documenting sources. Information on this is available from many sources, including the Student Success Centre ([https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support)) which offers a range of tools to assist you in writing a superior essay. A grading scheme will be provided on the course website.

Requests for extensions due to illness or the like must be made to the instructor before the due date and accompanied by suitable documentation. See Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration below.

3. **Final Exam (40% of final grade)**
There will be a 2 hour take home exam consisting of short answers and essays at the end of the term made available electronically at 14:00 Hrs on Wednesday April 15, 2020 and due on **Sunday, April 19th, at 21:00 Hrs** at which time the portal will close. As such, late exams cannot be accepted. All students must adhere to a common timeline for receiving and submitting the final exam. Please do not make any travel or other arrangements that compromise your capacity to meet this demand.
LECTURE SCHEDULE
Required weekly readings as well as discussion questions we will be covering in class are available from the course website. Please review the assigned readings, as we will be discussing them in class. Lectures, the text and assigned readings as well as class discussions will inform the questions asked in the in-class quizzes. Relevant additional materials and readings may be made available on the course website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK OF</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>BASIC READING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>Introduction: Canadian Politics</td>
<td>Text: M &amp; W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>The Constitution</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>Federalism &amp; Regionalism</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>The Executive</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>First in-class quiz – Friday, February 7th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Break, No Classes Sunday-Saturday, February 16-22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>The Justice System</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Public Policy and Administration</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Political Parties</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Democracy and Elections</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>The Media and Political Communication</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Political Activism: Interest Groups and Social Movements</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>Diversity and Representation</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Canada’s Place in the World</td>
<td>M &amp; W Chapter 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recording Lectures
Recording of lectures is permitted for individual private study for those who have requested relevant academic accommodation and for others at the discretion of the instructor. Please contact the instructor for further information before recording any lectures. Any other use of recording constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.

Contacting the Instructor
Given the limitations of email, students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to their instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet with the instructor outside of office hours, please telephone or email the instructor to make an appointment. It is to the student’s advantage to keep such appointments and to be courteous in all forms of communication.
Counselling and Student Development Centre
The Counselling Centre offers services in three major areas; personal counselling, career development and academic success. Should you require assistance, please phone 403.220.5893 or review the website at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/counselling/

Writing
Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity and organization, will be considered 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 https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/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). 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/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.

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.


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.

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.”

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 Tower, Room 116.

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: askgsa@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/

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the:
Student Wellness Services (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre):  
https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services

and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website:  https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/.