



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 342 L01
Law & Politics
Fall 2019

COURSE SUMMARY

INSTRUCTOR: Ian Brodie
OFFICE: SS 708 / (403) 220-3030
EMAIL: irbrodie@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, 11-12, or by prior arrangement.
COURSE DAY/TIME: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:45
COURSE LOCATION: TI Forum

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION & INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH

An introduction to the interplay between legal and political personnel, institutions, and processes. Examination of these connections in democratic states focusing on Canada in comparative perspective, authoritarian regimes, transitional and hybrid regimes, and the international system.

The course is based on lectures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who commit to the readings, class discussions, and assignments will finish the course able to:

- (a) Explain the connection between freedom, the rule of law and the creation of courts;
- (b) Explain the roles of Canada's judicial institutions;
- (c) Explain the shift of judicial role that took place in Canada from the mid-1970s to

today; and
 (d) Connect that shift of role to developments in intervention, interest group litigation and theories of democracy.

LEARNING RESOURCES

The required texts for this course are:

Hausegger, Lori, et al. Canadian Courts: Law, Politics, and Process. 2nd ed., Oxford University Press Canada, 2015.

Morton, F. L., and Dave Snow. Law, Politics and the Judicial Process in Canada. 4th ed., University of Calgary Press, 2018.

Additional materials are available on the D2L site for this course.

COURSE COMPONENTS, WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Case Note	10%	September 17, 2019
Article Note	15%	October 8, 2019
First Class Test	25%	October 1, 2019
Second Class Test	25%	November 5, 2019
Final Examination	25%	Scheduled by Registrar
Total	100%	

Case and Article Notes

These short, written assignments (800-1000 words) will be submitted in PDF format through D2L. Assignment details and rubrics will be available on D2L.

Late submissions will be docked 5% per day late.

Class Tests

The Class Tests will each be one hour long and will be administered during the regular class timeslot. They will include a mix of multiple-choice and short-answer questions.

Final Examination

The Final Examination take place at a time and location assigned by the Registrar. It will be a two-hour exam and no study aids will be permitted. The exam will consist of both multiple-choice and longer-answer questions.

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS

A detailed schedule listing dates and assigned readings is available on D2L. Schedule is subject to changes announced on D2L.

DATES	TOPIC
September 5 - 19	The rule of law and the courts
September 24 - 26	Canada’s judicial system
October 3 – 22	Judicial decision-making
October 24	TBD
October 29 – November 7	Governments and interest groups in court
November 10 – 16	Study Break
November 19 – December 3	Judicial power and democracy
December 5	Review for Exam

GRADE SCALE

The following grading scale will be used:

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)

LATE PENALTIES

Late submissions of the Court and Article Notes will be docked 5% per day late.

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

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. If you need to communicate by email,

but sure to include POLI 342 in the subject line.

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.

Unless required by the Student Accessibility Centre, it is forbidden to record the seminars.

All materials provided by the instructor are provided under the terms of an Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International (CC BY-NC 4.0) licence. See creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

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>.

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.

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

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.”

<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 and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom. The assembly point for TFDL is the Professional Faculties Building Food Court.

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