



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

*POLI 425 L01 – Fall 2018*  
*City Government*

*Prerequisite: POLI 321 or consent of the Department.*

**Instructor:** Jack Lucas

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**Phone:** (403) 210-7610

**Office Hours:** Mondays 3:30 – 5:00 (SS 738) or by appointment.

**Time and Location:** Tuesdays, 5:00-7:45 (EDC 284)

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an intensive introduction to the government and politics of Canadian cities, with a special focus on cities in western Canada. We will pay particular attention to the municipal elections occurring across Canada in 2018. By the end of the course, you will be familiar with the basic institutional “machinery” of Canadian cities, the central features of elections and voting behaviour in municipalities, and the historical development of the core features of Canadian urban democracy.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who commit themselves to the readings, lectures, class discussions, and assignments in this course will finish the course with (a) substantial knowledge of municipal elections, politics, and voting behaviour in Canada; (b) the ability to describe the basic structures of Canadian local government; (c) substantial knowledge of the development of Canadian urban politics and the theoretical debates about that development; (d) improved skills in library-based research and academic writing; (e) an increased ability to think like a social scientist about city politics!

## **TEXTBOOK**

There is no assigned textbook in this course. All assigned readings are available on D2L.

**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)

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION**

<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Due date</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Assignments</b>		
Municipal election updates	Weekly	10%
Calgary election analysis	October 2	15%
Municipal Election Briefing	November 6	20%
Midterm Test	October 30	25%
Take Home Exam	December 12	30%

**Assignments (45%):** These assignments are intended to expose you to city politics as it happens and refine the research and analysis skills needed to understand Canadian city politics. The details for each assignment are available on D2L; we will also discuss each assignment in class before it is due. All of the assignments will be submitted to the instructor electronically.

- 1) Municipal election updates. Working in a small group, you will provide a short (two-minute) summary on municipal elections in a major Canadian city. You will coordinate this presentation on D2L and one group member will present the summary each week. You will receive 5% for your online participation and 5% for your presentation(s).
- 2) Calgary election analysis. In this assignment, you will analyse data from the Canadian Municipal Election Study to explain patterns of turnout and vote choice in Calgary. This report will be 1-2 of single-spaced text. Due date: **October 2**.
- 3) Election briefing. In this assignment, you will write a briefing on a major municipal election in Canada. You will have some choice in which city you choose for this briefing. This briefing will be 3-4 pages of single-spaced text. Due date: **November 6**.

**Midterm Test (25%):** This 60-minute, closed-book, in-class test will take place on October 30. The test 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.

**Take-Home Exam (30%):** The take-home exam will consist of one or more essay questions drawn from course lectures and readings. Students must submit the exam in electronic format by 11:59pm on December 12th. The exam will be distributed on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **LATE PENALTIES**

In the absence of medical documentation, all late assignments will **receive a grade of zero**. Final examinations submitted after the 11:59pm deadline on December 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **WEEKLY SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED READINGS**

Week 1 (Sept. 11): Course Introduction

*Research lab: an introduction to the tools you'll need for an (A) in this class.*

Week 2 (Sept. 18): The Municipal Corporation

Isin, Engin. 1992. *Cities Without Citizens*. Montreal: Black Rose Books. Pages 140-179.

*Research lab: finding good academic sources*

Week 3 (Sept. 25): The Electoral System

Koop, Royce and John Kraemer. 2016. "Wards, At-Large Systems, and the Focus of Representation in Canadian Cities." *Canadian Journal of Pol. Science* 49(3): 433-448.

Moore, Aaron. 2017. "The Potential and Consequences of Municipal Electoral Reform." *IMFG Perspectives*.

[https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/bitstream/1807/78793/1/IMFG\\_perspectives\\_20\\_electoral\\_reform\\_AaronMoore\\_Oct\\_17\\_2017.pdf](https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/bitstream/1807/78793/1/IMFG_perspectives_20_electoral_reform_AaronMoore_Oct_17_2017.pdf)

*Research lab: how to read a regression table*

Week 4 (Oct. 2): Political Careers

Lucas, Jack and Anthony Sayers. 2018. "Responsiveness, Accountability, and the Long-term Development of Local Political Careers in Calgary and Edmonton." In *Accountability and Responsiveness at the Municipal Level*, edited by Sandra Breux and Jerome Couture. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Franceschet, Susan and Jack Lucas. 2017. Calgary Municipal Election Newsletter: Women in Calgary City Politics (only the briefing at the end). <https://us16.campaign-archive.com/?u=5a028351ce85ab7f178d95959&id=2e6dd79557>

Lucas, Jack. 2017. Calgary Municipal Election Newsletter: The Iron Law of Incumbency (only the briefing at the end). <https://us16.campaign-archive.com/?u=5a028351ce85ab7f178d95959&id=3615de2863>

*Research lab: newspaper research*

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### Week 5 (Oct. 9): Political Parties

Lucas, Jack. 2017. Calgary Municipal Election Newsletter: Political Parties (only the briefing at the end). <https://us16.campaign-archive.com/?u=5a028351ce85ab7f178d95959&id=018d7792a4>

Lucas, Jack and John Santos. 2018. “Calgary”. Unpublished Manuscript (excerpts).

*Research lab: MS excel, part 1*

### Week 6 (Oct. 16): Midterm Test

No required readings: study for the midterm!

*Research lab: MS excel, part 2*

### Week 7 (Oct. 23): Ideology

Tausanovitch, Chris and Christopher Warshaw. 2014. “Representation in Municipal Government.” *American Political Science Review* 108(3): 605-641.

*Research lab: MS excel, part 3*

### Week 8 (Oct. 30): Issues

Lucas, Jack and Alison Smith. 2018. “Issue Importance in Canadian Cities.” Manuscript.

*Research lab: Writing and editing*

### Week 9 (Nov. 6): Geography

Taylor, Zack. 2018. “Neighbourhood Effects in Canada.” Manuscript.

*Research lab: Spatial data*

### Week 10 (Nov. 20): Race and Ethnicity

Bird, Karen, Samantha D. Jackson, R. Michael McGregor, and Aaron Moore. 2016. “Sex (And Ethnicity) in the City: Affinity Voting in the 2014 Toronto Mayoral Election.” *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 49(2): 359-383.

*Research lab: Surveys, part 1*

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Week 11 (Nov. 27): The Economy

Anderson, Cameron and Jack Lucas. 2017. Calgary Municipal Election Newsletter: Economic Voting (only the “briefing” at the end). <https://us16.campaign-archive.com/?u=5a028351ce85ab7f178d95959&id=94e67fb274>

*Research lab: Surveys, part 2*

Week 12 (Dec. 4): Other Governments

No required reading: prepare for course review!

*Research lab: course review!*

### **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.

### **OTHER 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

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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-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

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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: [ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca](mailto:ask@gsa.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/>