



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

**POLI 447—Comparative Public Policy
Winter 2019**

Instructor: Dr. Susan Franceschet
Email: sfrances@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30-3 pm, **or by appointment**
Office: Social Sciences Tower 736, phone 220-5931
Class Time and Location: Tuesdays 5-7:45pm EDC 284

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines public policies in comparative perspective, seeking to explain why policies differ so much from country to country. The course focuses mainly on Western Europe and North America. Topics include social policy (social assistance, unemployment assistance, health care, child care, and parental leave), “morality” policies like drugs, abortion, and same-sex marriage, and policies surrounding migration and citizenship (immigration, naturalization, and multicultural accommodation policies).

Political Science 357 **or** 359 is a prerequisite for this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Throughout the course, students will deepen their understanding of how and why certain issues become public “problems” to be addressed by governments, and then how policy responses are formulated and implemented in different institutional contexts and in societies with different political cultures and historical legacies. Because the course adopts a comparative approach, students will learn more about politics, policy, and political systems outside of Canada, while also deepening their understanding of how and why Canada differs from other wealthy democracies in many policy areas. Students will learn how to think and write critically about politics and public policy.

COURSE WORK AND EVALUATION:

Although this is primarily a lecture course, active student participation is strongly encouraged, and there will be numerous in-class exercises. Course work includes one written assignment, an in-class mid-term test, and a final take-home exam (distributed on the last day of class). Instructions and evaluation criteria for the written assignment will be posted on D2L. The mid-term test will include multiple choice and short answer questions. Students are not permitted to use study aids and materials during the test. The written assignment and final take-home exam will be submitted on D2L.

GRADE ALLOCATION AND DUE DATES:

Mid-term test (February 12 th)	30%
Research essay (Due March 19 th)	35%
Final take-home exam (Due April 15 th)	35%
Total	100%

GRADING SCALE:

A+	95-100	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	57-59
A	88-94	B	73-76	C	63-66	D	50-56
A-	80-87	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	F	0-49

Please note that all written work (assignment, mid-term, and final exam) will be evaluated on the basis of both *content* and *style*. Clarity, precision, grammar, and proper spelling on your written work will help to determine your grade. Good papers are based on solid and extensive research and are clear, well organized, and precise, while also advancing a thoughtful and original perspective on the topic.

LATE PENALTIES

Students must submit written assignments electronically through D2L. Late assignments will be subject to a penalty of 3% per day. Assignments submitted after April 5th will **not** be graded.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Good note-taking skills are key to doing well on the quiz, mid-term, and final exam. Although students are permitted to use laptops or tablets for taking notes during lectures, this must be done responsibly. Using laptops or tablets during class for any purpose other than note taking is highly disruptive to other students and, as such, will not be tolerated. Cell phones must **NOT** be used during class.

TEXTBOOK AND READING

There is no required textbook for the course. All required reading will be available through the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL) or posted on D2L.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND TOPICS

Specific dates and required readings for each topic will be posted on D2L by the first day of class. Please consult D2L announcements regularly.

*Topics, schedule, and required readings are subject to change.

I	Introduction: What is comparative public policy and how is it done?
II	Understanding the Context: Who makes and shapes policy? How and why do institutions matter for understanding the policy process?
III	Understanding the origins and trajectories of social policy and welfare states
IV	Making sense of American social policy
V	Social policy in Germany, France, and Sweden

VI	What's in a Name? Why are "family" policies so different around the world? Comparing Germany, France, and the United States
VII	Immigration, Citizenship, and the Politics and Policies of Multicultural Accommodation around the World
VIII	The Politics of "Morality" Policy:

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.

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-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

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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

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/>