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DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

*POLI 621 – L01 – Winter 2018*  
*Canadian Political Institutions*

**Instructor:** Jack Lucas

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**Office Hours:** Wednesdays, 2:45-4:00 and by appointment.

**Time and Location:** Wednesdays, 12:00-2:45, SS729.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an introduction to the key institutions that comprise the Canadian state, including the Canadian Constitution, federalism, executives and legislatures, the courts, and electoral systems. The course also provides an introduction to theories of institutions and institutional change, with an emphasis on the value of such theories for understanding the Canadian case.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who commit fully to the readings, class discussions, and assignments in this course will finish the course with (a) the ability to clearly describe central debates in Canadian political science related to major institutions of the Canadian state; (b) some exposure to institutionalist theories in their rational choice, sociological, and historical variants; (c) the ability to design and execute research projects on topics related to Canadian institutions.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Please purchase a copy of the texts below. All are readily available from major online retailers. Used / shared / borrowed copies are fine.

Abbott, Andrew. 2014. *Digital Paper: A Manual for Research and Writing with Library and Internet Materials*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Alfred, Taiaiake. 2008. *Peace, Power, Righteousness*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Oxford: OUP.

Potter, Andrew, Daniel Weinstock, and Peter Loewen, eds. 2017. *Should We Change How We Vote*. Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Jacqueline Krikorian et al., eds. 2017. *Roads to Confederation: The Making of Canada, 1867*. Volume 1. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Macpherson, C.B. 2013. *Democracy in Alberta: Social Credit and the Party System*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. (New edition; original published in 1953).

## 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

Evaluation	Date	Value
Class participation		30%
Literature review	February 14	10%
Mini Analysis	March 14	10%
Paper Presentation and Comments	April 11	10%
Research Essay	April 18	40%

**Class participation** (30%). This is a seminar course. Students are expected to participate fully in weekly meetings; student participation should be based on careful reading of each of the assigned readings. Having completed each reading, students should write a one-paragraph reflection on the reading, noting the reading's key themes and arguments, evidence, and contribution. Summaries should be about one page in total length. I will collect these short summaries each week and include them in each student's participation grade.

**Literature review** (10%). A literature review of no more than three double-spaced pages will be due on February 14. The literature review should outline key sources related to the student's chosen research essay topic, outline central lines of debate, and evaluate major methods and sources of evidence. I will provide detailed instructions on the literature review in class.

**Mini Analysis** (10%). Students will present and submit a "mini-analysis" related to the topic of their research essay on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The mini-analysis is a substantial piece of research that will inform the research essay: a small discourse analysis, compiled demographic data, a small piece of quantitative research, etc. We will discuss the role of mini-analyses in research essays in class.

**Paper Presentation and Comments** (10%). Our final meeting will consist of a "conference" in which each student will present a draft of his or her research paper and provide discussant comments on the paper of one of his or her colleagues. Students will be evaluated on the quality of their presentation as well as their discussant remarks.

**Research Essay (40%).** A research essay of no more than 7,000 words is due on April 18<sup>th</sup>, and should be submitted to the instructor by email in MS Word (.doc or .docx) format. The research essay must outline an empirical and theoretical puzzle, outline the scholarly literature on that puzzle, identify a substantive research project related to the puzzles, and address the puzzle using library-based sources or (optionally) original research. Students will develop their research question in class and in ongoing consultation with the instructor.

All written material in exams and essays will be evaluated both for content and for writing quality, including proper formatting and correct spelling and grammar. All written assignments will be submitted to the instructor electronically by email; I will provide detailed submission instructions in class and on D2L.

### **LATE PENALTIES**

Late assignments will receive a **late penalty of 3% per day**; they will not be accepted more than one week past the due date and will receive a **grade of zero**.

### **COMPUTERS AND MOBILE DEVICES**

Our goal in this seminar is to engage collectively in sustained and concentrated discussion of fascinating questions of Canadian political life. This requires an environment free of distraction. For this reason, students are very strongly discouraged from bringing computers, phones, tablets, smart watches, and other electronic gizmos into class. Students who do choose to bring electronic devices into class will be held to a high standard: any evidence of distracting use – facebooking, snapchatting, emailing, tweeting, watching Beyoncé videos, and so forth – will result in a participation grade of zero for that week’s class.

### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND REQUIRED READINGS**

*Please note: the readings listed below may change slightly (topics and overall distribution and number of readings will not). I will distribute a final reading list at our first meeting.*

(D2L) = Available on D2L

(CR) = TFDL reserves

(TL) = Available online through library system

Week 1      Institutions and Institutionalism (January 10)

Rhodes, Rod. 2008. “Old Institutionalisms”. In *Oxford Handbook of Political Institutions*, ed. Sarah Binder, R.A.W. Rhodes, and Bert A. Rockman. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (D2L)

Hall, Peter A., and Rosemary C.R. Taylor. 1996. “Political Science and the Three New Institutionalisms.” *Political Studies* 44 (5): 936–57. (TL)

DiMaggio, Paul. 1998. "The New Institutionalisms: Avenues of Collaboration." *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 154 (4): 696–805. (TL)

Week 2      Approaches to Canadian Political Institutions (January 17)

Smiley, Donald. 1967. "Must Political Science Be a Miniature Replica?" *Journal of Canadian Studies* 9(1): 31-42. (TL)

Vipond, Robert. 2008. "Introduction". In *The Comparative Turn in Canadian Political Science*, ed. Linda A. White et al. Vancouver: UBC Press (D2L).

Cairns, Alan. 2008. "Are we on the Right Track?". In *The Comparative Turn in Canadian Political Science*, ed. Linda A. White et al. Vancouver: UBC Press (D2L).

Lucas, Jack and Robert Vipond. 2017. "Back to the Future: Historical Political Science and the Promise of Canadian Political Development". *CJPS* 50(1): 219-241. (TL)

Heroux-Legault, Maxime. 2017. "The Evolution of Methodological Techniques in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*." *CJPS* 50(1): 121-142. (TL)

Week 3      Legislatures (January 24)

Docherty, David. 2005. *Legislatures*. Vancouver: UBC Press. Chapters 3-4. (TL)

Kam, Christopher. 2009. *Party Discipline and Parliamentary Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1 and 3. (CR)

Godbout, J.-F., & Høyland, B. 2013. The Emergence of Parties in the Canadian House of Commons (1867–1908). *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 46(4), 773–797. (TL)

Spirling, Arthur and Andrew Eggers. 2016. "Party Cohesion in Westminster Systems: Inducements, Replacement, and Discipline in the House of Commons." *British Journal of Political Science* 46(3): 567-589. (TL)

Week 4      Executives (January 31)

Savoie, Donald. 1999. *Governing from the Centre: The Concentration of Power in Canadian Politics*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. Chapter 4. (D2L)

White, Graham. 2005. *Cabinets and First Ministers*. Vancouver: UBC Press. Ch 3. (TL)

Lewis, J.P. 2013. "Elite Attitudes on the Centralization of Power in Canadian Political Executives." *CJPS* 46(4): 2013. (TL)

- Kam, Christopher and Indridi Indridason. 2005. "The Timing of Cabinet Reshuffles in Five Westminster Systems." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 30 (3): 327-363. (TL)
- Kerby, Matthew. 2009. "Worth the Wait: Determinants of Ministerial Appointment in Canada 1935-2008." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 42 (3): 593-611. (TL)
- Week 5        Federalism (February 7)
- Bakvis, Herman and Grace Skogstad. 2012. *Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness, and Legitimacy* 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Chapters 1 and 18. (CR)
- Simeon, Richard. 2002. *Political Science and Canadian Federalism: Seven Decades of Scholarly Engagement*. Kingston: IIGR.  
<http://www.queensu.ca/iigr/sites/webpublish.queensu.ca.iigrwww/files/files/pub/archive/books/PoliticalScienceandFederalism2002.pdf>
- Schertzer, Robert. 2015. "Intergovernmental Relations in Canada's Immigration System." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 48(2): 383-412. (TL)
- Week 6        Constitutional Politics – Confederation (February 14)
- Krikorian, Jacqueline D. et al. 2017. *Roads to Confederation: The Making of Canada, 1867*, v.1. Toronto: UTP. Pp 3-54, 113-137, 145-163, 203-246, 329-343.
- Week 7        Courts and Judicial Politics (February 28)
- Manfredi, Christopher. 2004. *Feminist Activism in the Supreme Court*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2004. Chapters 1 and 6. (CR)
- Knopff, Rainer and F.L. Morton. 2000. *The Charter Revolution and the Court Party*. Peterborough: Broadview Press. Chapters 3 and 4. (CR)
- Hiebert, Janet. 2002. *Charter Conflicts*. Montreal: MQUP. Chapters 1-4. (TL)
- Week 8        Democratization (March 7)
- Elections Canada. 2007. *A History of the Vote in Canada*. Chapters 2-3.
- Eagles, Munroe. 1996. "The Franchise and Political Participation in Canada." In *Canadian Parties in Transition*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Toronto: Nelson Canada.
- Morton, W.L. 1943. "The Extension of the Franchise in Canada: A Study in Democratic Nationalism." *Report of the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association*.
- Kulba, Tracy and Victoria Lamont. 2006. "The Periodical Press and Western Woman's Suffrage Movements in Canada and the United States". *Women's Studies International Forum* 29(3): 265-278.

Week 9      Electoral Systems (March 14)

Cairns, Alan. 1968. "The Electoral System and the Party System in Canada, 1921-1965." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 1(1): 262-87. (TL)

Pilon, Dennis. 2006. "Explaining Voting System Reform in Canada, 1874 to 1960." *Journal of Canadian Studies*. 40(3): 135-161. (TL)

Lucas, Jack. 2017. "Reaction or Reform? Subnational Evidence on P.R. Adoption from Canadian Cities." Unpublished manuscript. (D2L)

Cross, William. 2005. "The Rush to Electoral Reform in the Canadian Provinces: Why Now?" *Representation* 41(2): 75-84. (TL)

Potter, Andrew et al. 2017. *Should We Change How We Vote?* Montreal: MQUP. Introduction and Ch. 5.

Week 10      Indigenous Peoples and the Canadian State (March 21)

Flanagan, Tom. 2008. *First Nations, Second Thoughts*. Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press. Chapter 1. (D2L)

Cairns, Alan. 2001. *Citizens Plus: Aboriginal Peoples and the Canadian State*. Vancouver: UBC Press. Chapters 4 and 5. (CR)

Alfred, Taiaiake. 2008. *Peace, Power, Righteousness*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Oxford: OUP.

Week 11      Urban Institutions and Multilevel Governance (March 28)

Eidelman, Gabriel and Zack Taylor. 2010. "Canadian Political Science and the City: A Limited Engagement," *CJPS* 43(4): 961-81. (TL)

Bradford, Neil. 2002. "Why Cities Matter: Policy Research Perspectives for Canada." [http://www.cprn.org/documents/12567\\_en.pdf](http://www.cprn.org/documents/12567_en.pdf)

Horak, Martin. 2012. "Conclusion: Understanding Multilevel Governance in Canada's Cities." In *Sites of Governance*, ed. Martin Horak and Robert Young. Kingston and Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press. (D2L).

Lucas, Jack. 2017. "Patterns of Urban Governance: A Sequence Analysis of Long-Term Institutional Change in Six Canadian Cities". *Journal of Urban Affairs* 39(1): 68-90. (TL)

Lucas, Jack. 2017. "The Development of Urban Democracy in Western Canada." Unpublished manuscript. (D2L)

Week 12      Reading a Classic (April 4)

Macpherson, C.B. 2013. *Democracy in Alberta: Social Credit and the Party System*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. (New edition; original published in 1953).

Week 13      Student Research Conference (April 11)

## 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.

## IMPORTANT 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 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 can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head.

**University Regulations:** Students are encouraged to familiarize 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 will be destroyed after three months; 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](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)