

**Carleton University  
Early Summer 2013  
Department of Political Science**

**PSCI 2002A  
Canadian Political Environment  
Tues/Thurs: 9:35AM-12:25PM  
Location: TBA (Please Confirm on Carleton Central)**

Instructor: Raffaele Iacovino  
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**WebCT:**

On-line components of this course will be managed through WebCT. Please visit the WebCT site regularly to receive the most current information pertaining to important course announcements and materials.

**Course Description:**

This course focuses on some salient social and political cleavages, conflicts and identities that structure political life in Canada. Some of the questions that students should keep in mind throughout the course include: Who are the main constitutive actors in Canadian politics? Are they formally recognized as such? What are the some enduring competing/complementary political claims and how do these claims shape identities and power relations in Canada? What is the relationship between the question of legitimacy and the variable of power in shaping conceptions of political community in Canada? The role of ideas is thus paramount in shaping political conflicts in Canada, thus students are strongly encouraged to approach the course through the lens of critical engagement – ready to develop, defend and criticize arguments.

**Class Format:**

The course will consist of lectures (and the occasional documentary film) and a discussion period in the last third of the class. While these sessions will consist of traditional lectures, students are nevertheless encouraged to initiate some interaction and class discussion. Along with the assigned readings and lectures, students are expected to actively participate in the discussion period, which will draw on complementary readings assigned specifically for the seminar. Students are expected to read the material and contribute constructively with critical arguments and questions pertaining to the weekly themes.

**Texts:**

- Rand Dyck and Chris Cochrane, *Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches*, Seventh Edition, (Toronto: Nelson Education Ltd., 2014).

Please ensure that you have the proper edition of the book. The textbook is available at the Carleton University Bookstore. A reserve copy will also be made available at the library.

There is a student resource website that accompanies the textbook which includes text updates, practice test questions and other useful info: [<http://www.canadianpolitics7e.nelson.com>]

- There will also be a **Coursepack** available at the Carleton University Bookstore consisting of the assigned articles that are not available online. These articles are clearly indicated in your syllabus. Moreover, material from the coursepack will be placed on reserve.

## Evaluation:

10%- Attendance and participation

10%- Short assignment (**Due on Lecture 4, May 16, 2013**)

40%- Research paper (**Due on Lecture 13, June 18, 2013**)

40%- Final Exam (To be held during the University's formal Exam Period: **June 21-26, 2013**).

- **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend class having read the required materials for that week and prepared to participate in discussions moderated by a teaching assistant. Attendance will be taken in class each week and will count towards your grade for this portion of the evaluation.
- **Short assignment:** Students will select any one of the weekly themes and provide a short review essay of the assigned readings for that topic. **YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO INCLUDE MATERIAL FROM THE TEXTBOOK FOR THIS REVIEW.** It is meant to be a critical analysis, not a summary of the readings. Students are expected to question and/or support some of the authors' contentions, highlight points of agreement or contrasting arguments of the articles in question, and generally, demonstrate some capacity for analytical thinking on a specified topic. This exercise will allow students to receive some early feedback, as a practical matter, as well as allowing students to delve more deeply into a topic that interests them.

Proper essay format must be followed. You must construct a clear and concise thesis statement and support it with clear and logical arguments. The short assignment must be 3 – 4 double spaced pages (750 – 1000 words). You should use 12" font and 1" margins. The assignment will be returned on **Lecture 5, May 21, 2013**, as per early feedback guidelines.

- **Research paper:** The research paper must be between 8-10 typed pages – double-spaced, using 12 point font. The paper must follow proper essay style and structure, and must use a recognized referencing style (which must be consistent throughout). Essay topics will be posted on WebCT, or students may choose their own topic in consultation with the instructor. I recommend that students consult the editorial style guidelines of the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, which can be accessed here: <http://www.cpsa-acsp.ca/pdfs/Editorial%20Style%20Guidelines%202008.pdf>.

Students are expected to undertake research using sources beyond those listed in the course outline. The essays are due **at the beginning of the class on June 18, 2013**. The essay will not be accepted if you are late to class. If you do not bring your essay on time to the beginning of class, you must deposit your essay in the Political Science drop box. These

essays will be counted as ‘late’ (see late policy below). Students are not expected to defend an original argument in this paper. Secondary research is all that is required to write the paper, yet students may draw upon primary sources if they wish. The goal is to allow students to grasp the body of literature on a particular topic by providing a cogent and coherent synthesis, and to demonstrate a capacity to articulate and defend a particular position based on the assessment of the literature. Please avoid overly drawn-out summaries in exposing what has been written on a topic – the exercise is meant to allow students to critically assess the state of research in their chosen topics.

**Academic Support:**

If you require research, computer or learning support services, please consult the Carleton University Learning Commons at:

[http://www.library.carleton.ca/learning\\_commons/](http://www.library.carleton.ca/learning_commons/)

For help with academic writing and related issues, please consult the Academic Writing Centre and Writing Tutorial Service:

<http://www.carleton.ca/wts/>

- **Final Exam:** The final exam will be held during the scheduled final examination period. The exam will include material from the entire term, including lectures, films, and all of the assigned readings (including tutorial readings). The exam will consist of three sections: A- Short answers (definition and significance); B- A short essay question; and C- A long essay question. In each section, students will be provided with a fair amount of questions among which to choose.

**Other Information:**

**Submitting assignments and late policy:** Extensions beyond the original due date will only be granted in the case of exceptional circumstances. If you are ill (with a doctor’s note) or have another legitimate reason for lateness, please see the instructor as soon as possible (preferably before the due date). All assignments must be handed in as *hardcopies* directly to the instructor, at the beginning of class. For late assignments, the Department of Political Science’s drop-off box may be used (located outside B640 Loeb Building, the box is emptied every weekday at 4 p.m. and papers are date-stamped with that day’s date). Please recall that if an assignment is submitted via the drop-box on the day it is due, it will be considered one day late. Assignments sent by email will not be accepted. Assignments will be returned in class or during the instructor’s office hours. If handed in with a self-addressed stamped envelope, they will be returned by mail. Late assignments will be penalized by five percentage points (5%) per day (including weekends); assignments submitted more than ten days late will receive a mark of 0%.

**Grading:** Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4

77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

**Office Hours and E-mail:** My office hours are posted on this outline, and I strongly encourage students to use them for any issue related to the course material. If students cannot make it during the posted times, we can arrange individual appointments. If I have to cancel my office hours for any reason, I will make every effort to inform the class regarding make-up office hours. Please do not e-mail me with questions regarding the course material. I will only respond to e-mails regarding non-substantive procedural/technical issues which require a brief answer. Moreover, I will only respond to emails that use a Carleton account.

## **Lecture and Reading Schedule:**

### **-Lecture 1 (May 7, 2013):**

*Introduction and Thematic Overview of the Course*

### **-Lecture 2 (May 9, 2013):**

*Institutional Foundations, Constitutive Principles and the Question of Political Legitimacy*

Dyck, Ch. 2: "Institutional Foundations and the Evolution of the State"

Dyck, Ch. 17: "The Canadian Constitution and Constitutional Change"

**Discussion Reading:** Samuel V. LaSelva, "Understanding Canada's Origins: Federalism, Multiculturalism and the Will to Live Together", in J. Bickerton and A.-G. Gagnon, (eds.), *Canadian Politics*, Fifth Edition, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009). (\*Coursepack)

### **-Lecture 3 (May 14, 2013):**

*Canadian Political Culture(s)*

Dyck, Ch. 11: "The Canadian Political Culture"

**Discussion Readings:** Philip Resnick, "Canada: A Different North American Society?" *Inroads: The Canadian Journal of Opinion*, Winter, 14, 2004.

Finn Poschmann, "America North: A Different Canadian Society?" *Inroads: The Canadian Journal of Opinion*, Winter, 14, 2004.

**-Lecture 4 (May 16, 2013): \*Short assignment due\***

***Québec I: The National Question***

Francois Rocher, “The Evolving Parameters of Quebec Nationalism”, in *International Journal on Multicultural Societies*, Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 1-18.

-Garth Stevenson, “Canadian Federalism and the Search for Accommodation of Quebec Nationalism”, in S. Gervais, C. Kirkey and J. Rudy, (eds.), *Quebec Questions*, (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2010), pp. 47-62. (\*Coursepack)

**Film:** *Questions nationales / National Matters (2009)*

**Discussion Reading:** Micheline Labelle and François Rocher, “Debating Citizenship in Canada: The Collide of Two Nation-Building Projects”, in P. Boyer, L. Cardinal and D. Headon (eds.), *From Subjects to Citizens: A Hundred Years of Citizenship in Australia and Canada*, (Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2004), pp. 263–286. (\*Coursepack)

**-Lecture 5 (May 21, 2013): \*Short assignment returned\***

***Québec II: Québec-Canada Relations***

Dyck, Ch. 5: “French Canada and the Quebec Question”

Michael Burgess, “Competing National Visions: Canada-Quebec Relations in a Comparative Perspective”, in A.-G. Gagnon and J. Tully, (eds.), *Multinational Democracies*, (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2001). (\*Coursepack)

**Discussion Reading:** Michel Seymour, “On Not Finding Our Way: The Illusory Reform of the Canadian Federation”, in Alain-G. Gagnon, (ed.), *Contemporary Canadian Federalism: Foundations, Traditions, Institutions*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009), pp. 187-212. (\*Coursepack)

**-Lecture 6 (May 23, 2013):**

***Aboriginal Peoples***

Dyck, Ch. 4: “Aboriginal Peoples”

**Discussion Reading:** Martin Papillon, “Towards Postcolonial Federalism: The Challenges of Aboriginal Self-Determination in the Canadian Context”, in A.-G. Gagnon, (ed.), *Contemporary Canadian Federalism*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009). (\*Coursepack)

Kathleen Mahoney “Evolving Citizenship: What Difference has 400 Years Made” *Policy Options* (Montreal: IRPP) July/August 2008 pp.45-47.

## **-Lecture 7 (May 28, 2013):**

### ***Diversity and Multiculturalism***

Dyck, Ch. 6: "Ethnocultural Minorities"

Daiva Stasiulis and Yasmeen Abu-Laban, "Unequal Relations and the Struggle for Equality: Race and Ethnicity in Canadian Politics" in *Canadian Politics in the 21st Century*. Seventh Edition. M. Whittington and G. Williams (eds.), (Toronto: Nelson, 2008) pp. 284-311. (\*Coursepack)

**Film:** *The M-Word: Canada's Multiculturalism (2007, 48 minutes)*

**Discussion Reading:** Keith Banting and Will Kymlicka, "Canadian Multiculturalism: Global Anxieties and Local Debates", in *British Journal of Canadian Studies*, Vol., 23, No. 1, 2010.

## **-Lecture 8 (May 30, 2013):**

### ***Gender and Politics***

Dyck, Ch. 7: "Gender"

Lisa Young, "Women (Not) in Politics: Women's Electoral Participation", in J. Bickerton and A.-G. Gagnon, (eds.), *Canadian Politics*, Fifth Edition, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009). (\*Coursepack)

**Discussion Reading:** Jacquetta Newman, "Should Women Focus on Small-p Politics" in *Contemporary Political Issues*, Sixth Edition, Mark Charlton and Paul Barker (Toronto: Nelson, 2009) pp. 263-290. (\*Coursepack)

## **-Lecture 9 (June 4, 2013):**

### ***Regionalism, Urban/Rural and Other Cleavages***

Dyck, Ch. 3: "Regionalism"

Dyck, Ch. 9: "Other Cleavages and Identities: Urban/Rural, Religion, and Age"

**Discussion Readings:** Stephen Harper, Tom Flanagan, Ted Morton, Rainer Knopff, Andrew Crooks and Ken Boessenkool, "The Alberta Agenda," *Policy Options*, April, 2001.

Preston Manning, Chapter 72, "The West wants In", in Peter H. Russell et Al., *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics*, (Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications, 2010) (\*Coursepack)

## **-Lecture 10 (June 6, 2013):**

## ***Social Actors in Canadian Political Life: Interest and Advocacy Groups***

Dyck, Ch. 16: “Advocacy Groups, Social Movements and Lobbying”

**Discussion Readings:** Éric Montpetit, “Are Interest Groups Useful or Harmful,” in J. Bickerton and A.-G. Gagnon, (eds.), *Canadian Politics*, Fifth Edition, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009). (\*Coursepack)

Heather MacIvor, “Shining a Harsh Light on Political Financing,” in *Policy Options*, Vol. 26, No. 5. 2005.

### **-Lecture 11 (June 11, 2013):**

#### ***Elites, Classes and Inequality***

Dyck, Ch. 8: “Class”

Leo Panitch, Chapter 74, “Elites, Classes, and Power in Canada”, in Peter H. Russell et Al., *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics*, (Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications, 2010). (\*Coursepack)

**Discussion:** Bruce Livesey, “Moneybags,” *The Walrus*. July/August, 2007.  
(<http://www.walrusmagazine.com/print/2007.07-articles-war-on-the-middle-class/>)

Myriam Fortin, “How (Un)Healthy are Poor Working Age Canadians,” in *Policy Options* (September 2008), pp. 71-74. [<http://www.irpp.org/po/archive/sep08/fortin.pdf>]

### **-Lecture 12 (June 13, 2013):**

#### **Political Socialization and the Mass Media**

Dyck, Ch. 12, “Political Socialization, the Mass Media, and Public Opinion Polls”

**Discussion Readings:** Robert Hackett, “Why Media Reform Should be a Democratic Priority,” *Canadian Dimension*, January/February. (<http://canadiandimension.com/articles/2008/01/11/1527/>).

Steve Anderson, “The Fight for the Open Internet,” *Canadian Dimension*, January/February, (<http://canadiandimension.com/articles/2008/01/16/1543/>).

### **-Lecture 13 (June 18, 2013): \*Research paper due\***

-Catch-up and review.

