

PSCI 2002A
Canadian Political Environment
Tuesdays/Thursdays 2:35-5:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Marc Hanvelt
Office: Loeb D644
Office Hours: Mondays 1:35-3:25, or by appointment
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Course Overview:

Politics are the means through which groups and societies resolve competing claims and make collective decisions. By their very nature, political questions do not admit of right or wrong answers (though there are often better or worse answers to political questions). Therefore, argument is central to any notion of politics. At its core, political engagement involves positing, defending, and critiquing arguments.

Political argument is waged in fora and across terrains that are largely shaped by history, identity, geography, institutions, and the ideological, interest, and power structures that define a political community. In this course, we will study some of the principal features that shape the political environment within which Canadian politics unfold. We will pay particular attention to competing conceptions of Canadian citizenship.

The class will meet for two three-hour sessions per week. Two hours of each session will be devoted to a lecture. The remaining hour will be devoted to a more informal discussion of the assigned discussion readings.

Required Texts:

Available at the Carleton University Bookstore

- ♦ Rand Dyck: *Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches* (Fifth Edition)

Please ensure that you have the correct edition of this textbook. There is a student resources website that accompanies the textbook which includes text updates, practice test questions and other useful info. [<http://www.canadianpolitics5e.nelson.com/student/>]

Required Online Readings:

All other required readings are available online either directly via the internet or through the library catalogue. Journal articles available through the library can be found by doing a title search for the journal (not the article title). For further guidance, see the library page, "How do I find journal articles?"

[<http://www.library.carleton.ca/howdoI/findarticles.html>].

WebCT: [<http://webct6.carleton.ca>]

Important course announcements and course materials (syllabus, essay questions, etc.) will be posted on WebCT. Please ensure that you have access to WebCT and consult it regularly.

Course Requirements and Grading Scheme:

Mid-Term Exam	20% (June 9)
Essay (8-10 pgs.)	40% (Due June 25)
Final Examination	40% (during formal exam period: June 30, July 2 - 4)

Note: This course does not lend itself to early feedback. The first assigned work will not be returned to you until after June 12 which is the last day to withdraw from early summer courses. If you have any questions or concerns about your progress in the course, please arrange to meet with me prior to June 12. I will be more than happy to discuss any questions or concerns you might have.

Mid-Term Exam

The mid-term exam will be held on June 9 in class. All material covered in lectures and readings up to that point in the course will be examinable.

Essay

Each student will be required to submit one essay. The essay will count for 40% of the student's final grade and must be 8-10 double-spaced pages in length (12 point font, margins of at least ¾ inch). Students will be given a choice of questions for the essay. The essay questions will be posted on WebCT.

A template for the title page of the essay will be posted on WebCT. All essays **MUST** include a title page that conforms to this template. Papers submitted without the required title page **will not be accepted**.

The essay will be due at the beginning of the lecture on **JUNE 25**. Students must submit physical copies of their essays. **EMAIL SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Late essays will be assessed a penalty (see below).

Students who are unable to submit their essay on time may deposit it in the Departmental “Drop Box” (a mail slot in the wall) located in the corridor outside of room B640 Loeb. Assignments are retrieved once every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. Assignments submitted after 4:00pm will be date stamped as received the next business day.

Late Penalties:

Essays submitted after the due date will be subject to a penalty of 3% per day (**including Saturdays and Sundays**). Essays submitted on the due date but after the beginning of the lecture will be considered late and will be assessed a penalty of 1.5%.

Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the professor and only for serious and **documented** medical reasons or for other emergency personal circumstances. Requests for extensions submitted after the due date will not be considered. It is the students' responsibility to manage their time effectively.

Final Examination

The final examination will be held during the regularly scheduled exam period (June 30, July 2 – 4). It will be cumulative (i.e. all material covered in the course will be examinable), and will be comprised of short answer and essay questions. The final examination will count for 40% of each student's final grade.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence that involves presenting another person's ideas, arguments, or words as one's own either through deliberate fraud or on account of inaccurate or improper documentation. The penalties for plagiarism are very severe.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their professor if they have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism.

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/

For help with academic writing and related issues, please consult the Academic Writing Centre and Writing Tutorial Service (<http://www.carleton.ca/wts/>).

Course Schedule:

Lecture 1 - (May 12): Introduction to course

Lecture 2 - (May 14): Institutional Foundations of Canada's Political Environment

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

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

Discussion Readings:

CBC. 2008. "The Delicate Role of the Governor General," Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. December 3.

[<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/12/02/f-governor-general.html>]

Flanagan, Tom. 2008. "This Coalition Changes Everything," *Globe and Mail*. December 8.

[<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20081205.wcoflanagan08/BNStory/politics>]

CBC. 2008. "Jean's decision sets 'very dangerous' precedent: constitutional expert," Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. December 4.

[<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/12/04/constitution-expert.html>]

Lecture 3 - (May 19): The International Context

Ch. 10: "Canada's External Environment"

Discussion Readings:

Hillmer, Norman. 2005. "The Secret Life of Canadian Foreign Policy," *Policy Options*. February. 26 (2). [<http://www.irpp.org/po/archive/feb05/hillmer.pdf>].

Fennell, Tom. 2006. "A Very Dark Place," *The Walrus*. July/August.

[<http://www.walrusmagazine.com/articles/2006.07-security-harper-government-terrorism/>].

Lecture 4 – (May 21): Regionalism, Urban/Rural and Other Cleavages

Ch. 3: "Regionalism"

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

Discussion Readings:

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

[<http://www.irpp.org/po/archive/apr01/alberta.pdf>].

Gregg, Allan. 2006. "The True West, Strong and Free: What Will Canada's Richest Province Do With Its New-Found Wealth?" *The Walrus*. September. [<http://www.walrusmagazine.com/articles/2006.09-politics-alberta-power/>].

May 25-29: Classes Suspended

Lecture 5 - (June 2): Aboriginal Peoples

Ch. 4: "Canada's Aboriginal Peoples"

Discussion Reading:

Ladner, Kiera L. 2005. "Up the Creek: Fishing for a New Constitutional Order," *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. 38 (4). [available online via library catalogue]

Lecture 6 - (June 4): Québec-Canada Relations and the French-English Dynamic

Ch. 5: "French Canada and the Quebec Question"

Film: "The Champions"

Discussion Readings:

CBC. 2006. "House Passes Motion Recognizing Québécois as Nation," Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. November 27. [<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2006/11/27/nation-vote.html>].

Kymlicka, Will. 1998. "Multinational Federalism in Canada: Rethinking the Partnership," *Policy Options*. March. [<http://www.irpp.org/po/archive/mar98/kymlicka.pdf>].

Lecture 7 - (June 9): Mid-Term Examination

Lecture 8 - (June 11): Multiculturalism

Ch. 6: "Ethnocultural Minorities"

Discussion Readings:

Wayland, Sarah V. 1997. "Religious Expression in Public Schools: Kirpans in Canada, Hijab in France," *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, vol. 20, pp. 545-61, July. [available online via library catalogue]

Lecture 9 - (June 16): Elites, Classes and Inequality

Ch. 8: "Class"

Film: "The Corporation"

Discussion Readings:

Livesey, Bruce. 2007. "Moneybags," *The Walrus*. July/August. [<http://www.walrusmagazine.com/print/2007.07-articles-war-on-the-middle-class/>].

McQuaig, Linda. 2009. "Corporate Elite Settles Old Score," *Toronto Star*, April 21. [<http://www.thestar.com/article/621506>].

Lecture 10 - (June 18): Gender and Politics

Ch. 7: "Gender"

Discussion Reading:

Trimble, Linda. 2005. "Who Framed Belinda Stronach? National Newspaper Coverage of the Conservative Party of Canada's 2004 Leadership Race." [<http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~ltrimble/Who Framed Belinda Stronach.pdf>].

Lecture 12 - (June 23): Political Socialization and the Mass Media

Ch. 12: "Political Socialization, the Mass Media, and Public Opinion Polls"

Discussion Readings:

Hackett, Robert. 2008 "Why Media Reform Should be a Democratic Priority," *Canadian Dimension*. January/February. [<http://canadiandimension.com/articles/2008/01/11/1527/>].

Anderson, Steve. 2008. "The Fight for the Open Internet," *Canadian Dimension*. January/February. [<http://canadiandimension.com/articles/2008/01/16/1543/>].

Lecture 11 - (June 25): Canadian Political Culture(s)

Ch. 11: "The Canadian Political Culture"

Discussion Readings:

Resnick, Philip. 2004. "Canada: A Different North American Society?" *Inroads: The Canadian Journal of Opinion*. Winter. 14. [available online via library catalogue].

Poschmann, Finn. 2004. "America North: A Different Canadian Society?" *Inroads: The Canadian Journal of Opinion*. Winter. 14. [available online via library catalogue].

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **June 12, 2009 for early summer examinations**, and **July 31, 2009 for late / full summer examinations**.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;

- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Course Requirements: Students must fulfil all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email carletonpss@gmail.com, visit our website at poliscisociety.com, or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.