Course Overview:

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the key institutions and practices associated with Canadian politics. We will consider the constitution, federalism, parliament, the executive, political parties, election campaigns, the judiciary, interest groups and the news media. In addition to considering the organization and function of each of these, we will consider how citizens interact with them. Lectures will consider material beyond that found in the assigned readings. Weekly tutorial sessions will focus on contemporary debates relating to Canadian government and politics.

Required Texts:

Available in the Carleton University Bookstore


All other required material [noted with an asterisk*] will either be on reserve in the Maxwell MacOdrum Library or available via the Course website on WebCT.

Course Requirements and Grading Scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper #1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td><strong>Due October 17/2007</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper #2</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td><strong>Due November 21/2007</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>50%</td>
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</table>
Tutorial Participation:

Tutorials are an integral component of the course; they provide an opportunity for students to engage in discussions of the assigned readings, thereby allowing students to both exhibit their understanding of the course material and the specific topic under examination and to improve their oral communication skills.

Tutorial participation accounts for 10% of each student’s final grade. Please note that the grade assigned is for participation, not attendance (it is, of course, impossible to participate if you do not attend). Students who due to illness or for personal reasons are unable to attend a tutorial session should discuss this matter with their tutorial leader at the earliest possible point in time.

Term Papers:

Students will be required to write and submit two term papers, each approximately five (5) typewritten, double-spaced pages in length. Essays that significantly fail to meet this length, as well as those that notably exceed it, will be penalized accordingly. Each paper must offer a critical assessment of one of the “institutions” examined during the course. Further, the two essays must address different institutions. The assessments should briefly describe the fundamental characteristics of the institution in question and then comment upon the strengths and weaknesses of that institution in terms of achieving its intended goals. This exercise allows students both to demonstrate their understanding of the course material and the specific topic under examination and to improve their written communication skills. As with all written assignments, students should ensure that adequate attention is given to proper sentence structure, grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.

Those who are unfamiliar with the expectations/requirements of academic essay writing at the postsecondary level are strongly encouraged to purchase a style manual. There are several excellent style manuals available to assist students with producing essays that satisfy the demands of proper academic writing. The following are two examples of such manuals: Kate L. Turabian, Student’s Guide for Writing College Papers, 3rd edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1977), and William Strunk and E. B. White, The Elements of Style, 4th edition (Boston: Longman, 2000).

The Department’s Style Guide is available free at: www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf

Each student must submit a physical copy of his/her term papers to his/her tutorial leader. Essays not submitted in that fashion can be deposited in the Departmental “Drop Box” (a mail slot in the wall) located in the corridor outside of room B640 Loeb Building. Assignments deposited in the Drop Box 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. Term paper #1 is due in tutorial on Wednesday, October 17, 2007, and term paper #2 is due in tutorial on Wednesday, November 21, 2007. Papers submitted after those dates/times will be assessed a late penalty (see below). It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that any paper submitted other than directly to his/her tutorial leader is received. E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Each term paper will account for 20% of each student’s final grade, for a combined total of 40% (i.e. 20% × 2 = 40%).

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Late Penalties:

There will be a 3% per day (including Saturdays and Sundays) late penalty assessed against any assignments submitted after the due date (i.e. 3% out of a possible 100%). Extensions with respect to due dates will be granted only in the case of extenuating, unavoidable circumstances that can be verified (e.g., note from a doctor, etc). This policy will be strictly enforced.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offence against academic honesty, and, consequently, is completely unacceptable. Papers containing plagiarized passages or arguments/ideas will be severely penalized, potentially resulting in a grade of 0 and further academic repercussions. Students are advised to familiarize themselves with the University’s regulations regarding plagiarism/academic misconduct, which can be found in the University’s academic calendar (see, for example, http://www.sprott.carleton.ca/academic_programs/plagiarism.pdf).

Students are expected to know how to avoid plagiarism and other forms of cheating. To that end, it is strongly recommended that student take advantage of the assistance available through the Academic Writing Centre and Writing Tutorial Service (see, for example, http://www.carleton.ca/wts/docs/index.htm). Should a student remain uncertain as to what constitutes plagiarism/academic misconduct, s/he should seek clarification from the instructor.

Final Examination:

There will be a final examination written during the regularly scheduled exam period at the end of the term. The exam will be a combination of short answer and essay questions; it will account for 50% of each student’s final grade.

Important Dates:

**September 21, 2007:** Last day for registration. Last day to change courses or sections for Fall/winter and Fall-term courses.

**October 17/2007:** Term paper #1 due.

**November 9, 2007:** Last day to withdraw from Fall-term courses.

**November 21/2007:** Term paper #2 due.

**December 3/2007:** Last day to submit Fall-term work.

**December 6-22/2007:** Final Examination: The final examination for the Fall term will be scheduled by the Registrar during the official examination period, December 6–22/2007. The specific date, time and location will be announced when they become available.
Lecture Schedule and Readings:

Unless noted otherwise [*], all of the below readings are present in the required course texts. Any other required material [noted with an asterisk*] will either be on reserve in the Maxwell MacOdrum Library or available via the Course website on WebCT. Lecture readings are contained in the text Canadian Politics, while tutorial readings are contained in the text Crosscurrents.

**September 12**  
Introduction to the Course  
Distribution and review/discussion of syllabus; identification and explanation of expectations; dissemination of other useful information.

**September 19**  

**September 26**  

**October 3**  

**October 10**  
Tutorial: ESSAY ASSISTANCE

†**NOTE: TERM PAPER#1 IS DUE OCTOBER 17**

**October 17**  

†**NOTE: TERM PAPER#1 IS DUE**

**October 24**  

**October 31**  

**November 7**  
Tutorial: “Is the Prime Minister Too Powerful?”, pages 182 – 211.
Lecture Schedule and Readings:

**November 14**  

†**NOTE: TERM PAPER#2 IS DUE NOVEMBER 21**

**November 21**  
Interest Groups and Lobbying, pages 377 – 406.  
Tutorial: “Should Religious Beliefs be Excluded from Consideration of Public Policy?”, pages 411 – 444.

†**NOTE: TERM PAPER#2 IS DUE**

**November 28**  
FINAL CLASS: REVIEW FOR EXAM

**DECEMBER 6–22**  
FINAL EXAM (specific date, time and location will be provided when available)

**Academic Accommodations**

**For Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. 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 in-class test or CUTV midterm exam. This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please contact the PMC to determine deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations.

**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](http://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 Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: “to use and pass off as one’s own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another.” The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work.

Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: [www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf)

**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 (or designate) 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.**

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfill 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 Deferral) 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:** The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See [http://connect.carleton.ca](http://connect.carleton.ca) for instructions on how to set up your account.