Carleton University
Department of Political Science

PSCI 3003A
Canadian Urban Politics

Lecture: Monday 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.; Room 517 Southam Hall

Instructor: Joseph Román
Office: Loeb A611
Telephone: (613) 520-2700, ext. 2773
E-mail: jroman@connect.carleton.ca
Office hours: Monday 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Overview: While federal-provincial relations have captured the imagination of Canadian politics, the role cities play in the Canadian polity has not received the same amount of attention. Moreover, understandings of Canadian politics — indeed, the discipline of politics in general — tend to ignore cities because they are usually thought of as a too junior scale of politics and, as such, have little impact on "national" politics. An aim of this course, then, is to put these orthodoxies into question, thus critically re-evaluating the political, social, and economic role Canadian cities play within the federation. In a sense, this course is about the end of Canadian politics as we (used to) know it. An appreciation of the following should be developed in this course: (1) going beyond federal-provincial relations and to include, but not simply to tack on, cities in the Canadian political equation; (2) the political nature of the city and everyday life; and (3) the political structures governing Canada's cities.

Evaluation
Section I Assignment x 2, 1/2-1 page - 20% (Due the week of each topic chosen in Section I)
Section II Assignment x 1, 4-6 pages - 30% (Due March 13)
Section III Assignment x 1, 8-12 pages - 40% (Due April 7 in the Loeb B649 drop box)
Weekly Participation - 10%

Expectations: For each session, students must complete all assigned readings. Doing otherwise may result in students being unable to grasp crucial concepts or to make connections on their own when the time comes to do the assignments. Students must also come to class with the assigned readings. Lectures and discussions supplement rather than replace the readings. What may be discussed in lecture may not necessarily appear in the readings and vice-versa. Nevertheless, main points will be touched upon and discussed in-depth.

Students are encouraged to liaise with the instructor throughout the year, preferably during office hours but through e-mail too. However, due to the amount of junk e-mail, students must put "PSCI 3003" in their subject heading to obtain a response. A response will be provided within one to two business days.

To obtain credit in a course, students must meet all the course requirements for participation and term work. Failure to pass any one of these components will result in a grade of 'F'.
**Attendance:** Excepting illness and personal emergencies, attendance is mandatory. Students should contact the instructor within a reasonable amount of time should an unfortunate circumstance ever occur.

**Participation:** Beginning January 16 and ending April 3, students should engage in thoughtful discussion on a weekly basis. To obtain marks for participation, students must raise issues related to the assigned texts. The quality rather than the quantity of weekly participation is more important. Students are especially encouraged to thoughtfully engage with their peers rather than directing discussion towards the instructor. Questions related to the readings may be raised and will count towards the participation grade.

**Written Work:** Unless otherwise indicated, assignments should be submitted in class. Faxed or e-mailed assignments will not be accepted. It is not acceptable to submit the same assignment for two or more courses.

Barring exceptional circumstances and where otherwise indicated, all assignments must be submitted on the due date to avoid late penalties. Late assignments will be penalized one letter grade per day, including weekends. Thus, if an A- paper is handed in one day late, it will become a B+ paper; two days late, it will be a B paper; and so on. Students have until one week past the due date to hand in late assignments. No late assignment will be accepted after. Thus, the last possible day to submit a late Assignment 2 with penalty is on March 13. Carleton University's regulations state that the final day to submit winter term work is April 7. As such, no late Assignment 3 will be accepted after April 7. Once March 13 and April 7 have passed, a student will automatically receive a 0 for the assignment.

**Written Work Requirements:** All assignments must be typed, using 1” margins, and 12 size Arial or Times New Roman font. **Excepting the title page, all pages must be numbered.** All written work must follow the length guidelines set out for each assignment. Any written work which goes over or under an assignment’s prescribed lengths will not be accepted and normal penalties will apply if this results in having to resubmit the assignment late. Students should contact the instructor for the use of Internet material in their essays. Finally, students should familiarize themselves with Carleton University’s regulations governing plagiarism.

**Assignments**

*Section I Assignment:* The aim of the reaction papers is for students to critically reflect upon two of the topics discussed in Section I of the course. Students may not write two reactions for the same topic. Reactions will be 1/2-1 page in length, **single-spaced**, and in conformance with the course requirements for written work. Students may choose which topics in Section I they want to react to and then submit it **on that day only.** Students may choose to reflect on one, some, or all of a particular topic's assigned readings. Students should be aware that focusing on the shortest reading(s) or on one reading might not always be the easiest or best route to take. Nonetheless, reactions can take a number of approaches. For example, a student can take issue with an argument made in the reading(s). The student could also compare and contrast approaches taken in the readings. **These reaction papers cannot be a summary of the reading(s). A summary will be given a failing grade because it would not conform to the requirements of the assignment.** Citation is not required for this assignment, but the student must be clear on which reading(s) he/she is focusing on for a particular week.
Section II Assignment: The aim of this assignment will be to critically discuss the policy problems facing Canadian cities. Assigned readings and those assigned for the essay must be incorporated in the assignment. Students are highly encouraged to incorporate the supplementary readings in their papers if they feel it would be useful for their argument. As well, students may bring in readings from other parts of the course if they feel it is relevant. Extra-course readings may be incorporated, but the main focus must be on the course readings. It should be noted, however, incorporating more readings does not necessarily result in a better essay. Excluding endnotes and the bibliography, it will be 4-6 double-spaced pages in length and as per the written work requirements for this course.

Section III Assignment: A critical discussion on one contemporary theme facing Canadian urban politics is the aim of this assignment. Students will choose a week from Section III and then integrate the assigned and at least five of the supplementary readings into their essay. Readings from other weeks may be integrated if the student feels it is appropriate to their argument.

Excluding endnotes and the bibliography, it will be 8-12 double spaced pages and in conformance with the course requirements for written work. Section III assignments will be returned on April 14 in Loeb A611 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Students who cannot make this time and wish to have their essays returned to them must affix a self-addressed stamped envelope with the proper postage to their essay. The instructor is neither responsible for lost mail, nor for returned mail due to insufficient postage. The instructor will not make up the difference for postage if the latter occurs.

Texts: Unless otherwise indicated, all assigned and supplementary readings will be on course reserve in the library.

Schedule

January 9: Introduction to the course.

Section I: Theories and Structures of Canada’s Urban Politics

January 16: The City in Theory and the Canadian Imagination

Assigned

January 23: The Political Structures of Canadian Cities

**Assigned**

January 30: Federal-City Relations

**Assigned**

February 6: Provincial-City Relations

**Assigned**
- Tindal and Tindal, pp. 179-206.

**Section II: Contemporary Policy Problems in the Canadian City**

February 13: Amalgamation and After

**Assigned**
- Tindal and Tindal, ch. 4
- Julie-Ann Boudreau, "Questioning the Use of 'Local Democracy' as a Discursive Strategy for Political Mobilization in Los Angeles, Montreal and Toronto,"
Assigned for Essay


Supplementary


February 27: Housing and the Problem of Homelessness

Assigned


Assigned for Essay

Supplementary


March 6: Transportation

Assigned


*Try this traffic simulator: http://vwisb7.vkw.tu-dresden.de/~treiber/MicroApplet/

Assigned for the Essay


Supplementary

Section III: Selected Themes and Topics on Canadian Cities

March 13: Globalization, Neo-liberalism, and Canada's Cities


Supplementary


March 20: "Race," Difference, and the Canadian City

- Frances Frisken and Marcia Wallace, "Governing the Multicultural City-Region," Canadian Public Administration 46, no. 2 (Summer 2003): 153-178.
Supplementary


March 27: Women in the Canadian City

Assigned

- Gerda R. Wekerle, "Gender Planning as Insurgent Citizenship: Stories from Toronto," *Plurimondi* 1, no. 2 (July-December 1999): 105-126.

Supplementary


April 3: Political Ecology and Canadian Cities

**Assigned**


**Supplementary**


---

**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 note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: November 7th, 2005 for fall and fall/winter term courses, and March 10, 2006 for winter term courses.

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 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

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.

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 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:** 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 for instructions on how to set up your account.