PSCI 3006A
Social Power in Canadian Politics
Lecture: Mondays, 11:35 a.m. - 2:25 p.m.
Southam Hall 413

Instructor: Murray Cooke
Office: D696 Loeb Building
Office Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 2:30-3:30; Fridays 10:30-12:00
Phone: (613) 520-2600 x2762
Email: Please use the email function within WebCT to contact me. On weekdays, I will generally respond to your emails within 24 hours.

WebCT [http://webct.carleton.ca]
Course materials, including the course outline, assignments and links to readings, will be posted on WebCT. Please ensure that you have access to WebCT and consult it regularly.

Course description
This course examines the role of social forces, including interest groups, social movements, elites and classes, in the Canadian political process. There is a wide range of social forces active within the Canadian political system; however, social power is unequally distributed. We will pay particular attention to corporate power in Canada through an examination of the organization and activism of Canada’s capitalist class. Rather than choosing from the vast array of interest groups and social movements, the course will explore the various strategies and methods that interest groups and social movements use in their attempts at social, economic and political change. In their research essays, students will be able to explore specific movements and organizations in relation to the theories and themes developed in the course.

Required Texts (available in the bookstore)

All additional required readings are available online or on reserve in the library.

Evaluation
10% class participation and attendance
10% two short writing assignments (2 x 5%, 3-4 pages long)
5% research paper proposal (due Oct. 23)
35% research paper (10-12 pages, due Dec. 4)
40% final exam (during the formal examination period, Dec. 6 - 22)

Students are expected to attend class having read the required materials for that week and be prepared to participate in class discussions on the weekly topic.
Students will complete **two short writing assignments** (3-4 pages long). The first assignment will be distributed during the first lecture and is due Sept. 25. The second assignment will be distributed on Oct. 2 and is due Oct 16. These assignments will ask you to reflect upon social power and social movements in Canada.

**Research paper topics** will be distributed in class by the instructor. Students may choose their own topic only in consultation with the instructor. All students are required to submit a **research paper proposal**. These proposals are due on Oct. 23. The proposal is intended to assist students in developing and framing their research topic through some preliminary research. Completing a proposal ensures that students are provided with some early feedback on their topic and preliminary work. Pending the approval of your research proposal, you will develop that topic in the subsequent research essay.

The short written assignments and research essays must be submitted either in-class or during my office hours. Do not slide essays under my door. Essays will not be accepted in electronic form. The Political Science drop box is intended to collect late assignments only if a student has extenuating circumstances and is unable to submit the paper directly to me in class or during my office hours. The drop box is emptied every weekday at 4 p.m. and all items collected at that time are date-stamped with that day's date.

The short written assignments and research essays are subject to late penalties. **Late papers are subject to a one letter grade deduction per day.** For example, an A- paper received one day late would be reduced to a B+.

The final exam will cover the required readings and the lecture material.

**Schedule and Required Readings**

**September 11: Introduction to the course**

**September 18: Social Power and Inequality in Canada**


**September 25: Theorizing Group Politics and Social Movements**

**first short paper due**

M. Smith, Ch. 1-2, “Neoliberalism and Group Politics,” and “Understanding Group and Movement Politics.”

Young and Everitt. Ch. 1-2, “Advocacy Groups and Canadian Democracy,” and “Perspectives on Advocacy Groups and Democracy.”

October 2: Overview of Group Politics in Canada

M. Smith, Ch. 3, “Historical Trajectories of Influence in Canadian Politics.”

October 9: holiday, no lecture, but continue reading!

Young and Everitt. Ch. 3-5, “Who Participates in Advocacy Groups?” “The Internal Life of Groups,” and “Which Interests and Identities are Mobilized?”

October 16: Corporate Economic Power

** second short paper due **

Brownlee, Introduction and Ch. 1-3, “The Elite Unity Debate,” “Concentrated Economic Ownership,” and “Interlocking Directorates.”

October 23: Corporate Political Influence

** Research Paper Proposals Due **

Brownlee, Ch. 4-6, “Intersectoral Policy Networks,” “Advocacy Think Tanks,” and “Free-Enterprise Foundations.”

October 30: Areas of Influence: Parliament, Parties and Elections

M. Smith, Ch. 4, “Areas of Influence: Parliament, Parties, and Elections.”
Brownlee, Ch.7, “Interpersonal, Social and Political Ties.”
Young and Everitt. Pages 104-111.

November 6: Areas of Influence: Bureaucracy and Policy Communities

M. Smith, Ch. 5, “Areas of Influence: Bureaucracy and Policy Communities.”
Young and Everitt. Ch. 6, “Talking to Governments.”
November 13: Areas of Influence: Courts

M. Smith, Ch. 6, “Areas of Influence: Courts.”
Young and Everitt. Pages 112-115.

November 20: Areas of Influence: In the Streets and Local Communities

Young and Everitt. Pages 115-122.
Brownlee, Ch. 8, “Challenging Corporate Rule,”

November 27: Areas of Influence: In the Workplace and on the Picket Line


December 4: Transnational Activism and Conclusions

** Research Essays Due **

M. Smith, Ch. 7, “Conclusions.”
Young and Everitt. Ch. 8-9, “Who Prevails?” and “Enhancing the Democratic Role of Advocacy Groups.”

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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 6th, 2006 for fall and fall/winter term courses, and March 9th, 2007 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. 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 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.