

PSCI 4607A / 5607W
North American Politics
Seminar: Tuesdays 2:35 p.m. – 5:25 p.m., 309 DT

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Office Hours: T 11-12, Th 2-5 & By appointment

Political Science 4607/5607 looks at some of the key issues confronting the Canadian, US and Mexican states as they have become more integrated since the latter half of the twentieth century. It compares the systems of political influence in the three countries, the relationships between civil society and the private (business) and public (government) sectors, both pre- and post-NAFTA. Our discussion also examines the sources of the largest change in each of the three states, including the opening of the Mexican economy since the 1980s and the changed assumptions of the US in dealing with its North American partners since 9-11.

II. The following books have been ordered at the bookstore and all are required.

- 1) David Brooks and Jonathan Fox, eds., Cross-Border Dialogues (UC San Diego: Center for US-Mexican Studies, 2002)
- 2) Paul Cellucci, Unquiet Diplomacy (2005)
- 3) Liza Featherstone, Selling Women Short (NY: Basic Books, 2004)
- 4) Victor Davis Hanson, Mexifornia (San Francisco: Encounter Books, 2003)
- 5) Gary Clyde Hufbauer and Jeffrey J. Schott, NAFTA Revisited (Washington, DC: Institute for International Economics, 2005)
- 6) Maryse Robert, Negotiating NAFTA (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2000)
- 7) Elinor Sloan, Security and Defense in the Terrorist Era (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2005)
- 8) Hermann von Bertrab, Negotiating NAFTA (Westport, CT: Praeger, 1997)
- 9) Heather Williams, Social Movements and Economic Transition (NY: Cambridge University Press, 2001)
- 10) Mark Williams, Market Reforms in Mexico (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2001)

III. Course requirements:

Note: all written work must be turned in, and all requirements completed, in order to pass this course. Since this is an undergrad/grad seminar, I expect the students to be among those leading the course, which means that people must be present and ready to participate in an informed manner every week.

Your grade will be computed as follows:

- 1) signing up for and participating in one of the presentation groups. This involves two parts:
 - a) meeting together before you are to present the material. Each member of the group will have to turn in three questions to me (undergrads) and four (grads) with the answers the week before you are to present and to hand out the questions in the class. This means that the group must meet in advance to decide who is responsible for which parts of the material (I will give you a short time at the end of class to begin this process).- 15% of your grade
 - b) Presenting your material and asking the questions of the class (and helping to lead the discussion) that day - 25% of your grade

- 3) Overall informed seminar participation worth 15%

- 4) A research paper based on an assessment of how one of the current policy areas is working or needs to be reformed: one of the areas regulated by NAFTA (for ex., automotive, energy, dispute mechanisms); immigration policy to and from the US in along with its North American partners; the policies and politics of security in North America post 9-11; or the roles of civil society organizations in any one of these policy areas. An outline and short literature review will be due on Feb. 27.
 - a) outline and literature review: 20%
 - b) paper: 25%.

Note: For undergrads, part a is to be up to 5 pp; for grads, up to 10 pp. Part b for undergrads will be 20 pp.; for grads, 25-30 pp.

V. Course outline:

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| Jan. 10 | Week 1 | Introduction |
| Jan. 17 | Week 2 | Economic Transition in Mexico-Mark Williams, entire |
| Jan. 24 | Week 3 | Social Movements in Mexico-Heather Williams, entire |
| Jan. 31 | Week 4 | Negotiating NAFTA-von Bertrab (undergrads-Group I)
Also-Cellucci, entire (to be discussed by whole class) |

Feb. 7	Week 5	Part II-Robert-entire (grads/undergrads)-Group II Class visitors-TBA
Feb. 14	Week 6	Assessing NAFTA's impact-Hufbauer & Schott (Chs. 1-4) Group III Class visitor: TBA
Feb. 28	Week 7	Part II-Hufbauer and Schott, Chs. 5-7, 9 Group IV
March 7	Week 8	US-Mexico Social Movement Networking-Brooks & Fox, Chs. 1-10 (Group V)
March 14	Week 9	Part II-Brooks and Fox, Chs. 11-19, postscript (Group VI)
March 21	Week 10	Immigration Issues-Hanson, all; Sharryn Aitken reading, TBA, and Hufbauer, Schott Ch. 8-Group VII
March 28	Week 11	Security in North America-Read Sloan, entire
April 4	Week 12	Walmart as a North American employer and business presence-read Featherstone, entire and video, "Is Walmart Good for America?"

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.