Introduction to Political Science I: Democracy in Theory and Practice
Department of Political Science

Instructor: Prof. Farhang Rajaee     Office: Loeb A627
OHs: Mon 10:00-11:30 and Tue 14:00-15:30  Phone: 520 2600 X 2800
Email: farhang.rajaee@carleton.ca

Lectures: Mondays 14:35 – 16:25
Minto Centre, R# 2000


Description. What do people mean when they talk about “democracy” and how does that understanding relates to politics? Many take them as synonymous. What is the relation of the two concepts? Do they entail power, freedom, or the good? What is the role of the individual in the political? Is this a privilege for the individual to engage in politics or an obligation? What did Gibran Khalil Gibran mean when he said, “ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country?” Maybe one can ask the following: As a citizen of a particular country or a citizen of the world “what together can we do for the freedom of man” and the enhancement of the humanity? Should we resist power for freedom and the good, and if so, how? Do democracy and the political have a history and, perhaps, a geography, and what might they look like? What particular rules, procedures and institutions help enhance the manifestation of democracy and the political? Does geography of East or West affect these forms and institutions, and if so how? How has the globalized world and the third wave of human development, i.e., information revolution influenced the ways in which people practice politics? Have these changes affected democracy and the political and if so how?

This course will take up these and other questions about the working of democracy and politics. We will begin by studying the political and the discipline that has come to study it, called political science. What are the boundaries, and what issues are important in politics and democracy. Then, we turn to democracy and study the role of the individual agent through the lens of certain major thinkers, past and present, paying special attention to what they understand by the role of the individual in society. We explore the rule of game that makes democracy and politics work. We further look at the arena where the individual and the rules of the game manifest themselves. The form this arena has taken in the past five centuries has been the State, so the last part of the class concentrates on state and its development, particularly its contemporary position in the age of connected world of globalization.

Required Texts: There are two types of required texts that you are OBLIGED to read for the course and your exam: 1) PDF files uploaded for the weeks (identified in the syllabus bellow); 2)
the two required books for the course, ordered for purchase from the Carleton University Bookstore, as follows:


**Evaluation:** The following components determine the final grade in PSCI 1100. *Regular attendance in the lectures is of utmost importance* and not only help you grasp the reading and the discussion, it is a major part of your “JOB” as students, hence no grade assigned for it. There is an outline (including questions for discussions) for each lecture in the CU-Learn. Also, it is important to do the *required readings* associated with each session in advance of the lecture.

- Participation (discussion groups) 20%
- Review (1) 20% (Due date: 15 Oct 2018)
- Review (2) 20% (Due date: 12 Nov 2018)
- Final exam 40% (Exam period, 9-21 Dec 2018)

**Participation:** All students must attend a discussion group on a regular basis. Students are required to prepare for the group sessions and contribute actively to the clarifying the material in the groups. There will be some essays put on the CU-learn for discussions in the discussion groups.

**Reviews:** In order to provide early feedback to students on their performance in the course, there will be two short review assignments (Each 1-3 pages double space, between 800-1000 words in Times New Roman 12). All student should review the textbooks (the two purchased books) and discuss, NOT SUMMARIZE the book. Each review has to deal with following three questions. What is the author’s (1) aim (normally directly or indirectly stated in the preface or introduction); (2) how has the author argued the material (methodology and argument), and (3) what is your general evaluation of the book (this is your own evaluation of the book)? A quick reminder that the three questions comprise the “introduction, the argument, and the conclusion” of your review.

**Final exam:** There will be a three-hour exam at the end of term, which will take place during the formal exam period (Dec 9-21). The exam will be a combination of short answers and essay questions. It will cover all of the course material, including the required readings. Advice on exam preparation will be given in class. Students are reminded not to make any travel arrangements before they have checked the examination schedule.

**Submission of your works:** All written assignments must be submitted as hardcopies to the instructor at the beginning of the lecture. For late assignments, the drop box in the Department of Political Science may be used. This box is located outside of the departmental office (B640 Loeb Building); it is emptied every weekday at 4 p.m. and papers are date-stamped with that day’s date. Unless a specific exception has been arranged, assignments sent per email will not be
Written assignments will be returned in the discussion groups (not in the lectures). The final exam can be viewed during the instructor’s office hours, but will remain in the university’s possession. Unless a medical (or equivalent) excuse is provided, late assignments will be penalized by two (2) percentage points per day (including weekends); assignments more than a week late will receive a mark of 0%. Unexcused failure to show up for the final exam will result in a grade of 0% on the exam.

NOTE 1: Email communication: Any email communication sent to the professor and teaching assistants should have as its subject heading: PSCI 1100A. Carleton requires that students, staff and faculty use Carleton email accounts when conducting University business. As stipulated above, course work will not be accepted by email.

NOTE 2: Students must complete all course requirements in order to receive a passing grade, and no grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean.

Lecture Schedule: Below is the lecture schedule for the course, including assigned readings for each lecture. Students are expected to attend all lectures. It is also strongly recommended that students bring their textbook to class for lectures, as the lectures will often make explicit reference to passages or sections from required readings.

Schedule and Readings

W1- Sept. 10: Introduction
(CU-Learn--PDF from Pericles and Lincoln)

Politics and Democracy, an Overview
The Course and the Syllabus

The Political

W2- Sept. 17: The Political
(CU-Learn--PDF from Plato’s *Statesman*, and Heywood, 1-12)

Beginning of Politics
Focus of Politics

W3- Sept. 24: Political Science (CU-Learn--PDF from Farabi’s *Sciences* and Heywood 12-26)

Government and Political Thought
Comparative Politics and International Relations

Democracy (Principles and Rules)

W4- Oct. 1: Political Regimes
Forms of Government
Is Democracy Ideal?

**W5- Oct. 8: University closed**

W6- Oct. 15: Modern Democracy
(Taylor, 1-67)

Modern Moral Order, the new imaginary
Human agency, Dis-embedding

**W7- Oct. 22: Fall Break**

W8- Oct. 29: Rules of Democracy 1
(Taylor, 69-107)

The Economy; Capitalism
Public Space and Public Rule

W9- Nov. 5: Rules of Democracy 2
(Taylor, 109-161)

The Sovereign People; the Nation
Comprehensive-Horizontal Society

W10- Nov. 12: Air of Democracy; Secularity
(Taylor, 163-196)

Nation and or in History
God and Society; an Option

**Practice of Democracy in the state**

W11- Nov. 19: State and Modernity
(Pierson, CC 1-2)

State and or in History
State and Modernity

W12- Nov. 26: State, Society and Economy
(Pierson, CC 3-5)

Society, economy and State
Citizens and State

W13- Dec. 3: State and the World
The International System
State and the Future

Problems with Democracy

W14- Dec. 7: Critics of Democracy
(This is a Friday for the “Monday Schedule”)

Democracy on Trial
Deficits (Commodification, Gender, Isonomy)

Recommended Readings

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Academic Accommodations

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.

[carleton.ca/pmc](carleton.ca/pmc)

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. [https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)
For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

**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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

**Submission and Return of Term Work**

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline 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. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Grading**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60-62</td>
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<td>77-79</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>57-59</td>
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<tr>
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<td>53-56</td>
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<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
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**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.

**Carleton E-mail Accounts**

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**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. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students 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 our networking opportunities, academic
engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/ and our website https://carletonpss.com/, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!

**Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.