

Carleton University  
Fall 2019  
Department of Political Science

**PSCI 1100A**  
**Introduction to Political Science: Democracy in Theory and Practice**  
Monday 10:35 am - 12:25 pm  
**Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

Instructor: Philippe Azzie  
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**Course description**

This is one of two courses in the Department of Political Science designed to introduce students to the study of politics and its major subfields. In this course students will be introduced to the subfields of Canadian politics and political theory. The course begins with an introduction to Canadian politics by focussing on three core elements of Canada's political regime: Parliamentarism, Federalism, and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Students will then be introduced to political theory by way of an exploration of the idea of 'freedom' or 'liberty', the central idea informing the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, liberal-democratic regimes, and much of modern political philosophy.

The main objective of this course is to introduce students to some of the fundamental issues they need to think about when studying Canadian politics and political theory. Related objectives include the following:

- Provide students with an opportunity for a direct encounter with foundational documents and texts in the study of Canadian politics and political theory.
- Help students improve their interpretive and critical skills through close and careful examination of documents and texts.
- Through direct engagement with these texts and the fundamental claims they make and issues they raise,
  - Help students better understand and critically assess their own assumptions and presuppositions about politics.
  - Help students better understand and interpret current issues and debates in Canadian politics and political theory.

**Requirements for success in this course include attending all lectures, taking notes, reading required texts, and attending discussion groups and participating in them. Success is also achieved by reading recommended texts and engaging in dialogue with your professor, your classmates, and your teaching assistant.**

## **Texts**

### Required Texts

The following texts are required for this course and are available in the Carleton University bookstore, located on the first floor of the University Centre.

- Patrick Malcolmson & Richard Myers, The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada (6<sup>th</sup> edition).
- John Stuart Mill, On Liberty.

### Recommended Readings

Recommended readings have been placed on reserve in the MacOdrum Library and are available for a loan period of two hours. The readings are included in the following texts:

- Christopher Dunn, Canadian Political Debates: Opposing Views on Issues that Divide Canadians.
- Mark Dickerson and Tom Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, 8<sup>th</sup> edition.
- James Bickerton and Alain Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics 6<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Rand Dyck and Christopher Cochrane, Canadian Politics, Critical Approaches, 7<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Michael Whittington and Glen Williams, eds., Canadian Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 6<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Paul Fox and Graham White, eds., Politics: Canada, 7<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Robert Sharpe and Kent Roach, The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

**The readings and lectures for this course complement each other. Neither one should be considered an adequate substitute for the other.**

### **Course Work/Requirements**

The evaluation for this course will consist of the following:

- Research paper in Canadian politics: 25%
- Research paper in political theory: 25%
- Attendance and participation in discussion groups: 10%
- Final Exam: 40%

**NOTE: No grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean.**

### Research Papers

Students will write two short research papers for this course, one on a topical issue in Canadian politics and one on a topical issue related to political theory. Papers must be between 1,000 and 1,200 words in length, written double-spaced, with 1.25 inch margins all around, and typed using a font size of 12 in Arial style. Papers will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- *Clarity*: Is the paper written in a clear, easy to understand style.
- *Coherence*: Does the paper develop logically and hold together in a coherent manner.
- *Comprehension*: Does the student show a clear understanding of the topic.
- *Completeness*: Has the student included everything required to address the topic.

These criteria, as well as other details regarding assignments, will be discussed in class on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Topics will be assigned through the course webpage, accessible through <http://culearn.carleton.ca>, and will be available to students on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**When writing their assignments, students must rely on the specific primary texts associated with the topic. Consequently, references and citations must be exclusively from these sources, not other materials. The citation format to be used will be discussed in class on September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

Students must submit assignments in class (i.e. assignments will not be accepted by email). The first assignment is due on **October 7<sup>th</sup>**, and the second is due on **November 25<sup>th</sup>**. Marked assignments will be made available to students approximately ten calendar days after being submitted (i.e. as of Friday October 18<sup>th</sup> for the first assignment, and Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> for the second assignment)<sup>1</sup>. Students who wish to have an assignment returned by mail should submit it with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Late papers will be subject to a 5% deduction per day (including Saturdays and Sundays) unless students provide documentation proving that serious unforeseen circumstances have arisen (e.g. illness, accident, family affliction). For example, a paper submitted one day late that would have received a mark of 85% will receive a mark of 80%).

**Note:** The Political Science department has a drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb intended to collect late assignments if a student has extenuating circumstances and is unable to submit the paper directly in class. 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 late paper policy described above applies to any papers submitted by way of the drop box.

### Discussion groups

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<sup>1</sup> Arrangements will be made for students wishing to retrieve their assignments on Friday October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Participation in discussion groups is mandatory and, as noted above, crucial to success in this course. The participation grade will be based on attendance and the quality of interventions. It is the responsibility of students to verify the location and time of their group.

### Final Examination

The final examination for the course will cover Canadian politics and political theory and will be scheduled for three hours. The examination will be scheduled during the official examination period (i.e. December 9-21). **Students are reminded not to make any travel arrangements before they have checked the examination schedule.**

### Email communication

Any and all 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.

### **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 on Canadian politics and their copy of On Liberty for the lectures on political theory, as the lectures will often make explicit reference to passages or sections from required readings.

September 9:           General introduction to course

September 16:        Canadian Politics: Parliamentarism

**Required reading:** Malcolmson & Myers, chapters 1-3.

**Recommended reading:** Dickerson and Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, Part 3, chapter 20; Dyck and Cochrane, Canadian Politics, Critical Approaches, chapters 21 and 23.

September 23:        Canadian Politics: Parliamentarism

**Required reading:** Malcolmson & Myers, chapters 6-7; Constitution Act 1867, articles 9-39 and 48-57 (Malcolmson & Myers, Appendix).

**Recommended reading:** Supreme Court of Canada, 'Senate reference question' (available at: <https://scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/13614/1/document.do>); Dunn, Canadian Political Debates, Part 5; Whittington and Williams, Canadian Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, chapters 1-2.

**Recommended viewing:** 'Is Canadian Democracy in Crisis?': A Debate between Andrew Coyne and John Pepall (accessible at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aG6ulAPnFO4>).

September 30: Canadian Politics: Federalism

**Required reading:** Malcolmson & Myers, chapter 4.

**Recommended reading:** Dickerson and Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, Part 3, chapter 21.

October 7: Canadian Politics: Federalism

**\*First research assignment due (in class)**

**Required reading:** Constitution Act 1867, articles 58 and 90-95; Constitution Act 1982, sections 38-45 (Malcolmson & Myers, Appendix).

**Recommended reading:** Dunn, Canadian Political Debates, Part 3; Whittington and Williams, Canadian Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, chapter 4; Bickerton and Gagnon, Canadian Politics, chapter 8; Dyck and Cochrane, Canadian Politics, Critical Approaches, chapter 18.

October 14: **Statutory holiday (no class)**

October 21: **Fall term study break (no class)**

October 28: Canadian Politics: Charter of Rights and Freedoms

**Required reading:** Malcolmson & Myers, chapters 5 and 8.

**Recommended reading:** Roy Romanow, 'Shortcomings and Dangers in the Charter' in Fox and White, Politics: Canada, pp.79-83; Sharpe and Roach, The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, chapters 1-2.

November 4: Canadian Politics: Charter of Rights and Freedoms

**Required reading:** Constitution Act 1982, sections 1-33 (Malcolmson & Myers, Appendix).

**Recommended reading:** Supreme Court of Canada, 'Carter vs. Canada' (available at: <https://scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/14637/1/document.do>); Christopher Dunn, Canadian Political Debates, Part 2; Whittington and Williams, Canadian Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, chapter 11; Dyck and Cochrane, Canadian Politics, Critical Approaches, chapter 19; Sharpe and Roach, The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, chapters 3-4.

**Recommended viewing:** 'Is Canada's Supreme Court Intruding on Parliament?: A Debate between Conrad Black and Irwin Cotler (accessible at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfJkjTaq8e8>)

November 11: Introduction to Political Theory

**Recommended reading:** Dickerson and Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, Part 2, chapter 9.

November 18: Political Theory

**Required reading:** J S Mill, On Liberty, chapters 1-2.

**Recommended reading:** Dickerson and Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, Part 2, chapter 10.

November 25: Political Theory

**\* Second research assignment due (in class)**

**Required reading:** J S Mill, On Liberty, chapter 3.

**Recommended reading:** Dickerson and Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, Part 2, chapters 11-12.

December 2: Political Theory

**Required reading:** J S Mill, On Liberty, chapters 4-5.

**Recommended reading:** Dickerson and Flanagan, An Introduction to Government and Politics, Part 2, chapters 13-15.

December 6\*: Conclusion and review

**\*Classes on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> will follow a Monday schedule. Consequently, there will be a class for this course on that date.**

## **Academic Accommodations**

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### **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](https://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](https://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](mailto: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](https://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](https://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>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://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:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

### 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.