

Carleton University  
Summer 2013  
Department of Political Science

**PSCI 1100 A**  
**Intro to Political Science I**

9:35 a.m. – 12:25 p.m. Monday and Wednesday  
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Ryan McKinnell  
Office: Loeb A601  
Office Hours: Monday 13:00-14:00, Wednesday 13:00-14:00  
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**Course Description and Objectives**

This course is one of two first-year lectures in the Department of Political Science that give an overview of the discipline and its major subfields. PSCI 1100 will introduce core ideas of political theory (power, the state, democracy, freedom, justice, citizenship, etc.), and will then examine what impact these ideas have had on political institutions and political culture in Canada (Parliament, the Constitution, federalism, electoral process, etc). By studying political theory and Canadian politics side by side we will learn about the importance of political ideas and how they shape our democratic regime.

**Textbook and Readings**

The textbook for this course is available at the Carleton campus bookstore.

*An Introduction to Government and Politics: A Conceptual Approach*. Mark O. Dickerson, Thomas Flanagan, Brenda O'Neill. Toronto: Nelson Education (2010) 8<sup>th</sup> Edition.

**Evaluation and Requirements**

**Participation in Discussion (15%)**- To fully engage in the material students must regularly attend lectures and the following class discussions. Your participation grade will depend not just on regular attendance, but showing that you have done the readings and can make insightful observations about the readings, lectures and the course more generally.

**First Essay (25%)**- Hardcopy due in lecture July 24<sup>th</sup>. Papers are to be 4-5 pages, topics will be handed out in class.

**Second Essay (25%)**- Hardcopy due in lecture August 14<sup>th</sup>. Papers are to be 4-5 pages, topics will be handed out in class.

There will be no extensions of the deadlines, except in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. Late submissions will be accepted but penalized by one third of a letter grade per day (e.g. from B+ to B) for up to seven calendar days. Late essays must be submitted to the drop-box of the Political Science Department (B640 Loeb). Late essays submitted before 4 p.m. will be stamped with the date of that day; late essays submitted after 4 p.m. will be stamped with the date of the following business day.

Evaluation of the essays is based on:

- (a) the clarity of your thesis statement
- (b) the logic and persuasiveness of your supporting arguments;
- (c) your general understanding of the subject matter under discussion;
- (d) the appropriateness and relevance of citations to readings (including a consistent citation style);
- (e) correct English grammar, spelling, and usage.

More specific instructions about the preparation of the essays and writing guidelines will be given in class and with the essay assignments.

**Exam (35%)**- To be scheduled during the exam period.

### **Class Schedule and Reading Assignments**

1) **Introduction** (Wed. July 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Chapter 1

2) **The Nation and the State** (Mon. July 8<sup>th</sup>)

Chapters 3, 4

3) **Political Ideas and Ideals I** (Wed. July 10<sup>th</sup>)

Chapters 2, 9, 10, 11

4) **Political Ideas and Ideals II** (Mon. July 15<sup>th</sup>)

Chapters 12, 13, 14, 15

5) **Liberal Democracy and Forms of Government** (Wed. July 17<sup>th</sup>)

Chapters 16, 17

6) **Law and Constitutionalism** (Mon. July 22<sup>nd</sup>)

Chapters 6, 7

7) **Parliamentary Democracy** (Wed. July 24<sup>th</sup>)

Chapter 20, Appendix

### **First Essay Due in Class**

8) **Federalism** (Mon. July 29<sup>th</sup>)

Chapter 21, Appendix

9) **The Political Process I: Parties, Social Movements** (Wed. July 31<sup>st</sup>)

Chapters 22, 23

10) **No Classes: Civic Holiday** (Mon. August 5<sup>th</sup>)

11) **The Political Process II: The Media and the Electoral System** (Wed. August 7<sup>th</sup>)

Chapters 24, 25

12) **The Machinery of Government** (Mon. August 12<sup>th</sup>)

Chapters 26, 27, 28, 29

13) **Tyranny and Authoritarianism** (Wed. August 14<sup>th</sup>)

Chapter 19

### **Second Essay Due in Class**

14) **Exam Prep** (Thursday August 15<sup>th</sup>)

### **Academic Accommodations**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

**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](http://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 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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**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.

**Grading:** Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

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

**Grades:** Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**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.

**Connect Email Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

**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. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life 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 numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email [carletonpss@gmail.com](mailto:carletonpss@gmail.com), visit our website at [poliscisociety.com](http://poliscisociety.com), or come to our office in Loeb D688.

**Official Course Outline:** The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.