

Canadian Politics and Civil Society
PSCI 2002A

GENERAL INFORMATION		
Instructors Gabriel Maracle	E-mail: gabrielmaracle@cunet.carleton.ca	Schedule: Tuesday 2:35-4:25
Course type: Two Hour In-person Lecture One Hour Tutorial	Lecture Location: Confirm location on Carleton Central	Office Hours: Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the study of Canada and Canadian politics. This course covers the various institutions, societies, political parties, and communities that make up the political systems in Canada. We can better understand the Canadian political landscape by examining Canada as a complex web of relations, institutions, and communities. The course will cover regionalism, race, gender, citizenship, and political identities. One of the questions embedded within this course is: who are the main actors in Canadian politics? How do we understand what it means to be a part of a political system? What does the image of Canada tell us about this country? How does Canada navigate a diverse and multicultural society? What is the relationship between Canada and the First Peoples of this land like, and how has it changed? How do we navigate politics when we are bombarded by misinformation and disinformation? Where do we, as citizens, community members, or Indigenous people, fit into Canada?

COURSE FORMAT

This course is a two-hour lecture that will be given in person. However, considering the ever-shifting world we live in, things can change.

Students are required to register for a weekly one-hour tutorial, which you are expected to attend. The tutorials will be directed by the Teaching Assistant (TA).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. **Understand** key concepts and ideas in Canadian Politics
2. **Critically Analyze** the functions of Canada as a government and as a state
3. **Use** theoretical frameworks in the study of Canadian politics, such as federalism and regionalism
4. **Discuss** a variety of political issues that are central to Canadian political discourse
5. **Hone** academic research and writing skills
6. **Reflect** on various political issues and concepts thoughtfully and respectfully.

EQUITY STATEMENT

I am committed to ensuring this course fosters thoughtful and generative discussion, debate and learning. There are parts of this course that will be contentious. Looking at the politics of Canada opens the door for numerous different perspectives and ideologies that underpin particular approaches to these issues. Diversity of opinions and perspectives is embedded within Canadian politics and in the learning atmosphere at Carleton University.

Learning is an uncomfortable process; as students, you engage with materials and unfamiliar concepts. Discomfort is good; it means you are expanding your understanding of Canada and the issues that are a part of Canadian political discourse. Experiencing discomfort is not the same as having your safety threatened. This course will ensure that students can learn in a safe environment; learning can be uncomfortable, but that does not mean your safety will be jeopardized. Safety is not stifling academic inquiry but ensuring that the classroom and space are places for thoughtful academic inquiry.

This course will be a space for deeply and critically engaging with various issues. These issues will inspire different perspectives and opinions; this is not a space to dehumanize, delegitimize, or discriminate against people or communities for the sake of argument or "academic freedom."

COURSE MATERIALS

Required: Cochrane, Christopher, Blidook, Kelly and Dyck, Rand (2020). Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches. 9th Ed. Toronto: Nelson.

You can purchase this book from the Carleton Bookstore or through Tophat Publishing: (<https://tophat.com/catalog/social-science/political-science/full-course/canadian-politics-criticalapproaches-9th-edition-rand-dyck-christopher-cochrane-kelly-blidook/4385/>).

Additional required and recommended readings can be found online through the course Ares reserve or through Carleton's MacOdrum Library

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT

All assignments must be submitted to Brightspace by midnight of the due date. All written assignments must be:

- double-spaced
- 12-point font
- Times New Roman
- Submitted as a Word document or PDF
- Chicago-style citation
- Properly formatted bibliography
- Edited for grammar, spelling and syntax
- Any submissions that do not abide by these formats will automatically fail

This is a second-year university course, and you will be expected to use the academic voice in your writing. This means avoiding contractions, slang or idioms, and critically analyzing an issue or argument, not just summarizing what is being said.

All assignments are due at **11:59 PM**

EVALUATIONS-AT-GLANCE

	ASSIGNMENT	WEIGHT	DUE DATE
1	Tutorial Participation	10%	Throughout the Term
2	Group Presentation	15%	Throughout the Term
3	What Do I Think About Politics	5%	September 17, 2024
4	Essay Proposal	10%	October 1, 2024
5	Annotated Bibliography	15%	October 15, 2024
6	Research Paper	20%	November 12, 2024
7	Final Exam	25%	During Exam Period

EVALUATIONS

Tutorial Participation – 10%

Students are expected to participate in the required weekly tutorials. Learning is not a spectator sport; it requires reading and engaging with your peers. Simply showing up to tutorial and not participating meaningfully is the same as not showing up at all. As students, we expect you to show up having read the materials and be willing to respectfully discuss and engage with the TA and your peers. Marking will be at the discretion of your teaching assistant.

Group Presentation- 15%

This is a presentation that focuses on a political issue of the week. Students will be expected to discuss the week's political issues and how they relate to the course. The students will discuss how the media addresses said issue, what the government has to say about it, and the student's analysis of the issue. This presentation will be done in the tutorial session.

The presentation should be a maximum of **15 minutes**. The students will be grouped into pairs or a trio, depending on the number of students per seminar. The presentation should include **two discussion** questions for the tutorial and a slide deck. Each student will be required to submit their PowerPoint presentations and notes as a part of their submission. Marking will be at the discretion of your teaching assistant.

Students must choose the week for the presentation by **September 24, 2024**, by e-mailing your teaching assistant. You will be assigned a date if you have not e-mailed the teaching assistant.

What Do I Think About Politics – 5%

This short assignment will be due the second week of class. This assignment will require you to write about who you are, where you come from, what degree you're pursuing, and your perspective and experiences with Canadian politics.

As this is about you, the use of "I" is encouraged. You do not have to provide any citations. The assignment should be between **250-400** words.

This assignment is due September 17, 2024

Essay Proposal and Outline – 10%

The culmination of this course is a research paper; you should focus on a topic or issue that is related to Canadian politics.

This assignment will require you to provide an outline for your final paper. This outline will detail the subject of the final paper, the thesis statement or argument you are making, and a brief description of the overall scope of the paper and how it connects to the themes and ideas of the course.

Remember that this is an academic analysis of a given topic or issue; this is not an opportunity to espouse your values or opinions; your arguments must be backed up with research.

The assignment should be between **250-400 words long**. You will be required to provide **eight sources** that will be the basis for your research for your paper. Of the sources, **five** need to be academic peer-reviewed sources. For the other **three**, grey literature, such as government reports or party documents, are acceptable.

The assignment will be due **October 1, 2024**.

Annotated Bibliography – 15%

You will provide an annotated bibliography of the eight sources from your proposal. These annotations should discuss what type of source it is (academic journal, government report, party platform etc.), the main arguments or points of the source, and how it contributes to your paper.

Each annotation should be between **75-150 words**.

This assignment is due **October 15, 2024**

Research Paper – 20%

Students are expected to use the essay proposal, outline and annotated bibliography as the foundation for their final research paper. As this is a **research** paper, students are expected to do research and analysis beyond what has been discussed in the course. Simply repeating what has been discussed in

Week 5. Multiculturalism and Secularism **October 8, 2024**
Chapter 5: French Canada and the Quebec Question
Taylor, Charles. "Interculturalism or Multiculturalism?" *Philosophy & Social Criticism* 38, no. 4–5 (May 2012): 413–23. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0191453711435656>.

Week 6. Women, Gender and 2SQT Communities **October 15, 2024**
Chapter 7: Gender
Sethi, Sanyam, and Meghan Miller. "Canadians Support Protection of The LGBT+ Community, But Declining Support May Indicate a Step Back in Progress." IPSOS Marketing and Research, June 1, 2024.

Annotated Bibliography Due

FALL BREAK – October 21st to October 25th, 2024

Week 7. The Media, Internet and Social Media **October 29, 2024**
Chapter 11: Political Socialization, the Mass Media, and Public Opinion Polls
McCue, Duncan. "What It Takes for Aboriginal People to Make the News." *CBC News*, January 29, 2014. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/what-it-takes-for-aboriginal-people-to-make-the-news-1.2514466>.

Week 8. Canadian Society and Politics **November 5, 2024**
Chapter 10: The Canadian Political Culture
Chapter 13: Political Parties and the Party System

Week 9. The Constitution and the Charter **November 12, 2024**

Chapter 16: The Canadian Constitution and Constitutional Change

Chapter 18: The Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Week 10. Canada on the World Stage **November 19, 2024**

Chapter 9: Canada's External Environment

Research Paper Due

Week 11. Federal Elections and Engagement **November 26, 2024**

Chapter 14: The Election Campaign, Voting, and Political Participation

Chapter 15: Advocacy Groups, Social Movements and Lobbying

Bridgman, Aengus, Mathieu Lavigne, Melissa Baker, Thomas Bergeron, Danielle Bohonos, Anthony Burton, Katharine McCoy, et al. "Mis- and Disinformation during the 2021 Canadian Federal Election." Media Ecosystem Observatory, June 8, 2022. <https://osf.io/ubfmx>.

Week 12. Conspiracy Theories and Extremism **December 3, 2024**

Supplemental Chapter: COVID-19 and Canadian Politics

Carr, Hon. Jim. "The Rise of Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism in Canada." Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security, June 2022.

Appendix

Student Mental Health

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

- **Carleton Resources:**

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

- **Off Campus Resources:**

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Requests for Academic Accommodation

Deferred final exams, which must be applied for at the RO, are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course. The course outline must stipulate any minimum standards for good standing that a student must meet to be entitled to write a deferred final exam.

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

Academic consideration for medical or other extenuating circumstances: Please contact your instructor if you are experiencing circumstances that (a) are beyond your control, (b) have a significant impact your capacity to meet your academic obligations, and (c) could not have reasonably been prevented. Decisions on academic

consideration are in your instructor's discretion; they will be guided by the course learning outcomes and the principle of good faith. Please see [here](#) for more details. For considerations relating to course work, your instructor may request that you complete the [Self-Declaration form](#). To apply for a deferral of your final exam, you must submit the Self-Declaration form to the Registrar's Office no later than three days after the scheduled examination or take-home due date.

Pregnancy accommodation: 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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

Religious accommodation: 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 [click here](#).

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, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, [click here](#).

Accommodation for student activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and to the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who engage in student activities 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. For more information, please [click here](#).

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

Sexual Violence Policy

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated. 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.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) addresses academic integrity violations, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, impersonation, withholding of records, obstruction/interference, disruption of instruction or examinations, improper access to and/or dissemination of information, or violation of test and examination rules. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's academic integrity rules.

Plagiarism

The Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include, but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, websites, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- Using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- Using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor in a particular course, any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools to produce assessed content (e.g., text, code, equations, image, summary, video, etc.) is considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

Procedures in Cases of Suspected Violations

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are serious offences which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. When an instructor suspects a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the assignment/exam in question or a final grade of "F" for the course. More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

Intellectual property

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).

Permissibility of submitting substantially the same piece of work more than once for academic credit.

If group or collaborative work is expected or allowed, provide a clear and specific description of how and to what extent you consider collaboration to be acceptable or appropriate, especially in the completion of written assignments.

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. The departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

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

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the 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 Brightspace. As important course and university information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton University email accounts and Brightspace.

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/>.

Official Course Outline

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