Carleton University
Fall 2019
Department of Political Science
https://carleton.ca/polisci/

PSCI 4005A-5101F
Canadian Federalism
Thursday, 8:35AM - 11:25PM
Please confirm location on Carleton central

Instructor: Raffaele Iacovino
Office: Loeb C675
Office Hours: Thursday, 12-2PM
Phone: (613) 520-2600 ext: 1572
Email: raffaele.iacovino@carleton.ca

CuLearn:
On-line components of this course will be managed through CuLearn. Please visit the CuLearn site at least once a week to receive the most current information pertaining to the scheduling of the course and required readings.

Course Description:
This seminar focuses on some of the main theoretical approaches and concepts employed in the study of Canadian federalism. While it introduces many descriptive aspects of the Canadian federation – questions about sharing and dividing jurisdictions and as a way of organizing political institutions – the course will also emphasize some broader normative dimensions of federalism. As such, many of the themes covered draw from prescriptive elements in the scholarly literature, with the hope that students will engage with many of the current debates about the enduring challenges confronted by Canadian federalism, including the question of Quebec’s place, Aboriginal claims, representation and accountability, intergovernmental dynamics, and so on. In short, the course emphasizes contemporary issues and current trends in Canadian federalism.

Class format:
The course is structured as a traditional seminar, led by student presentations. Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and prepared to discuss them. The instructor will attempt to moderate student exchanges, yet it is expected that the weekly presenters lead the discussion and prepare themselves to take questions by both the instructor and fellow students.

Texts:
- There is one book assigned for this course, available in the bookstore:

• The readings will be on reserve on ARES and at the MacOdrum Library.
• Please see weekly schedule for assigned readings. You are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and prepared to discuss them.

Evaluation:

10% - Attendance and participation (including role as a discussant)
10% - Short assignment (Due on Week 4, September 26th)
15% - Oral presentation
30% - Research paper (Due on Week 13, December 5th)
35% - Final Take-Home Exam (to be distributed on Week 13, December 5th. Due on the last day of the formal examination period, December 21, 2019)

• Attendance, participation and discussion groups: Students are expected to attend class having read the required materials for that week and prepared to participate in class discussions. Attendance will be taken in class each week. Moreover, students will also serve as discussants on the weekly presentations – providing some brief commentary on a given presentation and a couple of pertinent questions.

• Short assignment: On Week 2 (September 12th), the instructor will distribute a list of 4-5 articles drawn from the assigned readings. Students are expected to write a short review essay (1200-1500 words) that provides a critical assessment of the author’s contributions to the study of Canadian Federalism. It is not necessary to do any additional research for this assignment, and the aim is simply to allow students to engage more profoundly with particular theoretical, conceptual or methodological issues in the body of literature to be covered in class. The short assignment is due on Week 4 (September 26th), at the beginning of class. As per early feedback guidelines, the short assignment will be returned on Week 5 (October 3rd).

• Research paper: The research paper must be between 20 and 25 typed pages – double-spaced, using 12 point font. The paper must follow proper essay style and structure, and must use a recognized referencing style (which must be consistent throughout). Students will construct their topics in consultation with the instructor. The subject of the paper may be drawn from any of the themes covered in the course, or students may choose to select another aspect of Canadian federalism, with the approval of the instructor.

Students are expected to undertake research using sources beyond those listed in the course outline. The essays are due at the beginning of the class on Week 13 (December 5th). The essay will not be accepted if you are late to class. If you do not bring your essay on time to the beginning of class, you must deposit your essay in the Political Science drop box. These essays will be counted as ‘late’ (see late policy below). Students are not expected to defend an original argument in this paper. Secondary research is all that is required to write the paper, yet students may draw upon primary sources if they wish. The goal is to allow students to grasp the body of literature on a particular topic by providing a cogent and coherent synthesis, and to be able to articulate and defend a particular position based on the assessment of the literature. Please avoid overly drawn-out summaries in exposing what has been written on a topic – the exercise is meant to allow students to critically assess the state of research in their chosen topics.
• **Presentation:** Each student will be responsible for an oral presentation on a given weekly theme. In this capacity, students should be prepared to take questions and to lead a discussion period. Depending on the number of students in the class, we may have to pair students together on certain weeks.

• **Final Take-Home Exam:** At the end of the last class, the instructor will distribute the final take-home exam, which is due on December 21, 2019. Students can submit the exam to the instructor at any time throughout this period, and I will be in my office all day (9am-4:30am) on the due date. The exam will consist of three sections, each containing three essay questions. Students will select one question from each section. Each answer should be about 1200-1500 words. Moreover, students are expected to draw from class lectures and reading assignments (including suggested readings) in writing the essays, and students are not expected to include any research outside of class materials.

**Other Information:**

**Submitting assignments and late policy:** Extensions beyond the original due date will only be granted in the case of exceptional circumstances. If you are ill (with a doctor’s note) or have another legitimate reason for lateness, please see the instructor as soon as possible (preferably before the due date). All assignments must be handed in as hardcopies directly to the instructor, at the beginning of class, or in the case of the final take-home, during the instructor’s office hours or all day on the last day of the formal examination period. For late assignments, the Department of Political Science’s drop-off box may be used (located outside B640 Loeb Building, the box is emptied every weekday at 4 p.m. and papers are date-stamped with that day’s date). Please recall that if an assignment is submitted via the drop-box on the day it is due, it will be considered one day late. Assignments sent by email will not be accepted. Assignments will be returned in class or during the instructor’s office hours. If handed in with a self-addressed stamped envelope, they will be returned by mail. Late assignments will be penalized by five percentage points (5%) per day (including weekends); assignments submitted more than ten days late will receive a mark of 0%.

**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.

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**Office Hours and E-mail:** My office hours are posted on this outline, and I strongly encourage students to use them for any reason related to the course material. If students cannot make it during the posted times, we can arrange individual appointments. If I have to cancel my office hours for any reason, I will make every effort to inform the class regarding make-up office hours. Please do not e-mail me with questions regarding the course material. I will only respond to e-mails regarding non-substantive procedural/technical issues which require a brief answer. Moreover, I will only respond to emails that use a Carleton account.
Lecture and Reading Schedule:  
(*indicates a suggested reading)

-Week 1 (September 5, 2019):

Introduction and Thematic Overview of the Course

- Course Overview
- Setting up presentation schedule and assigning discussants.

-Week 2 (September 12, 2019):

Theoretical Approaches and Concepts in the Study of Canadian Federalism:

-D. Brown et Al., *Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation*, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 1: “Understanding Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations”; and Chapter 3: “The Constitution and Constitutional Change”.


-Week 3 (September 19, 2019):

Foundations, Origins and the Federal Principle in Canada:


-Week 4 (September 26, 2019): *Short assignment due*

Critical Perspectives I: Quebec and the Federal Ideal

-D. Brown et Al., Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 12: “Quebec and the Future of Canadian Federalism”.


-Week 5 (October 3, 2019):

Critical Perspectives II: A Democratic Deficit?

-D. Brown et Al., Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 5: “Executive Federalism: Back to the Future”.


-**Week 6 (October 10, 2018):**

*Critical Perspectives III: Canadian Federalism and Aboriginal Self-Government (Overview)*

-D. Brown et al., *Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation*, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 11: “Indigenous Peoples and Federalism”.


http://dspace.cigitlibrary.org/jspui/bitstream/123456789/21246/1/Counsel%20for%20Canadian%20Federa
lism%20Aboriginal%20Governments%20and%20the%20Council%20of%20the%20Federation.pdf?1

-**Week 7 (October 17, 2019):**

*Critical Perspectives IV: Canadian Federalism and Aboriginal Self-Government (Cases)*

-Christopher Alcantara and Gary Wilson, “The Dynamics of Intra-jurisdictional Relations in the Inuit Regions of the Canadian Arctic: An Institutionalist Perspective”, in *Regional & Federal Studies*, (2013),  
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13597566.2013.818981


*October 21-25, Fall Break, Classes Suspended*
-Week 8 (October 31, 2019):

**Critical Perspectives IV: The Charter and Canadian Federalism**

-D. Brown et al., *Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation*, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 4: “Judicial Review and Dispute Resolution”.


-Sujit Choudhry, “Bills of Rights as Instruments of Nation-Building in Multinational States: The Canadian Charter and Quebec Nationalism”, University of Toronto Legal Studies Series, Research paper Number 1006905.

-Week 9 (November 7, 2019):

**Contemporary Developments in Intergovernmental Relations I: Social Policy**

-D. Brown et al., *Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation*, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 7: “The Social Union”.


-Week 10 (November 14, 2019):

*Contemporary Developments in Intergovernmental Relations II: Fiscal Federalism*

-D. Brown et al., *Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation*, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Chapter 6: “Fiscal Relations: Basic Principles and Current Issues”.


-Week 11 (November 21, 2019):

*Contemporary Developments in Intergovernmental Relations III: Open and Asymmetrical Federalism?*


-Week 12 (November 28, 2019):

*Contemporary Trends and Future Directions? Conceptual Challenges, National Pluralism, and the Federal Idea*
- D. Brown et al., *Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation*, (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2019); Conclusion, “Ambivalent Federalism”.


**Week 13 (December 5, 2019): *Research paper due***

- Conclusions, review and catching up.

**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

**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

**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

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

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

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:

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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.