

Carleton University  
Department of Political Science  
<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

Winter 2022

PSCI 5003W  
Political Parties in Canada  
Wednesdays, 8:35 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.  
This course will be held remotely online (via zoom)

William Cross

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Office hours (via zoom): Mondays 9:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

(Students need to sign-up for an office hour appointment by 9 a.m. on the morning they wish to meet. A link to a google sign-up form will be available through Brightspace as well as the office hours zoom link).

Note: Please **do not** send substantive questions relating to course material via e-mail. When you have questions, it is much preferred for you to drop into my office hours and for us to chat about the material.

Course Objective:

This is a graduate-level **seminar** course investigating the organization, role and practices of political parties. While the focus is on Canadian parties, we will situate the debates surrounding Canada's parties in a comparative/theoretical context. The course will be centered around questions relating to the role of parties in an advanced contemporary democratic state with an emphasis on intra-party organization and democracy. We will consider how peculiarities of the Canadian context influence the organization and functions of our parties.

Course format:

The class will meet via Zoom every Wednesday of the term for approximately two and one-half hours. **Students must attend each class.**

The seminars will be student driven. It is not my intention to give a lecture on any of these topics. Depending on our numbers, one or two students will be responsible for leading the discussion each class. After a brief introduction by the instructor, students responsible for that class will present an overview of the readings. Rather than detailed summaries of the readings, students are expected to distill the key points from them, focusing on the important research questions and the similarities and differences among the readings. When appropriate, attention should be paid to methodological questions. Presenting students should also place

the particular questions of that week within the broader themes of the course and should prepare questions for seminar discussion. More about this will be said during the first class.

**All students must be prepared to discuss the assigned readings for each class.** All readings are available on course reserve in the university library. A full list of assigned readings will be available on Brightspace prior to the first class.

#### Course Requirements and Evaluation:

Student grades will be comprised of the following components:

Seminar presentation: 15 per cent

Seminar participation: 20 per cent

Term test: 30 per cent

Research paper, prospectus and presentation: 35 per cent

All written work must be submitted through Brightspace (NOT through e-mail).

*Term Paper:* each student will write a research-based paper of approximately 20 double spaced pages in length. The paper should be based upon substantial research conducted by the student on a topic chosen by the student in consultation with the professor. Students should follow a standard academic style guide. The grade assigned for the paper will reflect an assessment of the quality and persuasiveness of the argument, the clarity of the argument, the depth of research evident, the appropriate use of sources and the clarity and accuracy of the writing. Papers are due in class on March 30, 2022. **LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE INSTRUCTOR.**

A two-page paper prospectus is due in class on March 2, 2022. This shall include the title of the paper, a short description of the research question being addressed, where this question fits into the broader literature on political parties and a list of about 5 principal sources for your paper. The quality of the prospectus will be considered in assigning a grade to the term paper.

Students will present their paper to the class on April 6, 2022. Presentations will be limited to 10 minutes in length with a few minutes extra for questions from the class. The quality of the presentation will be considered in the grade assigned to the essay. Details for the presentations will be provided closer to the date.

*Seminar Participation:* each student is expected to be an active participant in each seminar. **This requires that students read and consider the assigned material prior to each class.** Student contributions should reflect a careful reading of the material and should generally add to the class discussion. While each student should be a frequent participant in discussions, quality of contribution is more important than quantity.

*Term test:* A term test covering assigned course readings and material covered in the seminars will be given during the regular class hours on March 23. All students must sit this test which will be open book. The questions will be distributed at the beginning of the class and answers due before the end of class time.

See the course format section for more information on seminar presentations. Details for these will be discussed during the first two class sessions at which time students will sign up for their preferred topic.

Seminar topics and schedule:

**week 1 (January 12): Introduction, overview and organization**

**week 2 (January 19): What is a political party?**  
**Overview of the electoral system and its importance**

**week 3 (January 26): Canadian parties and party systems**

**week 4 (February 2): Party functions and party democracy**

**week 5 (February 9): Party members**

**week 6 (February 16): Candidate selection**

**February 23 – no class, winter break**

**week 7 (March 2): Leadership selection**

**week 8 (March 9): Party law**  
**Policy development**

**week 9 (March 16): Elections/Campaigning**

**week 10 (March 23): term test**

**week 12 (March 30): Political Financing**

**Week 13 (April 6): Research Paper Presentations**

## Appendix

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### **Covid-19 Information**

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) When accessing campus you must fill in the [COVID-19 Screening Self-Assessment in cuScreen](#) each day before coming to campus. You must also check-in to your final destination (where you plan on being longer than 15 minutes) within a building using the [QR location code](#).

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca)

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

### **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 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, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

**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, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

**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, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more information, please visit [carleton.ca/pmc](http://carleton.ca/pmc).

**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 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. <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](http://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](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support).

### **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 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, 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.

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.

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).

### **Submission and Return of Term Work**

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. During the COVID-19 pandemic, 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 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 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.