

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

Fall 2020

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

William Cross
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Office hours (via zoom): Mondays 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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 CU Learn prior to the first class.

There is one required text that is available for purchase in the University Book Store:

William P. Cross and Richard S. Katz, eds. 2013, *The Challenges of Intra-Party Democracy*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

You may also be able to find it available as an e-book online, which is less expensive.

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

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 December 9, 2020. **LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

A two-page paper prospectus is due in class on November 4, 2020. 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 December 2 (and 9th if necessary depending on our numbers). 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 November 25. 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 (September 9): Introduction, overview and organization

week 2 (September 16): What is a political party?
Overview of the electoral system and its importance

week 3 (September 23): Canadian parties and party systems

week 4 (September 30): Party functions and party democracy

week 5 (October 7): Party members

week 6 (October 14): Candidate selection

week 7 (October 21): Leadership selection

October 28 – no class, fall break

week 8 (November 4): Party law
Policy development

week 9 (November 11): Elections/Campaigning

week 10 (November 18): Political financing

week 11 (November 25): term test

week 12 (December 2): Student paper presentations

Week 13 (December 9) wrap-up

Academic Accommodations

Accommodations during COVID

Due to COVID, instructors will not request or require a doctor's note when students seek accommodation for missed term work or exams due to illness. Instead, students will be asked to complete the self-declaration form available here: https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19_Self-declaration.pdf

Pregnancy

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

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.

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

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.

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).

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: All assignments will be submitted through CU-Learn. It is not advisable to submit them through e-mail.

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.

Course Requirements: Students must fulfil all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F.

Connect Email Accounts: The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.

