PSCI 5201 A
POLITICS IN PLURAL SOCIETIES
Thursday 11.35-2.25 pm
Please confirm location on Carleton Central.

Instructor: Gopika Solanki
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Office Hours: Thursday 2:45-4:45pm or by appointment
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores the inter-relationship between the individual, the plurality of groups, and the state. We shall discuss theoretical approaches to the construction, mobilization, and accommodation of plural identities in diverse polities. The first part of the course discusses the relationship between state-formation, governance, public policies, and conflict through the lenses of gender, race and ethnicity. The second part of the course studies some of the responses to cultural diversity. Is recognition of cultural groups desirable? What should be the extent and scope of cultural rights? What factors explain the successes and failures of institutional arrangements in varied empirical locations? The course draws upon debates and literature across sub-fields and disciplines.

READINGS
The readings for this course can be accessed in Loeb C666. All assigned readings are also available on library reserve. Readings marked with a (W) are available online.

EVALUATION
Two short response papers 20% each (due date will be announced in class)
Research paper 40% (due: no later than April 8)
Participation 20%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
You are expected to hand in two short response papers during the semester. Each paper is worth 20 percent of the final grade and should be handed in on the day the material is covered in class. The paper should focus on issues related to the particular theme of the week, and respond critically to the discussion. In addition, your paper may also connect themes across readings covered in other weeks. You should hand in your first paper before February 4.

You are required to write a 20-25 page long research paper worth 40 percent of the grade. Paper topics may include any issue relevant to the course. You are encouraged to select your topic in consultation with the instructor. You may hand in your paper no later than April 8. Late papers and essays will be penalized by 2.5 marks per day. Late papers will only be exempted from penalty if supported by a medical certificate or other documentary evidence. 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.

You should attend and participate actively in all class discussions and complete the readings for each week. You will be responsible for presenting on two themes of your choice. Class participation and presentations together are worth 20 percent of the final grade.

COURSE SCHEDULE

January 7
Introduction and Overview

What are plural societies? How do we understand pluralism?


January 14
Modernization, Religion, and Secularism


**January 21**

**Nationalism, State Formation, and Group Formation**


January 28
The Making and Unmaking of Group Boundaries


February 4
Mobilising Diverse Identities


**February 11**  
**Understanding Ethnic Violence**


**February 18**  
**Winter Break. No Classes.**

**February 25**  
**Multiculturalism and Its Critiques**


March 4
Tensions between Individual Rights and Group Equality


March 11
Ongoing Debates on Cultural Pluralism and Legal Pluralism


March 18
Crafting Diverse Accommodative Arrangements


March 25
Partition
Student Presentations


April 1
Student Presentations

COURSE POLICIES

Plagiarism

As per university regulations, it is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of “plagiarism” as defined in the undergraduate or graduate calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as “to use and pass off as one’s own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another.” The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another’s work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student’s own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student’s own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department’s Style Guide is available at: www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf. See also Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations Section 14, p. 63; and www.carleton.ca/cu0607uc/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html.

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment
to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs at least **two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 16, 2009** for December examinations and **March 12, 2010** for April examinations.

**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).

**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.

**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.

**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:** Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

**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 carletonpsss@gmail.com, visit our website at 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.