

PSCI 1100b

Introduction to Political Science I: Democracy in Theory and Practice

Lecture: Wednesday, 2:35-4:25

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Anna Gora

Office: Loeb B645

Email: anna.gora@carleton.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30 – 10:30; or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What do we mean when we talk about politics and how does this relate to democracy? What are the various ways in which we can study and understand this relationship? Combined with PSCI 1200, this course is the first of two first-year classes designed to provide students with an introductory survey of the study of politics and the discipline of political science. We will examine classic and modern theories of the state, democracy, citizenship and power, as well as well as introduce basic democratic institutions, processes and actors in Canada and abroad. No prior knowledge of political science is required to take this course.

The aim is to acquaint students with a range of theoretical and practical issues discussed in four subfields of political science: Political Theory, Comparative Politics, Canadian Politics and Public Policy. It also offers an introduction to basic study, research, and academic writing skills needed to succeed in the social sciences. Together with PSCI 1200, these courses will provide the basic theoretical and research tools for a transition to second-year political courses and to navigate complex political issues.

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Use their knowledge and understanding of political theories and concepts to think critically and intelligently for themselves about politics.
2. Identify and critique the essential political concepts and issues.
3. Apply social science research skills to develop an academic argument in a formal term paper.
4. Identify appropriate academic sources and cite them properly in a bibliography and in-text.
5. Make an informed choice of second-year courses in Political Science.

TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS

The following textbook is required for the course and is available at Haven Books at 43 Seneca St (on the corner with Sunnyside). It has been put together specifically for this course and contains a compilation of chapters from five different textbooks.

Pearson Collections. 2018. *Introduction to Political Science: Democracy in Theory and Practice*, Toronto: Pearson.

Additional *required* and *recommended* readings are available in the format indicated in the outline:

- **[cuLearn]** - Available to download under the weekly heading on the cuLearn page for this course
- **[ARES]** – Ares reserves are accessible through the library website: <https://libares01.carleton.ca/>
ARES is also accessible directly through cuLearn. There is a link to ARES on the bottom of the left-hand menu on the page for this course.
- **[Reserves]** – Available for two-hour loan from the reserves desk at the library.

The following guide to research and writing in political science is *recommended* (but not required) and is also available for purchase at Haven Books. It will be useful not only in this course but throughout your university career:

Scott, Gregory M., and Steven M. Garrison. 2016. *The Political Science Student Writer's Manual and Reader's Guide*, 8th edition. Boston: Rowman & Littlefield.

COURSE EVALUATION

Requirement:	Weighting:	Due:
Participation in discussion groups	10%	Throughout
Research Assignment	10%	31 January 2018
Final Papers	40%	28 March 2018
Final Exam	40%	TBA; 14-26 April 2018

1. Participation in discussion groups (10%):

Developing strong skills in oral communication and insightful debate is essential as you progress in your academic careers, particularly considering that most 4th year courses will be in seminar, not lecture format.

For full engagement in the course, it is required that you attend the weekly tutorials and actively contribute to group discussion and activities. Weekly readings should be done in advance. Your participation grade will be based on your attendance as well as the quality of your participation. *Insightful* and *engaged* contributions that demonstrate you have done the readings, thoughtfulness in how you conduct yourself and active engagement with other students' points will be rewarded.

Teaching assistants (TAs) will give further instructions on these points. Don't hesitate to speak to your TAs regarding any special accommodations or if you have trouble speaking up in a group environment. They are there not only to evaluate you but also to help you succeed.

2. Research assignment (10%):

This assignment will test you in the study and research skills that are introduced early in the term (ex. identifying and evaluating scholarly sources, proper citation etc.) in preparation for writing your final papers. Assignment instructions will be posted on cuLearn on January 17.

Research Assignments must be submitted online on cuLearn no later than 11:55 pm on January 31. Grades will be available on cuLearn by February 14.

3. Final paper (40%):

You will be required to write a final paper of 6-8 pages (12 point font Times New Roman, double spaced, i.e., 2000-2500 words). A list of potential paper topics and instructions for the assignment will be posted on cuLearn by February 14. This list is not exhaustive and you are welcome to choose an alternative topic with approval from your TA or myself. If you wish to choose your own topic, you must contact your TA or myself by email or during our office hours (preferred) to have your topic approved no later than March 7th.

Final papers must be submitted online on cuLearn no later than 11:55 pm on March 28. Grades will be available on cuLearn by April 13th.

4. Final exam (40%):

There will be a three-hour exam at the end of term, which will take place during the formal exam period (14-26 April). It will cover all of the course material, including the required readings. Information on exam structure and advice on exam preparation will be given in class.

SUBMISSION OF COURSEWORK

All assignments are to be submitted online through cuLearn no later than 11:55 pm on the assignment deadline. Hard copies and submissions over e-mail will not be accepted. We will not be checking the departmental drop box, so any papers left there will not be graded. You must submit/participate in each of the four course requirements to pass this course.

Exception and extensions will be granted only in the case of special circumstances (ex. illness, family bereavement) with appropriate documentation (ex. a doctor's note). Otherwise, late submissions will be penalized by 5 percentage points a day (including weekends).

LECTURE TOPICS AND THEMES

WEEK 1: Introduction to politics and the political (January 10)

Study Skills: Reading, Listening and note-taking strategies

PART ONE: DEMOCRACY IN THEORY

WEEK 2: The State and the Nation (January 17)

Study Skills: Types of academic sources, researching academic literature

Required Reading:

- Baradat, L. P. 2016. *Political Ideologies: Their Origins and Impact*, 12th edition, New York: Routledge. [ARES] Chapter 3: "Nationalism".

Recommended reading:

- Anderson, B. 2006 [1983]. *Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism*. New York, NY: Verso, chapter 1 [ARES]
- Smith, A. 1989. "The Origins of Nations" *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 12(3), 340-367. [ARES + CuLearn]

REMINDER: Research assignment instructions posted on cuLearn

WEEK 3: Democracy I - Theories of Democracy (January 24)

Study Skills: Compiling a bibliography

Required Reading:

- Baradat, L. and Phillips, J. 2011. *Political Ideologies: Their Origins and Impact*, 11th edition. New York: Routledge. [ARES]
 - **Chapter 4:** "The Evolution of Democratic Theory"
 - **Chapter 5:** "Liberal Democracy, Capitalism, and Beyond"
-

WEEK 4: Political Ideologies (January 31)

Study Skills: Citing academic literature in your own text.

Required Readings:

- Pearson Collections Text, Chapter 2

Recommended Readings:

- Baradat, L. 2016. *Political Ideologies: Their Origins and Impact*, 12th edition, New York: Routledge, Chapters 1-2. [On Reserve]

Research assignment due today

PART TWO: DEMOCRACY IN PRACTICE

WEEK 5: Democracy II - Democratic regimes and operationalizing democracy (February 7)

Study Skills: What is 'Academic Integrity'?

Required Readings:

- Pearson Collections Text, Chapter 3
- Gunitsky, S. 2015. "How do you measure 'democracy'?" The Washington Post. Online at: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2015/06/23/how-do-you-measure-democracy/?utm_term=.11a47826788f

Recommended Readings:

- Politico. 2016. Is Poland a Failing Democracy?: <https://www.politico.eu/article/poland-democracy-failing-pis-law-and-justice-media-rule-of-law/>

- Moscrop, D. 2017. Canada is a Great Democracy. But You Need to Understand It: <http://www.macleans.ca/politics/ottawa/canada-is-a-great-democracy-but-you-need-to-understand-it/>

WEEK 6: A closer look at representation: Elections and Electoral Systems (February 14)

Study Skills: Planning your research for the final term paper; time management

Required Readings:

- Pearson Collections Text, Chapters 4-5

Recommended Readings:

- Farrell, D. M. and Sinnott, R. 2018. "The electoral system," In *Politics in the Republic of Ireland*, 6th edition, New York: Routledge, Chapter 4. [ARES]

REMINDER: Paper topics and guidelines posted on cuLearn

**** No class on February 21. Enjoy you reading Week! ****

WEEK 7: A closer look at participation: Who participates and how? (February 28)

Study Skills: Structuring your final paper

Required Readings:

- Pearson Collections Text, Chapter 6 – 7

Recommended Readings:

- Blais, A. 2010. "Political Participation," In *Comparing Democracies 3: Elections and Voting in the 21st Century*, ed. Lawrence LeDuc et. al. London: Sage Publications, 165-183. [ARES]
- Sierakowski, S. 2017. *Mourning Poland's Anti Populist Martyr*: <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/poland-self-immolation-by-slawomir-sierakowski-2017-10>

WEEK 8: The policy cycle and social policy in Canada (March 7)

Required Readings:

- Lecture: Pearson Collections Text, Chapter 8
- Tutorial: Waring, M. 1988. *If Women Counted: A New Feminist Economics*. New York: Harper Collins, pg 14-45. [ARES]

Recommended Reading:

- Luxton, M and Vosko, L. 1998. "Where Women's Efforts Count: The 1996 Census Campaign and 'Family Politics' in Canada," *Studies in Political Economy* 56, 49-81. [ARES and cuLearn]

REMINDER: Deadline to confirm alternative paper topics.

PART THREE: INTERMEDIARY POLITICAL ARENAS AND ACTORS

WEEK 9: The Media and the Public Sphere (March 14) (CO, CA)

Required Readings:

- Critical Concepts, 5th edition – Chapter 11: “Media” [cuLearn]
 - Pearson Collections Text, Chapter 9 : “The Communications Media”
-

WEEK 10: Citizenship, Community and Social Capital (March 21)

Required Reading:

- Critical Concepts, 4th edition - Chapter 12: “Citizenship” [ARES]
- Critical Concepts, 2nd edition – Chapter 16 “Communities” [ARES]

Recommended Reading:

- Putnam, R. 2000. *Bowling alone: the collapse and revival of American community* New York: Simon and Schuster. [On Reserve]
-

WEEK 11: Civil Society and Interest Groups (March 28)

Required Readings:

- Pearson Collections Text, Chapter 9: “Interest Groups”
- Critical Concepts, 3rd Edition (2004) – Chapter 16: “Civil Society” [ARES]

Reminder: Final papers due on Friday, March 30th

WEEK 12: Rethinking Power and Semester Review (April 4)

Recommended Reading

- Neal, A. 2009. “Michel Foucault’ in J. Edkins and N. Vaughan-Williams (eds) *Critical Theorists and International Relations*, New York: Routledge, pg. 161-170. [ARES]
- Foucault, M. 1984. “The means of correct training’ and ‘panopticism’ in Paul Rainbow, ed. *The Foucault Reader*. New York Pantheon, pp. 188-213. [ARES]

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and

vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

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.

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:

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

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. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, 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 numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> 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.