

PSCI 1000
Introduction to Political Science
Tuesday and Thursday 1.35-14.25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Professor Peter Emberley
Office: Loeb D685
Tel.: (613) 520-2600 x.2577
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:30 - 2:30

This introductory course is intended to expose you to fundamental concepts, institutions and practices of politics, as well as to the theoretical exposition of the standards used to understand, judge and reform the political world. The readings and lectures will provide you with the tools and judgements of relevance to a citizen or legislator, and the modes of thinking and judging of relevance to the intellectual assessment of political phenomena.

For the first half of the term we will engage in political thinking (or, political philosophy) which entails the theoretical study of human limits and possibilities, and how these play out in the idea of a well-ordered regime, or contrarily how some ideas and experiences, subvert order. The author of the text we are using appeals to classical thinkers from Plato (427BC - 347BC) to Nietzsche (1844-1900) to question as to whether we have an essence, and what authority political states have to promote that essence and how far. He goes on to examine the theoretical justification for equality or inequality, the use, limits, and ends of power, and the significance of historical change. Additional topics we will address include statesmanship, the natures of justice, liberty and equality, the role of the citizen, the place of political education, the art of political rule, and the role of law and constitutions. Our author supplies one perspective on politics, but we will also consider other ways of theoretically understanding “the political problem.”

In the second half of the term we will shift to the pragmatic vocabulary, practices and institutions of politics, with specific reference to Canadian politics. After considering such basic concepts as the sovereign state, the nation, citizenship, legitimate authority, and political culture, we will examine the nature of liberal democracy (distinguishing it from alternatives), the Westminster parliamentary model, federalism, the roles of the political executive and the judiciary (with particular attention to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms), representative assemblies, the role of political parties and the ideologies informing their differences, special-interest groups, electoral systems, and the role of nationalism.

REQUIRED TEXTS: (Both texts are available at the Bookstore. NOTE EDITION.)

Mark Dickerson and Thomas Flanagan, *An Introduction to Government and Politics*, Thomson/Nelson, 7th Edition
Glen Tinder, *Political Thinking: The Perennial Questions*, Little, Brown and Co., 6th Edition

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

In-Class Test: 20% October 21, 2008
Essay of 5-7 pages): 20% Due: November 11 (Topics to be distributed in 2nd week of class)
December Exam: 40% (Scheduled by Registrar)
Tutorials: 20% (Ordinarily will commence in 2nd week of class; instructor will confirm)

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Political Theory Component

September 4 General Introduction to Political Science, Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. xxiii-xxxiii
September 9: Society, Government and Politics, Dickerson/Flanagan, chs. 1-2, pp. 4-29
September 11: Tinder, Introduction, p. 1-9,
September 16: Tinder, "Why Engage in Political Thinking," pp.11-22
September 18: Tinder, "Estrangement and Unity, pp. 23-51
September 23: Tinder, "Inequality and Equality, pp. 53-78
September 25: Tinder, "Power and Its Possessors," pp. 81-106
September 30: Tinder, "Limits on Power," pp. 109-124
October 2: Tinder, "Limits on Power," pp.124-140
October 7: Tinder, "The Ends of Power," p.143-156
October 9: "The Ends of Power, pp. 157-177
October 14: Tinder, "Historical Change, pp.179-206"
October 16: Tinder, "Epilogue: The Idea of Humane Uncertainty," pp.209-220

October 21: Class Test

Canadian Politics Component

October 23: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 30-52, Sovereignty, State, Citizenship, Nation
October 28: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 53-60, Political Culture
October 30: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp.61-87, Law and Constitutionalism
November 4: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 89-112, International Order
November 6: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 116-159, Liberalism and Conservatism
November 11: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 162-227, Socialism, Nationalism, Feminism, Environmentalism
November 13: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp.237-261, Liberal Democracy

November 18: Dickerson/Flanagan,, pp.297-329, Parliamentary and Presidential Systems,
Unitary and Federal Systems, pp. 330-347

November 20: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 352 Political Process, Interest Groups, Political Parties

November 25: Dickerson/Flanagan,, pp. 401-425, Elections and Electoral Systems

November 27: Dickerson/Flanagan, pp. 428-478, Representative Assemblies, Political Executive,
Administration, Judiciary

Winter Term:

Further winter term information will be made available in January.

Instructor: Eric Newstadt

Email: Eric.newstadt@sympatico.ca

Telephone #: 416-883-9577 – Ottawa number to follow in class Contact Hours: TBA

Grade Distribution:

Participation: 20% (tutorials to commence 1st week of winter semester)

Final Paper Outline: 10 % - Due Feb 14

Final Paper: 45% - Due March 31

Final Exam: 25% - April 8-27th

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 letter of 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 7, 2008 for December examinations, and March 6, 2009 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.

Plagiarism: 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: <http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html>

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