

PSCI 4403A
Reproductive Politics in North America
Wednesdays 14.35-17.25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

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This course examines the changing nature of women's reproductive rights policies in the three North American countries since the early 20th century. Where relevant, it will also examine these policies when contested at the global level, such as at UN Conferences on Women. In general, we compare how the political systems of North America, including whether parliamentary or not and degree of centralized or decentralized federalism have affected the policy outputs in this area. We also examine how governmental party control at the national and subnational levels has affected the changing shape of women's reproductive rights. Finally, we examine the strategies of pro-choice and pro-life groups in different venues (courts, legislatures, bureaucratic agencies, etc) and at different levels of government. The goal of our semester's discussion is to understand what the forces are affecting reproductive policy in North America and at the international level, and what must be done to continue women's agency in making choices.

So far, the following books have been ordered and are available at the Carleton University Bookstore:

- 1) Melissa Haussman, Abortion Politics in North America (Lynne Rienner, 2005)
- 2) Jennifer Nelson, Women of Color and the Reproductive Rights Movement (NYU, 2003)
- 3) Melody Rose, Safe, Legal and Unavailable? Abortion Politics in the US (CQ Press, 2007)
- 4) Karen Kedrowski and Marilyn Sarow, Cancer Activism: Gender, Media and Public Policy (University of Illinois Press, 2007)
- 5) Alesha Doan and Jean Williams, The Politics of Virginity (Praeger, 2008)
- 6) Catharine MacKinnon, Are Women Human? (Harvard University Press, 2007)
- 7) Jo Renee Formicola, The Politics of Values: Games Political Strategists Play (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008)

*Other books/readings to be placed on reserve or in the govt. dept. reading room are marked with an asterisk.

Course obligations:

You are required to come to class with the readings for that day prepared and to co-lead the discussion one week (for which you will need to formulate pre-distributed questions). Sign-up sheets on topics will be circulated. with a partner-sign-up sheets will be circulated. There will also be a major paper which you are to work on during the course, which will be due at the end. There are two excused absences allowed per semester. You must notify me by the day ahead of time if you are going to be absent.

1) Preparation of questions	15%
2) Co-leading of discussion	25%
3) Literature review and outline of paper (10pp) (due Feb. 11th)	15%
4) Final paper (20pp) (due April 6th)	30%
5) Participation and informed contributions:	10%
6) Final presentations on papers	5%

In order to accommodate the submitting of the final paper on April 6th, I will be holding special office hours on April 6th from 1-3pm. The departmental drop box cut off time is 4pm. Any papers submitted after 4pm will be date stamped for the following weekday.

Class Schedule:

Jan. 7	Introduction to Class and overview of the three political systems
Jan. 14	History of the Repro. Rights movement in the three countries (Haussman, Chs. 2-4) *also Gire docs., in PSCI library *Ortega, Amuchastegui and Rivas, "Because they Were Born from Me" (Mexico), in Petchesky and Judd, eds., Ch. 5
Jan. 21	Women of Color-Nelson, all
Jan. 28	Access Issues Rose, all & *Joanna N. Erdman, "In the Back Alleys of Health Care," <u>Emory Law Journal</u> (2007), 56.4, 1093-1155
Feb. 4	Values-Based Politics: Read, Formicola, all (also potentially others TBA from Teresa Wagner)
Feb. 11	Abstinence-Based Politics-read Doan and Williams, all
Feb. 25	Cancer Activism-Kedrowski and Sarow, all
March 4	Global Issues, Part I Haussman, Ch. 5

*Gable, Alison and Finkle, Jason, "The Cairo Conference on Population and Development," Population and Development Review, 21, 223-260, 1995.

*Rosalind P. Petchesky, Global Prescriptions (Zed, 2003), Ch. 5, "Implementing International Norms at the National Level"

Mar. 11	Global Issues, Part II MacKinnon, Intro, Parts I, IV
Mar. 18	Global Issues, Part III MacKinnon, Parts II and III
Mar. 25	Speaker I
April 1	Presentations & wrap up

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 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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course. 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 only communicates with students via Connect accounts. 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 carletonpss@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.