

FYSM 1611 O
Introduction to Political Science in the North:
Northern-Federal Relations
Tuesdays, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
TB (Tory building) room 230, Carleton University Campus

I General information

Instructor: Anna Soer
Office Hours: *After class*.
Email: annasoer@cunet.carleton.ca

II Course description

FYSM 1611 O is a seminar that takes a deep dive into the political dynamics that have underpinned the relations between the Federal Government of Canada and the North – from the Yukon to Nunatsiavut. The seminar will in particular cover colonial relations as well as Indigenous self-determination movements and the creation of territories through Modern Treaties. Through case studies, lecture, and in class discussions, the aim of this seminar is to develop critical thinking skills as well as applicable skills to leadership and decision-making as well as policymaking. Throughout the seminar, we will aim to better understand the political context underpinning the North. The objectives to have lectures to introduce important frameworks in political to serve in-class discussion on various topics; using concepts introduced in readings and lectures to serve discussions and the written assignments; and complete assignments that use practical skills from research methodologies to policy writing.

III Course Format

This course will be taught in person at TB (Tory building) room 230, Carleton University Campus. Each week, you can expect to have a lecture, an open class discussion, and a learning activity.

IV Learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand the historical and current context of Northern-Federal relations, in particular the major events and dynamics underpinning the Territory of Nunavut;
- Critically use of foundational theories and concepts of the field of political science;
- Understand policymaking as well as understand foundational research methodologies.
- Critically think of issues and be able to formulate nuanced, complex stances.

V Texts

Texts and readings will be made available on Brightspace for students to access. This will include mandatory readings that will be discussed in class, and optional readings for those looking to explore subjects in a deeper way. You do not need to purchase any textbooks for this course.

VI Evaluation at a glance

Assignment	% of Final Grade	Due Date
Quizzes (2 quizzes in total)	30%	Week 6 and Week 11
Reflection	20%	Week 13
Final assignment	40%	Week 14
Attendance and participation	10%	/

VII Evaluation in detail

Quizzes: 30% of grade, due Week 6 (Quiz 1) and Week 11 (Quiz 2). Each single quiz is 15% of final grade.

This course will contain two quizzes, each made out of two (2) questions, that students may choose one (1) from, pertaining to the themes covered in class. The student is expected to provide an in-depth answer to the question and use the concepts and theories discussed in class to answer. Each quiz expects 200-400 words answer. Points are not deducted when going above the maximum word count. Points are deducted when going under the minimum word count. 1pt is deducted per 20 words.

Reflection: 20% of grade, due Week 13.

In this assignment, students are expected to choose out of a list of topics and provide an essay-like developed argument on the topic chosen. The format is free: students may choose an artistic expression (such as poetry or a physical artistic object) or a conventional essay format. This assignment provides a space for students to express their interests and their perspectives on a key issue pertaining to the North. Students are expected to critically reflect on what we have learnt in class. In the case a student chooses a physical artistic object, the argument can be given as an oral presentation of 15 minutes. The length expected is 500-700 words. Points are not deducted when going above the maximum word count. Points are deducted when going under the minimum word count. 1pt is deducted per 20 words.

Final assignment: 40% of grade, due Week 14.

The Final Assignment is rooted in research in political science, where students are expected to provide a research problem, a research question, a methodology, and findings, related to an issue we have covered in class. The final assignment requires a written document. The expected length is 1500 words. Points are not deducted when going above the maximum word count. Points are deducted when going under the minimum word count. 1pt is deducted per 20 words.

Attendance and participation: 10% of grade

Students are expected to attend and participate during classes in meaningful and respectful ways. There are multiple ways to participate meaningfully. Students are expected to participate in class with their peers directly during group activities. Attendance will be taken at each class. Refer to the attendance policies of NS for exemptions.

Note on Generative AI: Chat GPT and similar apps are prohibited from being used to generate content for any of the graded assignments above. Students must use their own words when writing their assignments. You may use grammar support tools, but these grammar support tools may not replace

your own vocabulary used. The reading list on Brightspace is designed to be manageable each week and provide a range of different types of materials, so the use of summarizing tools or apps is not required. An artificial generative writing tool will never be able to replace the depth of your own thoughts and voice.

Students are prohibited from reusing work previously submitted to another course.

Late assignments: Please refer to the policies laid out by Nunavut Sivuniksavut.

For any exemption circumstances that go above the policies laid out by Nunavut Sivuniksavut, is important that the student reach out to the instructor before the deadline or as soon as possible.

VIII Course schedule

Week 0 (September 8): No class. Orientation week.

Week 1 (September 15): Introduction to Political Science and the North.

Young, O. R. (1985). The Age of the Arctic. *Foreign Policy*, (61), 160–179.

Week 2 (September 22): Introduction to Theory and Methodology

Carter, N.A., Tagalik, S., Ljubicic, G. (2025). Applying the Aajiiqatigiingniq Research Methodology: approaches and lessons learned through collaborative survey development and analysis. *Arctic Science*, (11), 1-33.

Week 3 (September 29): Who speaks? Voicing theories and concepts.

Tagalik, S., Baker, K., Karetak, J., & Rahm, J. (2023). Rebuilding relations and countering erasure through community-driven and owned science: A key tool to Inuit self-determination and social transformations. *Journal of Research in Science Teaching*, 60(8), 1697–1722.

Week 4: (October 6): From the Yukon to Nunatsiavut: Seeing Through the Eyes of Peoples.

Dunning, N. (2012). Reflections of a disk-less Inuk on Canada's Eskimo identification system. *Études/Inuit/Studies*, 36(2), 209-226.

Week 5 (October 13): From the 3rd Order of Government to the 1st Order of Government.

Dunning, N. (2018). An Inuit based policy development process. *Alberta Journal of Educational Research*, 64(1), 1-13.

Week 6 (October 20): Territory, Conflict, and Identity: Shaping Nunavut?

Quiz 1 due.

Watt-Cloutier, S. (2015). The right to be cold: one woman's story of protecting her culture, the Arctic and the whole planet. Penguin Canada. (Book – choose a chapter of interest)

Week 7 (October 27): No class. Culture week.

Week 8 (November 3rd): Pan-Arctic diplomacy: Stronger together?

Lackenbauer, P. W., & Dean, R. (2020). Arctic exceptionalisms. *The Arctic and world order*, 327-355.

Week 9 (November 10): Pan-Indigeneity: UNDRIP and the Central Arctic Ocean Agreement

Olsvig, S., & Cullen, M. (2024). Arctic Indigenous Peoples and International Law. *Nordic Journal of International Law*, 93(1), 152-169.

Optional: Aupilaarjuk, M., Joamie, A., & Imaruittuq, E. (1999). Perspectives on traditional law. Language and Culture Program, Nunavut Arctic College.

Week 10 (November 17): Human Security and Hard Security: Cross-Disciplinary Approach

Kootoo, B. (2002). Child-birth in the past. *Études/Inuit/Studies*, 175-179.

Peter, A. (2013). Inuit use and occupation. *Nilliajut: Inuit Perspectives on Security, Patriotism and Sovereignty*, 43-47.

Week 11 (November 24): Going Beyond the Framework of Resilience: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Quiz 2 due.

Peter, A., Ishulutak, M., Shaimaiyuk, J., Shaimaiyuk, J., Kisa, N., Kootoo, B., & Enuaraq, S. (2002). The seal: An integral part of our culture. *Études/Inuit/Studies*, 167-174.

Week 12 (December 1st): Thinking Arctic Futurisms in Art

<https://gutsmagazine.ca/visual-cultures/>

<https://www.inuitartfoundation.org/inuit-art-quarterly/special-series/what-gets-lost>

Week 13 (December 8): NO CLASS – take the time to work on your assignment due the following week. Reflections due.

Week 14 (December 15): NO CLASS DUE TO END OF SEMESTER – take the time to work on your final assignment. I remain available and we can still meet in person at NS.

Political Science Course Outline Appendix

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Student Mental Health

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus):

<https://carleton.ca/safety/resources/>

Carleton Resources:

Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>

Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>

Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>

Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>

Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>

Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>

Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>

The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Academic consideration for medical or other extenuating circumstances: Students must contact the instructor(s) of their absence or inability to complete the academic deliverable within the predetermined timeframe due to medical or other extenuating circumstances. For a range of medical or other extenuating circumstances, students may use the online self-declaration form and where appropriate, the use of medical documentation. This policy regards the accommodation of extenuating circumstances for both short-term and long-term periods and extends to all students enrolled at Carleton University.

Students should also consult the [Course Outline Information on Academic Accommodations](#) for more information. Detailed information about the procedure for requesting academic consideration can be found [here](#).

Pregnancy: 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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, please contact Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC) at equity@carleton.ca or by calling (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor.

Religious obligation: 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 [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: 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, please request your accommodations for this course through the [Ventus Student Portal](#) 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*). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For final exams, the deadlines to request accommodations are published in the [University Academic Calendars](#). 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).

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 its 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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>.

Accommodation for 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 will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me 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.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply within **three working days** to the Registrar's Office for permission to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully supported by the appropriate documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered. [See Undergraduate Calendar, Article 4.3](#)

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). Permissibility of submitting substantially the same piece of work more than once for academic credit. If group or collaborative work is expected or allowed, provide a clear and

specific description of how and to what extent you consider collaboration to be acceptable or appropriate, especially in the completion of written assignments.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

Please reference the [Academic Calendar](#) for each term's official withdrawal dates

OFFICIAL FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD

Please reference the [Academic Calendar](#) for each term's Official Exam Period (may include evenings & Saturdays or Sundays)

For more information on the important dates and deadlines of the academic year, consult the [Carleton Calendar](#).

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system is described in the Undergraduate Calendar section [5.4](#).

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

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:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, 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 that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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 can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

RESOURCES (613-520-2600, phone ext.)

Department of Political Science (2777)	B640 Loeb
Registrar's Office (3500)	300 Tory
Centre for Student Academic Success (3822)	4 th floor Library
Academic Advising Centre (7850)	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre (6608)	501 Nideyinàn
Career Services (6611)	401 Tory