

PSCI 1100 A

Introduction to Political Science

This course will consist of

- 1. Pre-recorded lectures available on our class Brightspace and**
- 2. Live online optional discussion sessions on Tuesdays at 7:20-8:50pm Beginning May 11th and ending on June 8th**

I General information

Instructor: Dr. Tamara Kotar
Office hours: Tuesdays 8:55-10pm, email to schedule an appointment
Email: tamara.kotar@carleton.ca

TA

The TA for our course is:
Ashley Fearnall
Email: ashleyfearnall@cmail.carleton.ca

II Course description

At its best, politics is the pursuit of figuring out how people can live together better. In this course we will examine core ideas, issues and the role of institutions, groups and individuals in political life. Students will familiarize themselves with a number of sub-fields in political studies and the theoretical tools to navigate complex debates.

Students are compelled to raise their consciousness of core political ideas and apply their knowledge to research, advocacy, policymaking, action and change. My hope is that you find this course engaging and that you successfully complete this course with theoretical and analytical tools that you will employ in your future endeavours.

III Course Format

In order to ensure that all students have access to lectures and that potential barriers such as internet connectivity or time zone differences are overcome, the online schedule for this class is as follows:

1. Pre-recorded Lecture Video Series and Episodes are available the Sunday prior to class on brightspace, please do not reproduce, record or distribute. The Lecture Video Series and Episodes are carefully crafted to ensure an easy to follow and informative discussion of theorists, ideas and phenomena in the discipline.

2. Discussion Sessions: Tuesdays 7:20-8:50pm, beginning May 11th and ending on June 8th.

Please do not record, in order to ensure the privacy of fellow students. These sessions are intended to address any questions and to discuss topics in the lectures and readings. Discussion groups are not mandatory but are highly recommended. There are no separate tutorials for this

class, the discussion sessions take the place of tutorials. The discussion session happens on our class Zoom, accessible through our Brightspace classroom. See the links on the left-hand side of the class Brightspace page.

*These are the two and only ways that lectures and discussion sessions will be held. There are no other lecture times nor "labs". Discussion sessions are held during the scheduled "lecture time" so that all students have the opportunity to take part. The lectures are all pre-recorded for student's convenience, ease of use and ability to access anytime.

IV Learning Outcomes

- Students are challenged to understand the foundations political life in different types of regimes.
- Students engage in comparative investigations of political life in all types of polities.
- Students are compelled to develop their ability to engage in academic writing and research.

Core Questions & Themes

These are the core questions and overarching themes we will explore in this course:

- Is there a trade-off between liberty and equality?
- How can we accurately compare diverse peoples, states and societies?

V Required Texts

Required Texts are available at the Carleton bookstore. Required journal articles and book chapters are available via the University Library Omni search engine.

1. O'Neil, Patrick, Essentials of Comparative Politics, 6th Edition, (Toronto: W.W. Norton, 2015).

E Book available: <https://wwnorton.com/books/9780393624588>

***Electronic version available for purchase or rent:** <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/essentials-of-comparative-politics-with-cases-patrick-h-o-39-neil-v9780393680577?term=0393639274>

2. O'Neil, Patrick, Essential Readings in Comparative Politics, 5th Edition, (Toronto: W.W. Norton, 2017).

***Please see links in the syllabus and/or search for the articles on the University Library Omni search engine.**

Writing Resources

The Oxford Research and Writing Guide for Political Science is a good source for tips on writing for political science.

<https://global.oup.com/ushe/product/research-and-writing-guide-for-political-science-9780199890545?cc=us&lang=en&>

Some good databases for scholarly articles include JSTOR & Project MUSE which are both accessible through the library.

VI Evaluation at a Glance

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Assignment	Date	Share of Term Mark	Notes
Syllabus Scavenger Hunt	May 16 th	3%	
Quiz 1 – 1st Half of Course	Available from May 20 th and closes on May 27 th	10%	Multiple choice answers. Students may choose when during the dates provided they wish to complete the quiz. The quiz is timed. Students have one chance to complete the quiz, there are no-retakes. There is no extension of the quiz date. The material students should be familiar with encompasses the video lectures and readings up to and including May 20 th . See detailed instructions in syllabus.
<u>Academic Briefs</u>	May 30 th June 6 th June 13 th	74%	2 assignments worth 37% each. **There are 3 assignments listed because only your best 3 results will count toward your final mark. Your worst mark will be eliminated.** You do not need to hand in all 4 assignments. You can choose not to hand in one assignment and that will be a 0, your worst mark and it will be eliminated. Use the Academic Brief Format (listed in the syllabus) to easily create your briefs.
Feedback	May 30 th	3%	Answer the feedback questions on brightspace
Quiz 2 – 2nd Half of Course	Available from June 11 th and closes on June 21 st	10%	Multiple choice answers. Students may choose when during the dates provided they wish to complete the quiz. The quiz is timed. Students have one chance to complete the quiz,

		<p>there are no-retakes. There is no extension of the quiz date.</p> <p>The material students should be familiar with encompasses the video lectures and readings up to and including June 10th.</p> <p>See detailed instructions in syllabus</p>
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Discussion Sessions - How We Will Meet Online

Big Blue Button (BBB) Instructions and Support for Students

Below is a brief guide on how we will meet for online discussion sessions:

1. In order to respect the privacy of all participants, **classes will not be recorded on BBB. I ask that students do the same and refrain from recording the class. Please do not record or distribute any course materials.**
2. To join the discussion session click on the BBB in the course homepage. I encourage students to join a few minutes beforehand, so that you know your connection is working and wait for the session to start.
3. Please ensure your audio is muted and your camera is off. You can always turn on the audio during the discussion session. If you have a question, click the “raise your hand” icon, write the question in the chat and then turn on your microphone. Students may go into “breakout rooms” where you may brainstorm ideas and discuss concepts. Be sure to respect each other.
4. Below is the link for Big blue Button Support for Students
<https://carleton.ca/brightspacesupport/students/bigbluebutton/>

For Students joining class via phone, click on BBB and a special phone number and a code will be provided. If you join by phone you can un-mute and mute using the 0 button.

Teaching Approach and Course Format

Students should **pay special attention to the Assignment Due Date Matrix**, which clearly delineates assignment due dates and mark weight. The course is arranged by week on brightspace. When you click on a week, you will find the assignments for the week as well as a detailed description of assignment requirements.

Do Not Record nor Distribute Course Videos or Discussion Sessions

- In order to respect the privacy of all participants online live sessions will not be recorded. I ask that students do the same and refrain from recording the class.
- Please do not copy, record or distribute online lecture Video Series and Episodes. They are only intended for use in this course and are not for redistribution.

brightspace

All of your written assignments are due via brightspace drop boxes. The syllabus and other relevant documents are also posted on brightspace.

Discussion Board

For the discussion board components of assignments, particularly Part III of Academic Brief posts, students have a choice of posting items to the class discussion group on the university

learning platform or on the course Facebook. Marks for discussion board component of assignments will be awarded without bias, that means the marks will be the same regardless of what platform students choose. The idea is to ensure that students have an option to share on a platform they are comfortable with using. The course Facebook page is Tamara Kotar (formerly Socially Scientific). I use it for professional/academic purposes only. Students may join if they choose this platform (it is not a course requirement). The idea of the discussion board component is to have a place for collegial discussion.

Note on Course Materials

The course materials, readings, videos and what is discussed are meant to introduce students to different viewpoints and concepts that have influenced discussion. Inclusion in this course is not an endorsement of any one viewpoint. Rather the goal is to introduce different viewpoints from a variety of thinkers and mediums that students and the professor may agree or disagree with. This is all done with the intention of sparking discussion and critical thinking.

Students will not be marked based on their political stance or viewpoint. An education in political science is not one rooted in hyper-partisanship or mutual recriminations, but rather in thoughtful, reflective discussion on how to live together better.

Marking in this course is based on demonstration of critical thinking skills, consideration of various contributions to scholarship, ability to engage in scholarly research and demonstration of scholarly writing skills. As outlined in the assignment considerations section of this syllabus, the focus is on crafting a strong thesis and as a way for students to realize their contribution to the study and practice of political science.

Our online classroom provides a space for collegial and critical exchange of ideas. Some readings, course materials or topics raised by the instructor or guest speakers may present different and contrary viewpoints to your own. Some may be triggering, traumatizing or offensive, especially when dealing with examples of war and atrocities.

It's important we discuss these topics and ideas and learn in a respectful and open environment. We must also be aware and sensitive to the impact this material could have. Please know that I focus on providing a safe, encouraging and understanding learning environment. I ask you to reach out if you have any concerns or require any accommodations related to these types of materials, ideas and topics.

Student Success and Course Format

You will make the class a success! It is your responsibility to learn core concepts by doing the readings, taking notes and taking time to consider and apply what you have learned. Reading required readings before watching lectures, taking notes when watching lectures, participation in discussion sessions and reviewing notes are essential for good grades on assignments. To really comprehend the complex issues to be discussed it takes your full attention and investigation. To excel in this class be sure to review lectures, attend discussion sessions, read the readings and review your notes, you will excel in this class if you do.

Electronics Policy

Students should refrain from using cell phones, streaming, surfing the web, using social media or using other applications when the class meets online or when viewing video lectures.

Why?

1. Challenging Course Materials. We examine very complex phenomena in the class, particularly the challenges everyday people have faced in difficult circumstances. It is important we respectfully and meaningfully consider the phenomena, experiences and ideas that we are discussing.
2. Studies on multitasking all demonstrate that you learn far less when distracted.
3. You are here for a short time, make the best use of your time to really engage with the ideas and perspectives discussed.

VII Evaluation in Detail

Syllabus Scavenger Hunt

Since this course may have many features that you have not yet encountered in other classes, I've included a syllabus scavenger hunt, to ensure that students are very familiar with requirements.

Find the correct answers to these questions and win the scavenger hunt!

1. Under what subheading and on what page of the syllabus would I find a comprehensive list of assignments and due dates?
2. What do I need to know for the Map Quiz?
3. What are the 3 parts of the Academic Brief assignment and what kind of knowledge does this assignment try to combine?
4. Do I have to submit all 3 parts for each academic brief?
5. Under what subheading do I find the reading materials for each week?
6. How do I do the Quizzes?

My PSCI Academic Brief

- Brief - A brief in this sense is understood as "a short and concise written statement"
- Academic - The academic part of the brief means that there is a clear thesis statement and scholarly work that supports that statement.

Why this Assignment?

- Academic Briefs will serve as tools to ensure students achieve the highest possible benefit from the readings, lectures and discussions.
- It is a way to combine our exploration of theoretical phenomena and ideas from scholarly works, in-class discussion/activities, and current events.
- These assignments help students focus on how to write a succinct thesis; a key skill required for future success.
- Students have concise and condensed notes on the readings and discussions that provides them with excellent study materials for assignments and quizzes.
- More questions = more learning. Thoughtful and reflective questions about what we discuss and what we read is the goal of this course, indeed it is a main goal of higher education. From questions comes the search for answers through consideration of a variety of viewpoints, ideas and understandings.

How to do this Assignment?

1. The assignments are due via brightspace at **11:55pm on the due date**. The submission spaces will be entitled #1 Academic Brief, #2 Academic Brief.
2. Use the format provided below and the assignment evaluation considerations at the end of the syllabus to ensure the quality of the brief. Academic Briefs require **clear thesis statements and scholarly support for statements**.
3. **Your worst mark will be eliminated**. This is an opportunity to get your best work recognized.
4. **To organize your Academic Brief** you can cut and paste the **Academic Brief Format** provided below into your own word document and fill in the material required.

My PSCI Academic Brief Format

The format provides an easy to use guide for completing the assignment. Copy and paste, follow the instructions and fill it in with your written work.

Each Academic Brief assignment requires that all of the 3 parts described below are submitted in one file on brightspace. In other words, Part I, II and III of the assignment are all due at the same time in the same file with all of the requirements listed in the format included below.

Part I- Analyze Seminar/Lecture/Tutorial Discussion

For this component you will identify and discuss an issue discussed in video lectures or discussion sessions prior to the due date. Identify and critically engage with one idea/concept/issue dealt with in class that attracted interest and in a scholarly manner explain why it is important.

It is important to critically engage with the ideas in a scholarly manner. Ensure you have a clear thesis and supporting arguments. Refer to the Assignment Evaluations section of this syllabus.

Anything we discuss that piques your interest can be used for this part of the assignment it all depends on the topics we discuss.

You should have a thesis and include reference to other scholarly work.

400 words

Part II Analyze Readings

For the discuss the readings component of the Academic Brief you will write about an issue that you found interesting in the readings that are assigned for the coming week, the week that the assignment is due. Choose one of the readings, required or recommended.

Using your own words, and in a critical and scholarly manner, identify and critically engage with one idea/concept/issue you found of interest in the reading. Discuss the idea or issue developed in the article that intrigued you and that you would like to discuss further in class.

Create 2 questions that relate to the article and larger issues discussed in the class. These questions may be used for in-class discussion and debate.

You should have a thesis and include reference to other scholarly work.

400 Words

Part III Connect Analysis of Current Events/Social Media

Students will include all of the part III requirements in their single brightspace submission for the academic brief. **Part 1, II and III of the assignment are all due at the same time in the same file with all of the requirements listed in the assignment.** Students need only copy and paste urls for the discussion board component.

1. Cite the url and title of one media item (article, podcast or video clip) that relates to issues discussed during this class or in the readings. Only post the url on the brightspace discussion board.

However, **you must include your 200-word commentary in the brightspace submission.**

200 words

2. Cite the url and title of a media time (article, podcast or video clip) that you found interesting, posted by anyone else (from any class or even the prof.) on the class Discussion Group. Do not post any commentary on the class Discussion Board. However, **you must include your 200-word commentary in the brightspace submission.**

Feedback

This is an opportunity for you to let me know what concepts intrigue you and what you want to learn more about.

Students will answer the following questions with 1-3 sentences for each question:

1. What is the most significant thing you learned in the most recent video lectures or discussion sessions?
2. What question is at the top of your mind at the end the most recent video lectures or discussion sessions?
3. What have you enjoyed learning about most in the class so far this term?
4. What would you like to discuss more in-depth as we continue the course?
5. What aspects of the syllabus, assignments or assignment structure work well for you and what would you recommend changing?

Multiple Choice Quizzes, Instructions for Quiz 1 and Quiz 2

There are two multiple choice quizzes this semester (see assignment Evaluation at a Glance). Both quizzes contain 18 multiple choice questions. Students will pick the answer that best matches the question being asked, based on course lectures and readings. The quizzes are automatically marked, and the student will receive their mark upon completion.

Both quizzes can be taken by students anytime that suits them best, within the date range that the Quizzes are scheduled for as noted in the Evaluation at a Glance section of the syllabus.

Each quiz will be worth 9% of your final mark, will consist of 18 questions with a time limit of 25 minutes.

Quiz 1 – 1st Half of Course

For Quiz 1 The material students should be familiar with encompasses the video lectures and readings up to and including March 1st.

Quiz 2 – 2nd Half of Course

For Quiz 2 The material students should be familiar with encompasses the video lectures and readings up to and including April 12th.

Once a student opens the quiz the timer will begin, the timer cannot be paused. Do not click onto the quiz before you plan on taking it, if you click on the quiz and it starts then you must complete the quiz, there is no re-do.

Each quiz must be completed in a single session, within the time limit. Quizzes submitted after the time limit will be given an automatic mark of 0%.

Each quiz is multiple-choice, for each question a number of possible answers will appear, you **choose only one answer, the answer that is the most correct**. Each question will be awarded one mark for each most correct answer you choose, and zero marks for all other possibilities.

Be sure to follow all instructions carefully as you go through the quiz

Prior to taking the quiz be sure that you have completed watching all of the Video Series and Episodes and all of the readings that the quiz covers (as noted in the Evaluation at a Glance section). Be sure to have made notes, and study those notes for all of the video and written materials so that you are prepared for the quiz. If there is something you do not understand fully, be sure to re-watch the lectures, re-read readings and ask questions in discussion sessions.

The quizzes are timed, once the time limit has been reached the system will automatically submit whatever answers you have provided. Once you open the quiz the timer will begin, and it will not pause if you close the window. **Each quiz must be completed in a single session, within the time limit.** Quizzes submitted after the time limit will be given an **automatic mark of 0%**. Each quiz has randomized questions, so that students will receive different questions of equal difficulty.

If you are registered with the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) with an accommodation for timed quiz, contact the Prof. and your TA with the exact accommodation extra time required on this quiz. Please do so before the quiz opens so that your accommodation can be entered into the system before the quiz opens for you.

If you have any questions, or experience any technical difficulties, contact the ITS Service Desk

- The ITS Service Desk is your point of contact for all IT issues, requests and inquiries. See a full list of services provided by the ITS Service Desk. Email: its.service.desk@carleton.ca (Monitored: Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 7:30 pm) Phone: 613-520-3700 Chat: carleton.ca/its/chat Hours: Monday to Friday: 8:30 am – 10:30 pm Saturday – Sunday: 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm

If this technical difficulty negatively impacted your quiz writing ability, please include the correspondence with brightspace support in a message to both your TA and Prof. This will then be evaluated to find the most appropriate means to address it. Remember, brightspace, the prof. and TAs will be able to see your quiz progression, if the quiz did crash, if there were technical difficulties where and when the difficulties happened.

VIII Course Schedule

Introduction

May 6th

Course structure, assignments and expectations.

Recommended Reading

- Amartya Sen, How to Judge Globalism, 2002
- O'Neil, Patrick, Essentials of Comparative Politics
Chapter 1 Introduction
- Francis Fukuyama, Chapter 1, The Necessity of Politics, from The Origins of Political Order, available: <https://tinyurl.com/y9z25eap>
- Pericles' Funeral Oration from Thucydides, 431 BCE, The Peloponnesian war, http://corematerials.homestead.com/01_pericles_funeral_oration.pdf

What is Comparative Politics?

May 11th & 13th

Required Readings

- O'Neil, Patrick, Essentials of Comparative Politics, Chapter 1
- King, Gary, Robert Keohane and Sidney Verba, Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research, 1994, pp. 3-14
https://edisciplinas.usp.br/pluginfile.php/4182875/mod_resource/content/2/Gary%20King%20Robert%20Keohane%20Sidney%20Verba%20Designing%20Social%20Inquiry%201994.pdf
- Lijphart, A. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method" The American Political Science Review, Vol. 65, No. 3. (September, 1971): 682- 693
Available:
<http://www.la.utexas.edu/users/chenry/core/Course%20Materials/Lijphart1971/0.pdf>

Case Study/Resources

- Polity IV, <http://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html>

Nation States, People and Patterns of Interaction

May 18th

Required Readings

- Appiah, Kwame, "Chapter 6: Education for Global Citizenship." The Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education, vol. 107, no. 1, Wiley, 2008, pp. 83–99 (available through the library online search)
- O'Neil et. al. – Essentials of Comparative Politics
Chapter 2, States
- O'Neil, Patrick, **Essentials Readings** in Comparative Politics, Chapter 2
 - Robert I. Rotberg, The New Nature of Nation-State Failure

Available, [https://www.boell.de/sites/default/files/assets/boell.de/images/download_de/demokratie/The New Nature of Nation-State Failure Rotberg 2002 en.pdf](https://www.boell.de/sites/default/files/assets/boell.de/images/download_de/demokratie/The%20New%20Nature%20of%20Nation-State%20Failure%20Rotberg%202002_en.pdf)

- Sophie Harman, The Danger of Stories in Global Health, The Lancet, vol 395, issue 10226, 7-10 March, 2020, available in the Carleton Library E-journals

Case Studies/Resources

- Our World in Data, available <https://ourworldindata.org/>

- World Wealth and Income Database, Paris School of Economics, available, <http://wid.world/>
- Association for the Study of Nationalities, <http://nationalities.org/>
- Nations and Nationalism, journal

Public Administration & Public Policy

May 20th

Required Reading

- Sabharwal, Meghna, and Evan M. Berman. Public Administration in South Asia: India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. First edition., Routledge, 2017, Introduction and Chapter 1 (available through the library online search)
- Lindblom, Charles, E, The Science of Muddling Through, Public Administration review, vol 19, no. 2, Spring 1959.
Available: <https://goo.gl/aRgsde>
- Douglas C. North, Institutions, Journal of Economic Perspectives, vol. 5, no. 1, winter 1991, pp. 97-112., available: <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.5.1.97>

Case Studies/Resources

- Life Expectancy and Income, Gapminder Global Interactive available, <https://goo.gl/OS8ImU>

Democracy

May 25th & May 27th

Required Readings

- Nyabola, Nanjala. Digital Democracy, Analogue Politics: How the Internet Era Is Transforming Politics in Kenya. 1st ed., Zed Books, 2018, Introduction (electronic copy available through a library search)
- O'Neil – Essentials of Comparative Politics, Chapter 5 Democratic Regimes
- O'Neil, Patrick, **Essentials Readings** in Comparative Politics, Chapter 8 Alexis de Tocqueville, Author's Introduction, from Democracy in America, pp. 12-18, available, <http://seas3.elte.hu/coursematerial/LojkoMiklos/Alexis-de-Tocqueville-Democracy-in-America.pdf>
- O'Neil, Patrick, **Essentials Readings** in Comparative Politics, Chapter 5 Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, What Democracy Is . . . and Is Not, available, <http://pscourses.ucsd.edu/ps200b/Schmitter%20&%20Karl%20What%20Democracy%20Is%20.pdf>

Case Studies/Resources

- Journal of Democracy – access through library
- International IDEA (Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance), available: <http://www.idea.int/> *Go to their State of Democracy assessment methodology section
- Polity V, available, <https://dss.princeton.edu/catalog/resource93>

- Varieties of Democracy Dataset, available, <https://www.v-dem.net/en/about/>

Consolidated Democracies – Democratic Deconsolidation?

June 1st

Required Readings

- O'Neil – Essentials of Comparative Politics Chapter 8 Developed Democracies
- O'Neil, Patrick, **Essentials Readings** in Comparative Politics, Chapter 5 Roberto Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk, The Danger of Deconsolidation. Available, <https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/FoaMounk-27-3.pdf>

Case Study/Resources

- PBS News Hour, Former Supreme Court Justice Souter, Sept 17th, 2012, available <https://goo.gl/kPEBwi>
- Journal of Democracy

Non-Democratic Regimes

June 3rd

Required Readings

- O'Neil - Essentials of Comparative Politics, Chapter 6 Nondemocratic Regimes
- O'Neil, Patrick, **Essentials Readings** in Comparative Politics, Chapter 6

Seven Levitsky and Lucan A Way, Elections without Democracy, The Rise of Competitive Authoritarianism. Available,

https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/levitsky/files/SL_elections.pdf

Case Study/Resources

- Freedom House, <https://goo.gl/XCz723>
- The Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index, available, <https://goo.gl/VE7eWL>

Communism & Post Communism

June 8th & June 10th

Required Readings

- O'Neil – Essentials of Comparative Politics Chapter 9, Communism and Postcommunism
- O'Neil, Patrick, **Essentials Readings** in Comparative Politics, Chapter 9

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, Manifesto of the Communist Party. Available,

<http://www.yorku.ca/comnine1/courses/4090pdf/manifest.pdf>

Hale, Henry, 25 Years After the USSR: What's Gone Wrong, available,

<https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/articles/25-years-after-the-ussr-whats-gone-wrong/>

Case Studies/Resources

- Chuck Norris vs. Communism, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znp1dNaPp3k>
- Goodbye Lenin, Dir. Wolfgang Becker, 2003, Available:

- <https://itunes.apple.com/us/movie/good-bye-lenin/id563188049>
- PBS People’s Century, People Power
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AQw9t0NUD4>
 - Karl Marx & Fredrick Engels, Manifesto of the Communist Party, available:
<https://tinyurl.com/ydb7x7mn>
 - Economist Explains, Thomas Piketty’s Capital, Summarized in four paragraphs, May 5th, 2014, link available: <https://tinyurl.com/y9a4xvfe> or find through the library e-journals

Assignment Evaluation Considerations

Below is a table and list of questions used to evaluate each assignment. Keep this in mind when writing your assignments.

Thesis & Explanation of subject - 70%
A clear idea/thesis is forwarded for each question asked.
Identification and explanation of main points.
Use of Scholarly Literature - 25%
Scholarly literature is employed to strengthen arguments.
Definitions and terms should be used properly.
Jargon should be kept to a minimum.
Structure of Assignment - 5%
Answer the questions being asked.
The assignment is an appropriate length.
The assignment employs proper grammar.

These questions are utilized to assess written assignments

- Is there a clear idea/thesis forwarded in response to each question asked in an assignment?
- Are main points identified and explained?
- Are supporting statements focused, relevant and illuminating?
- Strong arguments are focused and develop a particular point?
- Does my answer utilize scholarly arguments and literature?
- Does my answer address counter arguments?
- Is my assignment too descriptive? (avoid this)
- Are ideas being stated as self-evident? (avoid this)
- Do my answers flow, are they well organized?
- Am I utilizing proper grammar?

Writing Resources

The Oxford Research and Writing Guide for Political Science is a good source for tips on writing for political science.

<https://global.oup.com/ushe/product/research-and-writing-guide-for-political-science-9780199890545?cc=us&lang=en&>

Some good databases for scholarly articles include JSTOR & Project MUSE which are both accessible through the library.

IX Academic Accommodations

Due to COVID, instructors will not request or require a doctor's note when students seek accommodation for missed term work or exams due to illness. Instead, students will be asked to complete the self-declaration form available here: https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19_Self-declaration.pdf

X Academic Accommodations

Pregnancy

Please 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, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please 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, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.

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 is 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: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

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 must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

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.

More information on the University’s Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

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