

POL308H Aboriginal Politics in Canada
University of Toronto – Department of Political Science

Instructor:	Professor Rauna Kuokkanen
Meeting Time:	Mondays 12-2pm
Meeting Space:	Room SS 1085
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Course Description:

The course explores some of the key issues in Aboriginal politics in Canada. As a survey course, it provides students with an overview of historical and contemporary socio-political issues in Aboriginal societies and institutions such as Aboriginal self-governance, land claims and treaty negotiations.

Course Aims and Objectives:

It is expected that students will gain a broader understanding of who Aboriginal people in Canada are, and why there is a standing historical and political relationship between the state and Aboriginal peoples in Canada. At the completion of this course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Identify and describe the history of Aboriginal-Crown relations, including the Treaty relations;
2. Identify and describe the development and context of Aboriginal political movement and mobilizing;
3. Analyze the role of the history of Aboriginal-Crown relations in the contemporary Aboriginal and Canadian political context, and
4. Evaluate the relationship between Aboriginal political mobilizing and contemporary Aboriginal-state relations.

Required Texts

1. Cannon, Martin J., and Lina Sunseri, eds. *Racism, Colonialism and Indigeneity in Canada. A Reader*. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2011. Available at the University of Toronto Bookstore, 214 College Street, phone: 416.640.7900.
2. A custom courseware package. Available at the University of Toronto Bookstore.
3. Journal articles available online through the UToronto Library website (search under e-journals). These readings are marked by * in the syllabus.
4. Selected electronic readings available on Blackboard. This is indicated in the syllabus.

Assignments

Mid-term take-home Essay	20%	Due in Class 6 (Feb. 13)
Research Paper	40%	Due in Class 10 (Mar. 19)
Final Exam	40%	During Exam Period

Evaluation

Mid-term Take-home Essay **20%** **Due in Class 6**

Students will be given a list of essay questions in Class 5. Students will choose one question to respond, based on the course lectures and readings up to Class 5. Required length: 4 pages.

Research Paper **40%** **Due in Class 10**

The research paper allows students to deepen their understanding of a course-related issue that interests them. Students are asked to choose a topic relating to the course content and write a paper on it. If you are uncertain about your topic, arrange to meet with the instructor well in advance. Required length: 9-10 pages plus bibliography (firm maximum of 3000 words in total). If you exceed the word limit, you will be asked to revise your paper to meet the requirements. Not meeting the length requirements will affect your grade negatively.

Final Exam **40%** **Exact date TBA**

The final exam is based on the second half (starting from Class 6) of the course lectures and readings. The final exam consists of short essay questions.

Policies

1. Lecture Notes

Students are responsible for taking their own lecture notes. Instructor's notes or outlines will not be posted on Blackboard. If you need help with note taking, contact the University of Toronto Writing Centre for mentoring.

2. Late Penalties

Assignments must be handed in on time as hard copies (not as email attachments). For each day (including weekends and holidays) an assignment is late, 2% of your total mark will be deducted, unless there are special circumstances and the professor is notified no less than 24 hours before the assignment is due. Late penalty is calculated from the date the assignment is submitted as a hard copy. Supporting documentation will be required before any extension is granted. Appropriate documentation must be submitted within one week of the late assignment or missed midterm.

Requests for extension due to work overload (either university-related or extra-curricular) will not be accepted. Missing class on the day in which an assignment is due does not give you an extension for the assignment. Late assignments should be submitted to the main desk of the Political Science Department (on the 3rd floor of Sidney Smith Hall). Students should make sure that late submissions are stamped with a date. Only hard copies are acceptable, e-mailed or faxed assignments will not be accepted unless you have obtained prior approval from the professor. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of classes.

Assignments must be submitted to Turnitin.com (see below) before submitting the hard copy in class they are due. In case the hard copy of the assignment is submitted by the deadline but not to Turnitin.com, late penalty of 1% applies. For each day (including weekends and holidays) Turnitin.com submission is late, 1% of your total mark will be deducted.

3. Format of Written Assignments

All papers should be printed, double-spaced, 12 font (Times), 1" margins all around, page numbered and securely stapled. Papers that go beyond the stated page limit for the assignment, or papers that do not conform to the directions above, may be penalized.

In all written assignments you must follow basic academic citation rules. You may use the referencing style of your preference (MLA, Chicago, APA, etc.), as long as you are consistent and provide complete references. Please consult a style guide in case you have doubts regarding how to properly include a reference in your assignment.

You are encouraged to print your written assignments on both sides of the page as part of the UofT double-sided initiative. Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of their essays and assignments before handing in to the Department. These should be kept until the marked assignments have been returned.

4. Grade Appeal

If you have concerns regarding your grade of a specific assignment (either a paper grade or a midterm grade) you can submit a grade appeal. No appeal will be considered unless it is accompanied by a detailed ½ -1 page written explanation of why you feel the grade is unjustified. Once an appeal is submitted the professor will reexamine the entire assignment, not just the question or paragraph mentioned in the appeal. The appeal process can result in one of three outcomes: no change to the original grade, a higher grade, or a lower grade. If you wish to submit a written appeal, you must submit it within one week of grade submission.

The final grades are final. Grades are not rounded up or a few points added to the grade. If you need to maintain a certain average, or get a specific minimum grade in this class, make sure that the quality your work warrants this grade. If you need help with any of the assignments, make an appointment with the professor.

5. Communication with the Instructor

The main communication tool between the instructor and students is Blackboard. Students are asked to check regularly (including before the class) their UToronto email address and Blackboard for announcements, including unexpected changes to the class schedule due to illness etc. If you need to contact the instructor for a course-related issue, including an assignment or test, post your question on Blackboard's Discussion Board Forum specifically dedicated for this purpose. Use email only for personal matters (e.g., illness or other absence from class). Course-related questions sent via email may not be responded. Students can reasonably expect a response in 1-2 days. As a general rule, student inquiries sent 24 hours prior to an assignment or test will not be replied. Do not email the instructor to inquire about an individual mark; grades are posted on Blackboard and returned to the students in due course. Assignments submitted as email attachments are not accepted.

6. Classroom Code of Conduct

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and remain until class is completed. Phones must be turned off and laptops can be used only for taking notes. Students who text or surf during class may be asked to stop or leave the classroom if their behavior is distracting to the instructor and to other students. Recording the class lectures is not permitted.

7. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is one of the cornerstones of the University of Toronto. It is critically important both to maintain our community which honours the values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness and responsibility and to protect you, the students within this community, and the value of the degree towards which you are all working so diligently. According to Section B of the University of Toronto's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* (www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm) which all students are expected to know and respect, it is an offence for students to:

- Use someone else's ideas or words in their own work without acknowledging that those ideas/words are not their own with a citation and quotation marks, i.e. to commit plagiarism
- Include false, misleading or concocted citations in their work.
- Obtain unauthorized assistance on any assignment.
- Provide unauthorized assistance to another student. This includes showing another student completed work.
- Submit their own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Falsify or alter any documentation required by the University. This includes, but is not limited to, doctor's notes.
- Use or possess an unauthorized aid in any test or exam.

There are other offences covered under the Code, but these are by far the most common. Please respect these rules and the values which they protect. Note that plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information, see the University of Toronto's policy on Plagiarism at www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity or www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize.

Turnitin.com

Normally students will be required to submit their course assignments (Take-home Essay and Research Paper) to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website. Please follow the instructions on how to set up a Turnitin.com account, enroll in the course and submit a paper in the "Turnitin.com guide for students" available on Blackboard. The Class ID is 4646832 and Password POL308.

If, as a student, you object to using Turnitin.com, an alternative arrangement for the submission of your written assignment will be made available. You will be required to do all of the following: 1) meet the instructor for a brief discussion about the research process prior to the assignment due date, 2) submit all your rough work (earlier drafts) and notes with your assignment, and 3) submit an electronic copy of your essay to the instructor (in addition to a hard copy) by e-mail with the course identifier (POL308) in the subject line.

Note that all students (including those using Turnitin and those not) are required to submit a hard copy of their assignment (whether or not it is submitted late) and that, for the purposes of calculating a late penalty, it will be the hard copy, and not the one submitted to Turnitin.com that counts. Written assignments have to be submitted to Turnitin.com before class when the assignment is due. Submissions after class count as late submissions (see above, #2).

Weekly Schedule

Class 1 (Jan. 9): Introduction to the Course

Required Readings:

- Cannon & Sunseri, Part 1: Theoretical Foundations, pp. 1-28.

Class 2 (Jan. 16): Doctrines of Colonialism and Aboriginal Political Thought

Required Readings:

- Cannon & Sunseri, Part 2: Nation-Building and the Deeply Racialized Other, pp. 29-56, Chapter 8 (Bonita Lawrence, "Rewriting Histories of the Land," pp. 68-79), Chapter 19 (Marie Battiste, "Micmac Literary and Cognitive Assimilation," pp. 165-172) and Chapter 25 (Joyce Green, "From Stonechild to Social Cohesion," pp. 234-241).
- Turner, Dale. "Liberalism's Last Stand: Aboriginal Sovereignty and Minority Rights." *Aboriginal Rights and Self-Government*. Eds. Cook, Curtis and Juan D. Lindau. Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2000.
- Murphy, Michael. "Civilization, Self-Determination and Reconciliation." *First Nations, First Thoughts: The Impact of Indigenous Thought in Canada*. Ed. Timpson, Annis May. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2009.

Class 3 (Jan. 23): The Royal Proclamation and the Indian Act

Required Readings:

- Cannon & Sunseri, Chapter 10 (Martin Cannon, "Revisiting Histories of Legal Assimilation, Racialized Injustice, and the Future of Indian Status in Canada," pp. 89-97).
- Milloy, John. "Indian Act Colonialism: A Century of Dishonour, 1869-1969." *Research Paper for the National Centre for First Nations Governance*. West Vancouver: National Centre for First Nations Governance, 2008. [Available on Blackboard]
- Borrows, John. "Wampum at Niagara: Canadian Legal History, Self-Government, and the Royal Proclamation." *Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Canada*. Ed. Asch, Michael. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1998.

Class 4 (Jan 30): Historical Treaties

Required Readings:

- Venne, Sharon H. "Understanding Treaty 6: An Indigenous Perspective." *Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Canada*. Ed. Asch, Michael. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1998.
- *Long, John S. "How the Commissioners Explained Treaty Number Nine to the Ojibway and Cree in 1905." *Ontario History* 98.1 (2006): 1-30.
- Patrick Macklem, Chapter five: The Treaty Process. *Indigenous Difference and the Constitution of Canada*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2001.

Class 5 (Feb. 6): Modern Treaties and Land Claims

Required Readings:

- Mandamin, Tony. "Aboriginal Land and Treaty Rights in Canada." *Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Canada: A Legal and Business Guide*. Eds. Stephen B. Smart and Michael Coyle. International Self-Counsel Press, 1997.
- Morse, Bradford W. "Regaining Recognition of the Inherent Right of Aboriginal Governance." *Aboriginal Self-Government in Canada: Current Trends and Issues*. Ed. Belanger,

Yale. Saskatoon: Purich, 2008.

- *Samson, Colin. "The Dispossession of the Innu and the Colonial Magic of Canadian Liberalism." *Citizenship Studies* 3.1 (1999): 5-25.

Class 6 (Feb. 13): Residential School Policy

Take-home essay due in class

Required Readings:

- Cannon & Sunseri, Chapter 14 (Rosalind Ing, "Canada's Residential Schools and Their Impacts on Mothering," pp. 120-126), Chapter 20 ("Suzanne Fournier and Ernie Crey, "Killing the Indian in the Child": Four Centuries of Church-Run Schools," pp. 173-176) and Chapter 21 (Verna St Denis, "Rethinking Culture Theory in Aboriginal Education," pp. 177-188).
- *Cassidy, Julie. "The Stolen Generations - Canada and Australia: The Legacy of Assimilation." *Deakin Law Review* 11.1 (2006): 131-77.

Class 7 (Feb. 27): The White Paper, the Red Paper

Required Readings:

- Comeau, Pauline, and Aldo Santin. "The White Paper." *The First Canadians: A Profile of Canada's Native People Today*. 1990.
- Cardinal, Harold. Sections from *The Unjust Society: The Tragedy of Canada's Indians*. Edmonton: M.G. Hurtig, 1969, pp. 108-137.
- Turner, Dale. "White Paper Liberalism and the Problem of Aboriginal Participation." *This Is Not a Peace Pipe. Towards a Critical Indigenous Philosophy*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2006.
- Weaver, Sally. "Developments after the White Paper." *Making Canadian Indian Policy: The Hidden Agenda 1968-70*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1981.

Class 8 (Mar. 5): Constitutional Development and Citizenship

Required Readings:

- Smith, Melvin. "The Quest for Native Sovereignty." *Our Home or Native Land? What Government's Aboriginal Policy Is Doing to Canada*. Toronto: Stoddart, 1995.
- McFarlane, Peter. "Constitutional Express – 1980." *Brotherhood to Nationhood. George Manuel and the Making of the Modern Indian Movement*. Toronto: Between the Lines, 1993.
- Cannon & Sunseri, Part 6: Indigenous Rights, Citizenship, and Nationalism, pp. 127-162 and Chapter 7 (Chris Andersen and Claude Denis, "Urban Native Communities and the Nation," pp. 59-67).

Class 9 (Mar. 12): Sovereignty and Self-Determination

Required Readings:

- Anaya, James S. "Self-Determination: A Foundational Principle." *Indigenous Peoples in International Law*. New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.
- McNeil, Kent. "Conflicting Sovereignties: Factual and Normative Approaches in North America." Unpublished research paper, 2009. [Available on Blackboard]
- Christie, Gordon. "Aboriginal Nationhood and the Inherent Right to Self-Government." *Research Paper for the National Centre for First Nations Governance*. West Vancouver: National Centre for First Nations Governance, 2007. [Available on Blackboard]

Class 10 (Mar. 19): Aboriginal Self-Government II: Self-Governance Agreements

Research Paper due in class

Required Readings:

- Coates, Ken S., and W.R. Morrison. "From Panacea to Reality: The Practicalities of Canadian Aboriginal Self-Governance Agreements." *Aboriginal Self-Government in Canada: Current Trends and Issues*. Ed. Belanger, Yale. Saskatoon: Purich, 2008.
- Prince, Michael J., and Frances Abele. "Paying for Self-Determination: Aboriginal Peoples, Self-Government and Fiscal Relations in Canada." *Reconfiguring Aboriginal-State Relations*. Ed. Murphy, Michael. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2005.
- Irlbacher-Fox, Stephanie. "Justice Authorities in Self-Government Agreements: The Importance of Conditions and Mechanisms of Implementation." *Moving toward Justice. Legal Traditions and Aboriginal Justice*. Ed. Whyte, John D. Saskatoon & Regina: Purich & Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy, 2008.

Class 11 (Mar. 26): Aboriginal Self-Government II: Community and Economic Development, Resource Management

Required Readings:

- Cannon & Sunseri, Chapter 9 (Martha Montour, "Iroquois Women's Rights with Respect to Matrimonial Property on Indian Reserves," pp. 80-86), Chapter 11 (Bonita Lawrence, "Mixed-Blood Urban Native People and the Rebuilding of Indigenous Nations," pp. 98-103), and Part 8: Poverty, Economic Marginality and Community Development, pp. 189-230.
- Scott, Colin H. "Co-Management and the Politics of Aboriginal Consent to Resource Development: The *Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between Le Gouvernement Du Québec and the Crees of Québec* (2002)." *Reconfiguring Aboriginal-State Relations*. Ed. Murphy, Michael. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2005.
- *Johnstone, Harvey. "Membertou First Nation Indigenous People Succeeding as Entrepreneurs." *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy* 2.2 (2008): 140-50.

Class 12 (Apr. 2): Contemporary Land Conflicts

Required Readings:

- Russell, Peter H. "Oka to Ipperwash: The Necessity of Flashpoint Events." *This Is an Honour Song. Twenty Years since the Blockades*. Eds. Ladner, Kiera L. and Leanne Simpson. Winnipeg: Arbeiter Ring, 2010.
- DeVries, Laura. Chapter 2 from *Conflict in Caledonia: Aboriginal Land Rights and the Rule of Law*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2011.
- *Willow, Anna J. "Clear-Cutting and Colonialism: The Ethnopolitical Dynamics of Indigenous Environmental Activism in Northwestern Ontario." *Ethnohistory* 56.1 (2009): 35-67.

Blackboard

The course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access the course website, or any other Blackboard-based course website, go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and log in using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to our course website along with the link to all your other Blackboard-based courses.

If you need information on how to activate your UTORid and set your password for the first time, please go to www.utorid.utoronto.ca. Under the “First Time Users” area, click on “activate your UTORid” (if you are new to the university) or “create your UTORid” (if you are a returning student), then follow the instructions. New students who use the link to “activate your UTORid” will find reference to a “Secret Activation Key”. This was originally issued to you when you picked up your Tcard at the library. If you have lost your Secret Activation Key you can call 416-978-HELP or visit the Help Desk at the Information Commons on the ground floor of Robarts Library to be issued a new one. The course instructor will not be able to help you with this. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can also answer any other questions you may have about your UTORid and password.

Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.