UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POL 490/2102S TOPICS IN CANADIAN POLITICS
LEADERSHIP IN THE PROVINCES & TERRITORIES, SPRING 2019

Instructor: Professor S. Bashevkin
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Class meets: Wednesdays 10 am to 12 noon
Class location: SK 418
Office hours: Mondays 1:15 to 2:15 pm or by appointment

Overview: This course has two main purposes: first, to examine critically the range of memoir and biographical material that is available about provincial and territorial leaders in Canada; and second, to contribute as contemporary researchers to the development of scholarship in this field. By assessing where the academic and popular literatures in this area stand, the course aims to engage students in the creation of new knowledge and insight pertaining to sub-national leadership in Canada.

Course requirements: One two-hour seminar per week. Regular attendance and participation in the classroom as well as frequent one-on-one meetings with the course instructor are essential in order to fulfill the course requirements. No make-up seminars will be organized for students who miss class. Online communications alternatives will not be provided for seminar presentations or for seminar participation. Students are expected to present two seminars during the term and to submit one draft and one final paper.

Background reading: Students are expected to have recent and extensive familiarity with Canadian history, which can be refreshed or deepened by reading one of the following texts:


Seminar presentation schedule will be organized at the beginning of the term. Students are urged to prepare written comments on weekly readings as a basis for discussion, including when they are not scheduled to make a formal presentation. Presentations should focus on critical questions and integrative points linking the readings, not on descriptive summaries of texts. Responsibility for presentations rests with students; the instructor must be notified at least three hours before the start of class if for any reason you will not be making your presentation on the given materials at a specified class. Given enrolment pressures for seminar courses, there is no guarantee that missed presentations will be rescheduled. All students will be required to make at least one seminar presentation on or before March 13, in order for the instructor to grade at least one significant piece of work before the drop deadline of March 17.
Grading scheme: No tests or exams. Emphasis is placed on insightful reading that is communicated clearly via weekly seminar participation as well as strong research, writing and seminar presentation skills. Final mark is calculated as follows:

Class participation 15% (based on quality of in-class engagement, not attendance)
Presentations 30% (two each @ 15%)
First draft paper 20%, due 27 February
Final paper 35%, due 3 April

Late penalty for written work: A late penalty of 3 percentage points per day including Saturdays and Sundays will be assessed for both the first draft and final paper assignments. Only in rare circumstances will a full or partial waiver of the late penalty be considered, and waivers will only be considered on the basis of documentation submitted to Accessibility Services or your college registrar. Draft papers not submitted in person to the instructor at the beginning of class on the due date must be submitted in person to the Department of Political Science staff in Sidney Smith room 3018 during regular business hours, usually between 9 AM and 5 PM on weekdays only. There is a drop-off box for students who arrive after 5 PM, and papers will be date stamped the next business day. The instructor assumes no responsibility for papers otherwise submitted. No fax, e-mail or portal-based submissions of written work will be accepted.

Re-marking practices are consistent with standard policies of the Department of Political Science.

Essay assignment: Instructions follow this outline. Students are strongly urged to consult with the course instructor well in advance of the draft essay deadline in order to select an appropriate topic and research strategy for the assignment. Note strictly enforced late penalty. Essays are organized in sequential order: Students must in all cases submit assignment #1 (draft paper) as a prerequisite for the completion of assignment #2 (final paper). Grading regulations are clearly delineated in the Faculty of Arts and Science calendar.

Back up your work: Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work, and to make hard copies of their essays before handing them in to the instructor. These should be retained until the marked assignments have been returned and the grades posted on ACORN.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information on plagiarism, please see the website of Writing at the University of Toronto: www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources

Texts: Course readings will be made available on the portal site for POL 490S/2102S.

COURSE SCHEDULE
9 January – Introduction to course syllabus, organization of seminar presentations
16 January – Themes in Canadian provincial and territorial leadership


23 January -- Ontario

Steve Paikin, Bill Davis: Nation Builder, and Not So Bland After All (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2016), chap. 17.


30 January – Quebec
Conrad Black, Render Unto Caesar: The Life and Legacy of Maurice Duplessis (Toronto: Key Porter, 1998), chap. 8.

Graham Fraser, René Lévesque and the Parti Québécois in Power (2nd ed.; Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2001), chap. 17.


6 February – British Columbia

Ujjal Dosanjh, Journey after Midnight: India, Canada and the road beyond (Vancouver: Figure 1, 2016), chap. 43.


13 February – Alberta
David G. Wood, The Lougheed Legacy (Toronto: Key Porter, 1985), chap. 11.

Don Martin, King Ralph: The Political Life and Success of Ralph Klein (Toronto: Key Porter, 2002), chap. 10.


20 February – Reading week, no class meeting

27 February – Newfoundland and Labrador **first draft papers due**
Richard Gwyn, Smallwood: The Unlikely Revolutionary (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1999), chap. 10.

Claire Hoy, Clyde Wells: A Political Biography (Toronto: Stoddart, 1992), chap. 9.


6 March – New Brunswick

Philip Lee, Frank: The Life and Politics of Frank McKenna (Fredericton: Goose Lane Publishing, 2001), chap. 8.


13 March – Saskatchewan and Manitoba


20 March – Leadership in Canada's Territories


27 March – no class meeting

3 April ** final papers due**
Drawing conclusions & presentation of student research papers
Essay Assignment Information

1. First draft paper, due 27 February
   Suggested length is 1000 to 1500 words in total (4 to 6 typed, double-spaced pages)
   In light of course readings, develop the core of an original piece of empirical research that evaluates the impact of one or possibly two contemporary decision-makers in a single Canadian province or territory. Absent that individual or individuals, how would political history have likely unfolded?

   Focus on one of the following themes: (a) the difference made by leader approaches to political executive or party leadership in a given jurisdiction; (b) the difference made by leader approaches to intergovernmental relations (i.e. with the Canadian federal government and other sub-national jurisdictions); or (c) leader impact on provincial or territorial social values or policy outcomes in a field of your choice.

   What conceptual framework in political science best explains your results? What consequences do your findings hold for the study of leader influence in Canadian provincial and territorial politics?

2. Research paper, due 3 April
   Suggested length is 2500-3000 words in total (10 to 12 typed, double-spaced pages)

   In light of comments received on your first draft paper, clarify the main lines of your argument, refine your empirical data and discussion, and draw some key conclusions that are relevant to sub-national elites in contemporary Canada. Be sure to use course readings to help guide your own writing, argumentation and research toward a level of publishable quality.