

**University of Toronto**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**POL 224 H1S, Canada in Comparative Perspective**

**Winter 2021**  
**Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Rodney Haddow

**Class time:** Monday, 6 PM – 8 PM

**Class location:** This course will be taught remotely, using Blackboard Collaborate. Students will be able to participate in lectures live ('synchronously'), while I am delivering them on Monday evening; in that case, you will be able to post questions and respond to other students. I will record lectures, so that you can also view them later ('asynchronously'). The audiovisual recordings will be posted on our course's Quercus page.

**Office hours:** I will be available for office time *from 4:30 to 5:30 on Mondays*, before class, using the Blackboard Collaborate 'Course Room'. I will provide you with more details about how to use this in class and by email.

**E-mail:** [r.haddow@utoronto.ca](mailto:r.haddow@utoronto.ca); this is the best way to get in touch with me outside of class time or office hours.

**Course description:** For most students, this course will be taken after completion of POL 214H. It provides a broader perspective on Canadian politics, by comparing its institutions and the larger societal context that shapes them and is shaped by them with arrangements that prevail in other developed democracies. The course will begin with the presentation of a framework for understanding these phenomena as a relationship among sovereign states, autonomous civil societies and capitalist economies. The course's three sections will address each of these – section A pertains to the emergence of states and leading features of Canada's, in a comparative light. Section B discusses features of Canadian and other civil societies that are particularly relevant for understanding politics. Section C treats political economy, the study of the relationship between states and capitalist economies. Issues of inequality, including those that pertain to diversity concerns, receive specific attention in these last two sections.

**Required readings:** All required readings are posted on the course Quercus page.

**Course format:** The course comprises lectures given in class on Monday evenings, combined with tutorials supervised by teaching assistants (TAs) roughly every two weeks. Tutorial registration is done at the time of enrollment in the course, using ACORN. The allocation of TAs to each group will be announced at the beginning of the semester. The schedule for tutorial weeks is indicated on this syllabus, and will also be posted on Quercus. Students are *expected to view all lectures, either synchronously or asynchronously, attend all tutorials synchronously, and complete all assigned readings*. Tutorials will involve student participation in debates about current issues in Canadian politics.

**Getting in touch with your TA or me:** Outside of class/tutorial time or office hours, *the best way to get in touch with me or your TA is by e-mail*. We check it regularly, and will respond as quickly as possible. We endeavour to respond to messages within a day or two.

**Marking scheme:**

**Mid-term take-home test:** 20%

You will write *one 900-word (maximum) essay* to convey your knowledge of lectures and required readings, in response to one of two assigned questions. The questions will be posted on Quercus by *noon (12 PM) on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>*; the deadline for submission on Quercus will be *noon (12 PM) on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>*

**8 to 10-page term paper:** 40%

The paper is due at midnight (12 AM), *March 15<sup>th</sup>*

**Final take-home examination:** 40%

You will write *two 900-word (maximum) essays* to convey your knowledge of lectures and required readings, in response to two of four or five assigned questions. The questions will be posted by *5 PM on Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>*; the deadline for submission on Quercus will be *noon (12 PM) on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>*

Please note that the drop deadline for courses this term is *March 15<sup>th</sup>*. All term work must be submitted by *April 12<sup>th</sup>*

**Term Paper:** The essay assignment is posted on the course Quercus page. Please note that papers that are handed in late will be *penalized at the rate of 2% per weekday*, including weekends. They are to be submitted electronically via Quercus. Exceptions will only be made to this rule on justified medical grounds with *proper medical documentation*. *Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of their essays and assignments before handing their paper in. These should be kept until the marked assignments have been returned.*

Essay extensions will be granted only with acceptable documentation. The Faculty of Arts and Science recognizes the following four (4) types of documentation:

- *The UofT Verification of Illness or Injury Form.*
- *A Student Health or Disability Related Certificate.*
- *A Letter of Accommodation from Accessibility Services.*
- *A letter from your College Registrar.*

**Extensions on essays:** There is no need to contact the teaching staff regarding extensions. If you can provide one of the forms of documentation mentioned above and are requesting an extension on an essay, please include a visible copy of that documentation along with the essay at the time of submission. The medical documentation from UofT is designed to protect your privacy. The person marking the essay will make the necessary adjustment based on the dates indicated on the documentation.

**Missed final exam:** A student who cannot write the final take-home exam in the allocated time must contact their College Registrar directly to make an alternative arrangement. The College will ask for the usual forms of documentation.

**Academic Integrity:** Students should also be aware that plagiarism is considered to be a major academic offence, and that it will be penalized accordingly. For further clarification and information, please see the University of Toronto's policy on plagiarism at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources>. The essay assignment sheet will provide more detail on these points.

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays 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 web site.

**Appealing a mark:** Requests to have a grade reconsidered are to be justified in writing (250 words maximum) and submitted to the TA who marked the work. *The remarking request should go first to the TA who graded the assignment, and any appeal of that should go to the course instructor. Such a request entails a remarking of the work. Hence, if a remarking is granted, the student must accept the resulting mark as the new mark, whether it goes up or down or remains the same. Continuing with the remark or the appeal means the student accepts this condition.*

**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](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

## **Lecture themes & required readings:**

**1. January 11<sup>th</sup>: Introduction to the course; preliminary discussion of states, civil societies & political economies**

### **SECTION A: THE CANADIAN STATE IN HISTORICAL & COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE**

**2. January 18<sup>th</sup>: Modern states, economies & civil societies: Origins & Implications**

Readings:

Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital and European States* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1990), 67-95

Gianfranco Poggi, "The Nation-State", in D. Caramani, ed., *Comparative Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), 85-107

#### ***Tutorial #1: January 18***

*Discussion Question: Is the modern state a threat to, or a guarantor of, human freedom?*

*Tutorial Reading: Poggi*

**3. January 25<sup>th</sup>: The Canadian Constitution: An Anglo-American Perspective**

Readings:

Christopher Cochrane, Kelly Blidook & Rand Dyck, *Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2017), chapter 17

**4. February 1<sup>st</sup>: Canadian Federalism: How is it Distinctive, in International Comparison?**

Readings:

Reeta Tremblay, et al., *Mapping the Political Landscape*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Toronto: Thomson Nelson, 2007), 217-239

Christopher Cochrane, Kelly Blidook & Rand Dyck, *Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2017), chapter 18

#### ***Tutorial #2: February 1***

*Discussion Question: Canada is a much more decentralized than most other developed countries, with much power in the hands of the provinces. Is it too decentralized?*

*Tutorial Reading: Cochrane, et al., chapter 18.*

### **SECTION B: CIVIL SOCIETY**

**5. February 8<sup>th</sup>: Political Parties & Party Systems**

Readings:

Daniele Caramani, "Party Systems", in D. Caramani, ed., *Comparative Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), 316-345

Christopher Cochrane, *Left and Right: The Small World of Political Ideas* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2015), chapter 8

**February 15<sup>th</sup>: Reading week; no class**

**6. February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Canadian Political Culture: How American are We?**

Readings:

Mark Charlton and Paul Barker, eds., *Crosscurrents: Contemporary Political Issues*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2012), chapter 1

Gad Horowitz, "Conservatism, Liberalism, and Socialism in Canada: An Interpretation", *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science* 32: 2 (1966), 143-171

**Tutorial #3: February 22**

*Discussion Question: Is Canada's political culture essentially liberal and individualist?*

*Tutorial Reading: Charlton and Barker, eds.*

**7. March 1<sup>st</sup>: New Social Movements & the Politics of Identity**

Readings:

Ronald Inglehart, "Postmaterialist Politics", in Roy Macridis and Bernard Brown, eds., *Comparative Politics: Notes and Readings*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole, 1990), 257-266 **and**

Audrey Kobayashi, "Ethnocultural Political Mobilization, Multiculturalism, and Human Rights in Canada", in M. Smith, ed. *Group Politics and Social Movements in Canada*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2014), 123-150 **or**

Alexandra Dobrowolsky, "The Women's Movement in Flux: Feminism and Framing, Passion and Politics", in *Ibid*, 151-178.

**Take-home mid-term test is due at noon today, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**SECTION C: POLITICAL ECONOMY**

**8. March 8<sup>th</sup>: Varieties of political economy in liberal democracies.**

Readings:

Rodney Haddow, "States and Economies: Studying Political Economy in Political Science", in C. Anderson and R. Dyck, ed. *Studying Politics* (Toronto: Nelson, 2016), chapter 5

Kees van Kersbergen and Phillip Manow, "The Welfare State," in D. Caramani, ed., *Comparative Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), 520-544

**Tutorial #4: March 8**

*Discussion Question: Do Anglo-Saxon or non-Anglo-Saxon political economies do the best job of balancing economic prosperity and social equity?*

*Tutorial Reading: Kersbergen and Manow*

**9. March 15<sup>th</sup>: State & Economy in Canada**

Readings:

Michael Howlett, Alex Netherton and M. Ramesh, *The Political Economy of Canada*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1999), chapter 4

W.A. Mackintosh, "Economic Factors in Canadian History" [1923], and H.A. Innis, "The Importance of Staple Products" [1956], in H. Grant and M. Watkins, ed. *Canadian*

*Economic History: Classic and Contemporary Approaches* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993), 3-14, 15-17

**Research essay due at midnight today, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**10. March 22<sup>nd</sup>: The Canadian Welfare State: A Neo-Liberal Trajectory?**

Readings:

Keith Banting and John Myles, "Introduction: Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics," in Banting and Myles, eds., *Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2013), 1-33

Lars Osberg, *The Age of Increasing Inequality* (Toronto: James Lorimer, 2018), chapter 1

**11. March 29<sup>th</sup>: Diversity, Multiculturalism & Inequality in Canada**

Readings:

Keith Banting, Stuart Soroka, and Edward Koning, "Multicultural Diversity and Redistribution," in Banting and Myles, eds., *Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2013), 168-180 **and**

Ellen Gee, Karen Kobayashi & Steven Prus, "Ethnic Inequality in Canada: Economic and Health Dimensions," in D. Green & J. Kesselman, eds., *Dimensions of Inequality in Canada* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2006), pp. 249-272 **or**

Nicole Fortin & Tammy Schirle, "Gender Dimensions of Changes in Earnings Inequality in Canada," in *Ibid*, pp. 307-325, 332-340

**Tutorial #5: March 29**

*Discussion Question: Canadians cherish the idea that we are a country of equal opportunity. But do we in fact singularly fail to live up to this idea in relation to ethnocultural minorities and women?*

*Reading: Gee et al. or Fortin & Shirle*

**12. April 5<sup>th</sup>: Globalization & Post-Industrial Political Economies**

Readings:

David Held & Anthony McGrew, *Globalization/Anti-Globalization*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Oxford: Polity, 2007), 1-8, 38-57

Mark Brawley, "Globalization and Canada", in James Bickerton and Alain Gagnon, eds., *Canadian Politics*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009), 323-338

**Take-home final examination is due at noon (12 PM) on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**