

University of Toronto
Department of Political Science
POL224H1S: Canada in Comparative Perspective

Winter 2022
Syllabus

Instructor: Chris Greenaway
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Office Hours & Location: TBA

Class Schedule: Tuesdays 10am-12pm.
Online Synchronous: January 11-25 Via Zoom.
In-Person: February 1-April 5 in UC140

Course Description:

This course introduces students to Canadian politics using a comparative approach. It provides essential knowledge about the variety of political regimes around the world, with concrete examples emphasizing the comparison of Canada with other countries. Topics covered include the evolution of democracies, political institutions, electoral systems, ideology, the role of the state in the economy, as well as contemporary issues such as cultural diversity, representation and inequalities. The course is conducted in two parts: (1) *Political Power: Foundations and Institutions* (2) *Society & Political Systems*. Together, students will leave with an understanding of the study of Canadian Political Science within a comparative perspective.

Course Format

One two-hour in-person lecture per week; roughly weekly tutorials. The course will be conducted online for the first three weeks, and in-person for the remainder of the semester. Tutorials will adopt a deliberative approach centered around student participation in debates about current issues in Canadian politics. A complete tutorial schedule including dates and topics will be posted on the Quercus course page.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites are strictly checked and enforced and must be completed before taking a course. By taking this course you acknowledge that you will be removed from the course at any time if you do not meet all requirements set by the Department of Political Science. Further information can be found in the 2020-2021 Courses Calendar which is available from the Office of the Registrar.

Required Texts

- Christopher Cochrane, Kelly Blidook & Rand Dyck, *Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches*, 9th ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2021) (abbreviated as “Textbook”, below).
- All other readings are posted on the Quercus course page and/or accessed through the UofT Library System. In addition, a complete list of additional suggested readings will be provided on Quercus.

Assessment

Mid-term Test	Due: March 1	25%
Research Outline	Due: March 8	10%
Research Paper	Due: April 5	25%
Tutorial Participation	Due: Ongoing	10%
Final Exam	Due: Exam Period	30%

Note: penalty for late essays/assignments is a deduction of 5% per calendar day

Final Drop Date without Academic Penalty: March 14th

Exams

The mid-term test will take place in person during class hours on March 1st and will be an opportunity for students to demonstrate knowledge on Part 1 of the course, *Political Power: Foundations and Institutions (weeks 1-6)*. Students will receive their mid-term results prior to the March 14th Drop-Deadline. The Final Exam will take place during the Exam Period, to be scheduled by the Office of the Faculty Registrar.

Research Outline and Paper

This research project entails utilizing the comparative political science approach to develop an argumentative thesis statement in response to an empirical research question. Students will compare Canada with a country(/countries) of their choosing from a list of research topics posted on Quercus. A detailed description of these assignments will be posted on the Quercus course page.

Accessibility

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Resource Centre as soon as possible. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services at 416-978-8060 or accessibility.services@utoronto.ca. Appointments and drop-in sessions for accessibility advisors and learning strategists are available.

Statement on the use of Ouriginal in Quercus

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool 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 tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

Grade Appeals:

Students that request to appeal a grade must provide a written (250-word) document first to the original grader then, if an additional appeal is requested, to the course instructor. Grade appeals should be sent to the original grader after 24 hours and within two weeks of receiving the original grade. The original grade may stay the same, increase or decrease upon additional review and the student must accept the resulting new grade. Initiating the grade appeal process means that the student accepts this condition.

A WARNING ABOUT PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is an academic offence with a severe penalty.

It is essential that you understand what plagiarism is and that you do not commit it. In essence, it is the theft of the thoughts or words of others, without giving proper credit. You must put others' words in quotation marks and cite your source(s). You must give citations when using others' ideas, even if those ideas are paraphrased in your own words. Plagiarism is unacceptable in a university. What the university calls "plagiarism", non-university institutions might call "fraud".

The University of Toronto provides a process that faculty members must initiate when they suspect a case of plagiarism. In the Department of Political Science, suspected evidence of plagiarism must be reported to the Chair; in most cases, the Chair passes the case on to the Dean.

A faculty member may not mark an assignment or assess a penalty if he or she finds evidence of plagiarism – the matter must be reported. Penalties are assigned by the Chair, by the Dean or by the University of Toronto Tribunal.

The following are some examples of plagiarism:

1. Submitting as your own an assignment written by someone else.
2. Quoting an author without indicating the source of the words.
3. Using words, sentences, or paragraphs written by someone else and failing to place quotation marks around the material and reference the source and author. **Using either quotation marks or reference alone is not sufficient. Both must be used!**

4. Adapting an author's ideas or theme and using it as your own without referencing the original source.
5. Seeking assistance from a friend or family member in respect to work you claim as your own.

Ignorance of the rules against plagiarism is not a defence; students are presumed to know what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

Students are especially reminded that material taken from the web **must** be quoted and cited in the same manner as if it came from a book or printed article.

If you are not sure whether you have committed plagiarism, it is better to ask a faculty member or teaching assistant than risk discovery and be forced to accept an academic penalty.

Plagiarism is **cheating**. It is considered a **serious offence** against intellectual honesty and intellectual property. Penalties can be severe, ranging from a mark of "0" for the assignment or test in question, **up to and including expulsion from the university**.

Some website listed below on avoiding plagiarism:

'How to Use Sources and Avoid Plagiarism' - available at:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize> Other Advisory

Material available at: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/home>

Class Schedule

Class 1: (January 11) Canada in Comparative Perspective: Course Introduction & Overview

Required:

- Syllabus: POL224 2022

Suggested:

- Textbook, Chapter 1: "Approaching the Study of Politics."
- Savoie, Donald. 2019. *Democracy in Canada: The Disintegration of Our Institutions*. McGill-Queen's University Press: Chapter 1

Part 1: Political Power: Foundations & Institutions

Class 2: (January 18) Liberal Democracy: Rise & Decay

Required:

- Textbook, Chapter 2: "Institutional Foundations and the Evolution of the State."

- Docherty, David. 2005. *Legislatures*: “Chapter 1: A Democratic Audit of Canadian Legislatures.” UBC Press.

Class 3: (January 25) Levels of Power: Federalism

Required:

- Textbook, Chapter 17: “The Federal System.”
- Heuglin and Fenna 2015. “The American Experiment.” In *Comparative Federalism: A Systematic Inquiry*.” University of Toronto Press: 141-144

Class 4: (February 1) Sources of Power: Constitutions and Rights

Required:

- Textbook, Chapter 16: “The Canadian Constitution and Constitutional Change.”
- TBA

Class 5: (February 8) The Centralization of Power: Executive Dominance

Required:

- Textbook, Chapter 19: The Executive: Crown, Prime Minister and Cabinet: 475-497.
- Newton and Deth, 2005. “Presidential and parliamentary government” in *Foundations of Comparative Politics*. Cambridge University Press: 60-71

Class 6: (February 15) Power, Debate, and Legitimacy: Comparative Parliaments

Required:

- Textbook, Chapter 21: Parliament
- White, Graham. 2006. “Traditional aboriginal values in a Westminster parliament: The legislative assembly of Nunavut.” *Journal of legislative studies* 12:1: 8-31
- Proksch., Sven-Oliver, Slapin, Jonathan B. 2014. *The Politics of Parliamentary Debate: Parties, Rebels and Representation*. Cambridge University Press: Chapter 1

Reading Week (February 22) No Class

Class 7: (March 1) Mid-term Exam

Two-hour mid-term exam

Part 2: Society & Political Systems

Class 8: (March 8) Ideology & Political Parties

- Textbook, Chapter 13: “Political Parties and Party System.”
- Cochrane, Christopher. 2015. *Left and Right: The Small World of Political Ideas*. Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press: Chapter 8

Research Outline Due

Class 9: (March 15) Political Engagement & Participation

- Warren, Mark E. 2009. “Democratic Renewal and Deliberative Democracy.” In *Designing Deliberative Democracy: The British Columbia Citizens’ Assembly*, Ed. Mark Warren. Cambridge University Press.
- Textbook, Chapter 12. “Elections & The Electoral System.” - *Assigned Pages: 270-271*
- Textbook, Chapter 14. “The Election Campaign, Voting, and Political Participation.” *Assigned Pages: 334-338*

Class 10: (March 22) Representation & Political Inclusion

- Textbook, Chapter 7. “Gender.”
- Gidengil, Elisabeth, Everitt, Joanna. 2003. “Conventional Coverage/Unconventional Politicians: Gender and Media Coverage of Canadian Leaders’ Debates.” *CJPS* 36: 559-77
- Blaxill, Luke, and Kaspar Beelen. 2016. “A Feminized Language of Democracy? The Representation of Women at Westminster since 1945.” *Twentieth Century British History* 27:3: 412-449. – *Assigned pages: 412 and 442-443*

Class 11: (March 29) Reconciliation

- Textbook, Chapter 4: “Indigenous Peoples.”
- MP Mumilaaq Qaqqaq’s final speech in the House of Commons:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rP3YSK1LqzM&ab_channel=CTVNews
- TBA

Class 12: (April 5) Political Economy & The World

- Textbook, Chapter 8: “Political Economy.”
- Textbook, Chapter 9: “Canada’s External Environment: The United States and the World.”
- Brawley, Mark. 2020. “Canada in the World.” In James Bickerton and Alain Gagnon, eds. *Canadian Politics*, 7th ed (Toronto: University of Toronto Press).

Research Paper Due

Final Exam via Registrar TBA