

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

Winter 2023
Syllabus

Instructor: Rodney Haddow

Class time: Monday, 5 PM – 7 PM

Class location: Leslie Dan Pharmacy Building B150

My office location: 3119 Sidney Smith Hall; 100 St. George Street

Office hours: Tuesday, 4 PM – 5 PM via zoom; I am also available by appointment at other times. Details of zoom connection will be provided at the first class. Note that regular office hours will be virtual, not in my office.

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

Course description: This course examines Canadian politics by comparing Canada's 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 a framework for understanding the relationship among sovereign states, autonomous civil societies and capitalist economies. The course's three sections 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 attend all lectures and tutorials, 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 Thursday, February 9th*; the deadline for submission on Quercus will be *noon (12 PM) on Monday, February 13th*

8 to 10-page term paper: 40%

The paper is due at midnight (12 AM), *March 13th*. It will be submitted via Quercus.

Final examination: 40%

The final exam will be in-person and scheduled during the April exam period.

Please note that the drop deadline for courses this term is *March 19th*. All term work must be submitted by *April 6th*

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. *Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of their essays and assignments before submitting their paper. These should be kept until the assignment has been marked.*

Extensions on term papers: If you require an extension for your essay, you need not contact teaching staff in advance of submitting the paper if you are eligible to use the Absence Declaration discussed below. If this is the case, send a message to the TA who grades your essay confirming that you have used the Declaration; do this when you submit the paper.

Students who are absent from academic participation for any reason (e.g., COVID, cold, flu and other illness or injury, family situation) and who require consideration for missed academic work should **report their absence through the online absence declaration**. The declaration is available to students through ACORN under the Profile and Settings menu. For updates, please reference the [University policy for absence declaration](#).

Students should also advise their instructor of their absence. Instructors will not be automatically alerted when a student declares an absence. It is a student's responsibility to let instructors know that they have used the Absence Declaration. Some instructors may ask their department to confirm absences reported by students to ensure that they have been entered into the system on the dates indicated by a student.

Missed final exam: A student who cannot write the final exam at the scheduled time must contact their College Registrar directly to petition to write a supplemental exam.

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 or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

Lecture themes & required readings:

1. January 9th: Introduction to the course; preliminary discussion of states, civil societies & political economies

SECTION A: THE CANADIAN STATE IN HISTORICAL & COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

2. January 16th: Modern states, economies & civil societies: Origins & Implications

Readings:

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

Paul Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* (New York: Random House, 1987), chapter 1.

3. January 23rd: The Canadian Constitution: An Anglo-American Perspective

Readings:

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

Tutorial #1: January 23-25

Discussion Question: What factors contributed to the emergence of the modern state form?

Tutorial Reading: Kennedy

4. January 30th: Canadian Federalism: How is it Distinctive, in International Comparison?

Readings:

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

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

SECTION B: CIVIL SOCIETY

5. February 6th: Political Parties & Party Systems

Readings:

Daniele Caramini, "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

Tutorial #2: February 6-8

Discussion Question: Are political parties in Canada becoming more like those in other democracies, with a clear distinction between 'left' and 'right'? Would this be a good thing?

Tutorial Reading: Cochrane

6. February 13th: Canadian Political Culture: How American are We?

Readings:

Mark Charlton and Paul Barker, eds., *Crosscurrents: Contemporary Political Issues*, 7th 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

Take-home mid-term test is due at noon today, February 13th

February 20th: Reading week; no class

7. February 27th: New Social Movements & the Politics of Identity

Readings:

Ronald Inglehart, "Postmaterialist Politics", in Roy Macridis and Bernard Brown, eds., *Comparative Politics: Notes and Readings*, 7th 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*, 2nd 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.

Tutorial #3: February 27 – March 1

Discussion Question: How much impact does the Politics of Identity have on contemporary Canadian politics?

Tutorial Reading: Kobayashi or Dobrowolsky

SECTION C: POLITICAL ECONOMY

8. March 6th: 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

9. March 13th: State & Economy in Canada

Readings:

Michael Howlett, Alex Netherton and M. Ramesh, *The Political Economy of Canada*, 2nd 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 13th

Tutorial #4: March 13-15

Discussion Question: Does Canada have a mostly liberal political economy? Would this be a good thing if we want to do the best job of balancing economic prosperity and social equity?
Tutorial Reading: Howlett, Netherton and Ramesh

10. March 20th: 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

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11. March 27th: 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 27-29

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 3rd: Globalization & Post-Industrial Political Economies

Readings:

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

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