

Dalhousie University
Department of Political Science

POLI 1001: Introduction to Government and Politics I
Fall 2023

Class times: Monday and Wednesday from 11:35AM-12:55PM

Classroom Location: Chemistry 226 (lecture)

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor (and TA) Information

Instructor: Dr. Rachael Johnstone (she/her)

Office: Henry Hicks, Room #355

Office Hours: Monday from 1:15PM-2:15PM (or by appointment)

Email: regjohns@dal.ca

TA	Aliza Chow (she/they)	Gala Palavicini (she/her)	Xinyu Gong
Email	al608127@dal.ca	gpalavicinij@dal.ca	Xinyu.Gong@dal.ca
Office	TBA	TBA	TBA
Office Hours	TBA	TBA	TBA

Although you are welcome to meet with any of the course's TAs, you have been assigned a specific TA who will mark all of your submitted assignments this term (with the exception of the final exam). You can find your TA by looking at the "TA Groups" widget on the course Brightspace homepage.

Email Etiquette

Email is the best way to get in touch with the professor or your TAs outside of scheduled office hours. Emails should be used for brief questions that can be answered quickly. You professor and TAs will try to respond to all email inquiries within 24 hours during the work week (Monday-Friday). If students want to discuss course material, assignments, or another matter in any detail, they should see the professor or TAs during office hours.

Always use your Dalhousie email account to send emails (messages from other accounts do not always go through).

Include the subject line "POLI 1001"

Address emails to the professor or TA (i.e. Dear Dr. Johnstone)

Sign off with your first and last name and student number

In the event of changes to the class schedule (for instance, class cancellations) or other unforeseen situations, an update will be posted on the class Brightspace page.

Course Description

This course, together with POLI 1002, is designed as a general introduction to the study of politics. This course will introduce you to the questions and concepts underlying the study of politics and government. We will begin with the language and theories fundamental to the discipline, before moving on to topics relating to identity (nationalism, political ideology, and identity politics) and belonging (multiculturalism, citizenship, and political culture). The scope of this course is broad, but maintains a significant focus on these issues as they relate to the study of Canadian politics.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites and/or other Restrictions

Please ensure that you are registered in the appropriate number of 1000-level Political Science courses. The code for 1000 level courses contains a 1000 number (e.g. POLI 1060). You can enroll in 1000-level Political Science courses for a maximum of 9 credits. If you exceed that number, the additional courses you take will not be counted towards your Political Science degree. Also, pay attention to the course exclusions. Some courses cannot be taken in combination with others. For POLI001, the exclusions are POLI 1103X, POLI 1500, POLI 1050, POLI 1055, POLI 1060, and POLI 1065.

This course also has restrictions. Specifically, POLI 1001.03 and POLI 1002.03 must be taken in sequence and in the same academic year.

Learning Management System Site Information

Once you are enrolled in the class, the POLI 1001 Brightspace page can be found by logging on to the [Brightspace page](#) using your NetID.

Class Format

This class is an in-person lecture with some discussion and group-focused in-class work.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Recognize the relationships between individuals, society, and governments
- Understand and assess relevant theories
- Develop basic research skills
- Improve facility in written communication
- Foster a habit of thoughtful, constructive participation in class

Required Text(s)

You do not need to purchase any texts for this course. All of the course readings can be accessed online through the course Brightspace page (most in the form of library e-reserves, but some as external links).

There are both scholarly (e.g. peer reviewed) and non-scholarly readings for this course. We will discuss the distinctions and how to effectively use different sources during the course.

Although it is not a required resource, I do draw on Marc Menard’s 2020 book *Political Argument: A Guide to Research, Writing, and Debating* (Oxford: Oxford University Press) for the skills sessions in this course. Student’s may find it a useful reference when preparing assignments.

Course Schedule

University holidays and important dates from the University calendar such as withdrawal and drop dates can be found here: https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html.

Modules	Topics/Dates	Required Readings/Skills/Activities
Thinking Politically	Week 1: An Introduction to University Class dates: September 6 th	Welcome to the class! No assigned readings. Skills: Basics of succeeding in university
	Week 2: Political Life Class dates: September 11 th and 13 th	Warner, Michael. “Public/Private.” In Critical Terms for the Study of Gender . Eds. Catharine R. Stimpson and Gilbert Herdt, 358-392. Chicago: Chicago University Press. (Please read only the first section of the chapter: “Public and Private in Feminist Theory”) Skills: Taking notes in lecture
	Week 3: The State Class dates: September 18 th and	Government of Canada. N.d. “ Fact Sheet on the Peace and Friendship Treaties in the Maritimes and Gaspé .” Last modified September 15, 2010.

Modules	Topics/Dates	Required Readings/Skills/Activities
	20 th	Skills: Definitions / Reading academic writing Précis Due
	Week 4: Power, Authority, and Sovereignty Class dates: September 25 th and 27 th	Wolff, Robert Paul. 1998. "The Conflict Between Authority and Autonomy." <i>In Defense of Anarchism</i> , 3-19. Berkely, Lose Angeles, and London: University of California Press. Skills: Engaging with arguments
	Week 5: Democracy Class dates: October 4 th (No class Monday October 2 nd)	Sen, Amartya. 1999. "Democracy as a Universal Value." <i>Journal of Democracy</i> 10(3): 3-17. Skills: Finding and assessing sources / Gathering evidence
Identity	Week 6: The Nation and Nationalism Class dates: October 11 th (No class Monday October 9 th)	Anderson, Benedict. 2006. "Introduction." <i>In Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism, revised edition</i> , 1-7. London and New York: Verso. Annotated Bibliography due
	Week 7: Political Ideology I Class dates: October 16 th and 18 th	Fukuyama, Francis. 2022. "Are There Alternatives?" <i>In Liberalism and its Discontents</i> , 115-128. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Skills: Writing an introduction Stanfield Conversations: Digital Democracy (Thursday, October 24 th)
	Week 8: Political Ideology II Class dates: October 23 rd and 25 th	Brooks, David. 2021. " What Happened to American Conservatism? " <i>The Atlantic</i> , December 8, 2021. Guest lecture: Dr. Christopher Bennett, Rowe School of Business Stanfield Conversations: Community Engagement Due
	Week 9: Identity Politics Class dates: October 30 th and November 1 st	Thompson, Debra. 2008. "Is Race Political?" <i>Canadian Journal of Political Science</i> 41 (3): 525-47. Introduction Due
Belonging	Week 10: Political Culture Class dates: November 6 th and 8 th	Banting, Keith, Allison Harell, and Will Kymlicka. 2022. " Nationalism, Membership and the Politics of Minority Claims-Making. " <i>Canadian Journal of Political Science</i> : 1-22. In-Class Workshop: Peer-Editing

Modules	Topics/Dates	Required Readings/Skills/Activities
	Week 11: Fall Study Break	No Classes
	Week 12: Multiculturalism Class dates: November 20 th and 22 nd	Warren, Jean-Philippe. 2021 “ Guy Rocher, unrepentant critic of Canadian multiculturalism ”. In <i>Multiculturalism @50 and the Promise of a Just Society</i> . CITC: Canadian Issues Thèmes Canadiens, 51-57. Ghosh, Ratna. 2021 “ What has multiculturalism achieved in Canada and what are its challenges? ”. In <i>Multiculturalism @50 and the Promise of a Just Society</i> . CITC: Canadian Issues Thèmes Canadiens, 75-80. Skills: Structuring an essay
	Week 13: Citizenship Class dates: November 27 th and 29 th	Gaucher, Megan. 2016. “Monogamous Canadian Citizenship: Foreignness and the Limits of Harm Discourse.” <i>The Canadian Journal of Political Science</i> 49(3): 519-538. Skills: Writing exams Essay due
	Week 14: Review December 4 th and 5 th (No class on 6 th because of the Stanfield Conversations lecture in October)	No assigned readings.

Course Assessments

Assignment descriptions and rubrics are available on the course Brightspace page. All assignments, with the exception of the final exam, need to be uploaded to Brightspace and are due at 11:59PM on the due date.

Assessment	%	Deadline
Précis	10	Friday, September 22 nd
Annotated Bibliography	15	Friday, October 13 th
Stanfield Conversations: Community Engagement	5	Friday, October 27 th
Introduction	15	Friday, November 3 rd
Essay	30	Friday, December 1 st
Final Exam	25	December exam period (the exam schedule is posted by the university on October 1 st)

- The final exam will take place during the formal exam period. The exam will have an essay component and may also contain short answer and multiple choice questions. Please do not make any travel arrangements until the final exam calendar is available. No accommodations for exams will be made for reasons of travel.
- The conversion scale for numeric to letter grades, as well as the university scale descriptors, are available in the [Grading Practices Policy](#).

Submission of Assessments

All assignments are submitted and returned using the dropboxes on the course Brightspace page. Assignments must be submitted in either .doc or .docx format. All Dalhousie students have access to free Microsoft Word software through Microsoft Office. Instructions about how to download this software can be found through the [Information Technology Services website](#). Documents submitted as PDFs or through other programs, such as Pages, will be penalized -5% and may not receive in-text comments.

All assignments, with the exception of the final exam, will be graded and returned using Brightspace. Final exams are not returned to students. If students wish to review their exam, they need to arrange to do so through the professor or their assigned TA for the course.

Originality Checking Software

Your essay assignment will be run through Dalhousie's approved originality checking software and Google to check the originality of your submission in accordance with the [Student Submission of Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software Policy](#). Students are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work, and must inform the instructor no later than the last day to add/drop classes of their intent to choose an alternate method.

Late or Missed Assignments

Late assignments are penalised at -5% per day for a period of 7 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays). Failing to submit an assignment within that period will result in a failure for that assignment.

Extensions on assignments may be granted in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the professor. Please note that technological issues are not considered to be a valid reason for late submission. It is the student's responsibility to make appropriate back-ups and to submit assignments in the requested format. If you require an assignment extension, please email the professor in advance of the assignment deadline. 11

Grade Appeals

Any errors of addition should be raised immediately with your TA or professor.

If you would like to discuss the details of an assignment or your grade after it is returned you are welcome to do so, but **you must wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned before contacting your TA or professor**. While asking for an explanation of your grade is perfectly fine, asking for a re-grade requires greater effort on the part of the student. If a student is concerned that an assignment was not graded appropriately, the student should first meet with the TA who marked the work. To request a review of an assignment, the student must provide a 1-page explanation of why the assignment was improperly graded that engages with the comments provided by the TA. The explanation, the original assignment, and a clean copy of the assignment should be submitted to the student's TA via email no later than **2 weeks** after the assignment was made available for return. If the student is unsatisfied after consulting and discussing the matter with the TA, they can pass on the assignment to the professor for final grading. Note: Grades may be either raised, stay the same, or lowered on appeal.

Recording Lectures

Lectures for this course are live and not recorded. Students may not make recordings of lectures, either video or audio, unless recordings are part of an approved accommodation that has first been approved by the professor.

Technology in the Classroom

Students are welcome to use electronic devices in class, but only for legitimate classroom purposes, such as taking notes, accessing readings, or working on in-class activities. If these devices are misused or are otherwise distracting, either to the professor or to other students, the student will be asked to put away their device(s) and future use of these devices may be prohibited.

Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence)

You may use AI-driven tools to assist your learning, but you may not use them to produce work to be submitted for either formative or summative evaluations. Due to the nature of this course, it would be impractical and difficult to properly assess students if AI tools were allowed. For this reason, the use of AI tools is restricted. Please remember that using AI-driven tools to support the production of submitted work constitutes an academic offence.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES, STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES and RESOURCES for SUPPORT

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate. <https://academiccalendar.dal.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog>

University Statements

- Territorial Acknowledgement:

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.

- Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. (read more: http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html)

- Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students on the Halifax campus who request accommodation as a result of: a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (NS, NB, PEI, NFLD).

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion please contact:

- the Student Accessibility Centre (https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html) for all courses offered by Dalhousie with the exception of Truro.
- the Student Success Centre in Truro for courses offered by the Faculty of Agriculture (<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/student-success-centre.html>)

Please note that your classroom may contain accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, undisturbed, so that students who require their use will be able to fully participate.

- Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. (read more: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-life-policies/code-of-student-conduct.html)

- Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity and dedicated to achieving equity. We are committed to being a respectful and inclusive community where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our university prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness.

(read more: <https://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>)

- Fair Dealing policy

The Dalhousie University Fair Dealing Policy provides guidance for the limited use of copyright protected material without the risk of infringement and without having to seek the permission of copyright owners. It is intended to provide a balance between the rights of creators and the rights of users at Dalhousie.

(read more: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy-.html)

University Policies and Programs

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html
- Dalhousie Grading Practices Policy
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html
- Grade Appeal Process
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html
- Sexualized Violence Policy
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/health-and-safety/sexualized-violence-policy.html
- Scent-Free Program
<http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupationsafety/scent-free.html>

Learning and Support Resources

- General Academic Support – Advising
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html (Halifax)
<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/student-success-centre/academic-support/advisingdalac.html> (Truro)

Syllabus last updated: September 1, 2023