OVERVIEW

The Canadian party system, viewed as an integral part of the entire political system, presents a number of questions for study such as voter turnout, electoral reform, party ideology, representation, campaign finance, the role of new information technologies, and the (in)ability of parties to contribute to Canadian democracy. Median-voter theorem is a central concept. Approved with Canadian Studies.

The syllabus is subject to minor changes (i.e. an addition of a supplementary reading, guest speaker, or exclusion of a previously required reading) upon notice provided by the instructor.

Textbook
Required readings (other than the textbook) have been posted to Brightspace

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>% value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term test 1 – essays based on lectures &amp; assigned readings.</td>
<td>9 October</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term test 2 – essays based on lectures &amp; assigned readings</td>
<td>Exam period</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation</td>
<td>throughout</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“SWOT” analysis for a candidate of your choice.</td>
<td>4 December</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COURSE AGENDA

### 4, 6 September

**HISTORY: Has much changed since the 12th General Election of 1911?**

Stephen Leacock, “The Great Election in Missinaba County” and “The candidacy of Mr. Smith” *Sunshine sketches of a little town*, 1912. Chapters 10 and 11. [Best enjoyed as spoken](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtXJ6u5QyN8).

### 11-13 September

**DO VOTERS CARE ABOUT ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY?**


18-20 September  ELECTORAL SYSTEMS


25, 27 September  OVERVIEW: HISTORY, CULTURE, REGION, AND IDEOLOGY

Andrea Perella, “Overview of voting behaviour theories” *Election*, Chapter 11
Ailsa Henderson, “Greater than the sum of its parts: Political cultures and regions in Canada” *Election*, Chapter 14.
Richard Johnston,” Alignment, realignment, and dealignment in Canada: The view from above” *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 46:2, 245-71, 2013. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olS1ZRS76sw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olS1ZRS76sw)

2, 4 October  STAFFING THE PERPETUAL CAMPAIGN

CBC Ottawa. "Mental health on the Hill" 26 June 2018
Ian Brodie, “In defence of political staff” *Canadian Parliamentary Review*, 2012.

9 October  TERM 1 TAKE-HOME TEST

11 October  LEADERSHIP PANEL with David Stewart (U of C) and NSPC Rob Batherson

16, 18 October  LIBERALS

23, 25 October  CONSERVATIVES
Andrew Potter, “The firewall from the other side: The past and future of Stephen Harper’s agenda” In Due Course. 13 November 2015.

30 October, 1 November  NEW DEMOCRATS
Brian Topp, “Two down, one to go” Policy Options, June 2011, 56-63.

6, 8 November  ELECTION CAMPAIGNING ON THE GROUND
Munroe Eagles & Annika Hagley, “Constituency campaigning in Canada” Election, Chapter 6.
Steven Patten, “Democracy and candidate selection process in Canadian elections” Election, Chapter 7.
Thomas Flanagan, “Campaign strategy: Triage and the concentration of resources” Election, Chapter 8.
Seth Masket, “When campaign volunteers do more harm than good” PS Mag MAY 11, 2015

13, 15 NOV STUDY WEEK

20, 22 November  SWOT ANALYSIS WORKSHOPPING

27, 29 November  ELECTION CAMPAIGNING OVER THE AIRWAVES
Tamara Small, “Still waiting for an internet prime minister: Online campaigning by Canadian political parties” Election, Chapter 9.
André Turcotte, “Polling as modern alchemy: Measuring public opinion in Canadian elections” Election, Chapter 10.

SWOT ANALYSIS DUE 4 December

TERM 2 TEST DURING FINAL EXAM PERIOD 6 – 16 December

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.

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 (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). 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.

Accessibility
The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of: a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation.

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.

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. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to be a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2).

Recognition of Mi’kmaq Territory
Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi’kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office at 1321 Edward St. or contact elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803.

University Policies and Programs
- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
  http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html
- University Grading Practices: Statement of Principles and Procedures
  https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html
Learning and Support Resources

- General Academic Support - Academic Advising: [https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html)
- Libraries: [http://libraries.dal.ca](http://libraries.dal.ca)
- Student Health Services: [https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/health-services.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/health-services.html)
- Counselling and Psychological Services: [https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/counselling.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/counselling.html)
- Aboriginal Student Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/native.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/native.html)
- iLearning Website: [https://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html)
- Student Advocacy Services: [https://www.dsu.ca/services/community-student-services/student-advocacy-service](https://www.dsu.ca/services/community-student-services/student-advocacy-service)
- Writing Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html)
- Studying for Success program and tutoring: [https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html)

From the University Calendar

"Students are expected to complete class work by the prescribed deadlines. Only in special circumstances ... may an instructor extend such deadlines." Late papers will be assessed a late penalty at the instructor’s discretion.

Students who miss a deadline on account of illness are expected to hand in the assignment within one week of their return to class, with a medical certificate, per academic regulations of the Dalhousie Calendar.

Papers should be submitted directly to the instructor or in person to the Political Science office between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm on weekdays only. The instructor cannot assume responsibility for papers otherwise submitted.

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests, quizzes and exams should make their request to the Office of Student Accessibility & Accommodation (OSAA) prior to or at the outset of each academic term (with the exception of X/Y courses). Please see [www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca](http://www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca) for more information and to obtain Form A: Request for Accommodation. Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom so that students who require them will be able to participate in the class.

INFORMATION ON PLAGIARISM

Proper documentation is required on all writing assignments. Failure to document sources constitutes plagiarism and can result in severe academic penalty. You should keep your rough notes and be prepared to defend your work orally. Consult a writing/style manual for acceptable citation styles.

Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even to the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived.

At Dalhousie there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course; students should read the Policy on Intellectual Honesty contained in the Calendar or on the Online Dalhousie website. As a student in this class, you are to keep an electronic copy of any paper you submit, and the course instructor may require you to submit that electronic copy on demand.