

## POLITICAL SCIENCE POLI 2210

### *Unity and Diversity: The Federal Dynamics of Canadian Politics*

Tuesday / Thursday 4 - 5:30 pm

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#### COURSE SUMMARY

This course is an introduction to the social, economic, and participatory dynamics that drive Canadian politics. It covers political culture, regionalism, indigenous politics, political economy, interest groups, social movements, and the executive. Federalism is central to all these topics, as we study the role of Quebec nationalism in the federation's evolution, the relationship between the Constitutional order and federalism, the place of emerging "orders of government" (including First Nations governments), and debates concerning the causes and consequences of centralization and decentralization in the Canadian federation.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students completing this course will be introduced to the methodologies, concepts, and approaches used by political scientists to study Canada. At the end of this course, students should be able to apply these new tools to help describe, understand, and explain a variety of political phenomena in Canadian politics. In addition to strengthening their analytical abilities, students will have the opportunity to improve their reading comprehension and writing skills through the completion of multiple, diverse assignments.

This class is succeeded by POLI 2220 in January. POLI 2210 is not a pre-requisite, but the POLI 2210 curriculum takes off from where we leave off in December. POLI 2210 begins from the second half of the same textbook.

#### TEXTBOOK

- Marland, Alex and Jared Wesley. 2016. *Inside Canadian Politics*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- The instructor reserves the right to assign additional readings to Brightspace.

#### ASSIGNMENTS

1. The Brightspace quizzes are multiple-choice format. They are done on-line, via Brightspace. The goal is to enable you to study the material efficiently, with direction and purpose in order to understand key concepts. They ensure that you have acquired a solid foundation of knowledge from the textbook.

These quizzes will stay open for the duration between them. Lectures may not correspond precisely to the Brightspace due dates. Some students may want to do the quizzes ahead of lecture. Other students will want

to delay until near the due date, after lecture. Your time is yours to organize. The quizzes will be graded immediately on receipt, but the correct answers will not be revealed until after the due date.

2. Detailed instructions for the essay assignment are included in this syllabus.
3. Attend an election event of your choice and complete the assignment grid posted to Brightspace. There are a number of all-candidates debates to be held about the province during the fall. Dalhousie Student Union will (probably) organize a debate. Prepare an analysis of the speakers, the debate, and the general tone of the event as they relate to course material. All elements of the event are open for analysis.

<b>Grading Scheme</b>		
<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due date</b>	<b>Value (%)</b>
Brightspace quiz 1, chapters 1, 2, 3	midnight 4 October	6.4% per chapter
Brightspace quiz 2, chapters 4, 5	midnight 8 November	6.4% per chapter
Brightspace quiz 3, chapters 8, 12	midnight 3 December	6.4% per chapter
Essay (instructions in syllabus)	21 November	30
Elections-event assignment (instructions in syllabus)	17 October	25

## SCHEDULE

### **3 - 6 September                      Introduction to Canadian Politics, Chapter 1**

Noël, Alain. 2014. Studying your own country: Social scientific knowledge for our times and places” *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 47(4).

### **10 - 19 September                  Constitution, chapter 2**

Roy, Marc-André and Laurence Brosseau. 2018. *The Notwithstanding Clause of the Charter*. Background Paper, Library of Parliament, Legal and Social Affairs Division.

### **24-17 October                      Federalism in Canada, chapter 3**

Starblanket, Gina. 2019. “The numbered treaties and the politics of incoherency” *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.

Papillon, Martin. 2018. “The Trans Mountain ruling shows we need to acknowledge Indigenous peoples’ jurisdiction over their lands and establish joint decision-making processes” *Policy Options*.

Papillon, Martin. 2012. “Canadian federalism and the emerging mosaic of Aboriginal multilevel governance.” In Herman Bakvis, Grace Skogstad (eds.). *Canadian federalism: Performance, effectiveness, and legitimacy*, 3rd ed. Oxford University Press, 284-301, chapter 14.

**Brightspace Quiz 1, chapters 1, 2, 3 due 4 October**

**Election event assignment due ~17 October**

**Canada's 43<sup>rd</sup> General Election; Articles to be assigned.**

**22- 31 October Regionalism in Canada, chapter 4**

Potter, Andrew. "Could populism take root in Canada? Too late - it already has" *Toronto Globe & Mail*.

John Ibbitson, "The collapse of the Laurentian consensus" *Literary Review of Canada*. 2012. View: The Big Shift video.

EnviroNics. 2019. *Canada: Pulling together or drifting apart? Confederation of Tomorrow*.

**5, 7 November Executive, chapter 5**

Lagassé, Philippe. 2016. "The Crown and Prime Ministerial power" *Canadian Parliamentary Review* 17-23.

Lagassé, Philippe. 2018. A pedantic style guide.

Russell, Peter. 2011. "Discretion and the reserve powers of the Crown" *Canadian Parliamentary Review*, 19-25.

**Brightspace Quiz 2, chapters 4, 5 due 8 November**

**12, 14 November fall break; no class**

**19, 21 November Public policy and public administration, chapter 8**

[Wells, Paul. 2019. "Canada – the show" \*Macleans\*. 12 February](#)

**21 November Essay due**

**26, 28 November Political activism, chapter 12**

Loewen, Peter and Benjamin Allen Stevens. 2019. *Automation, AI and anxiety: Policy preferred, populism possible*. Public Policy Forum.

**Brightspace Quiz 3, chapters 8, 12 due 3 December**

**3 December last class**

**ESSAY DUE ON 21 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Approximate length – 3000 words, double-spaced, 11 pitch font.**

Analyse, critique, and evaluate two articles or books corresponding to a single topic from the syllabus. Begin from the sources cited in the textbook. You are not restricted to sources from the textbook, but this is not a research paper, so there is no premium for covering more material.

Papers must be submitted in two formats: hard and soft. Hard copy papers are submitted in class or to the political science office. Soft copy papers are submitted to the Brightspace dropbox where it may be checked for plagiarism. No separate title page is necessary, so long as your name is on the first page.

The quality of your analysis rests on the quality of your understanding of the article. A correct knowledge of the author's point of view is the basis of a sophisticated critique. And the quality of your analysis rests on the quality of the articles you choose to work with. A more challenging article may be easier to critique than a simplistic one. Students are encouraged to have the instructor or the T.A. check out their choice of articles.

A proper bibliography must be included. It need not appear on a separate page. I prefer in-text citation that looks like this (author surname, year of publication, page number). If no page number is available on an html document, cite the paragraph number. Proper citation is an integral part of the essay. Consult a writing manual for direction on the rules for citing specific points, general arguments, and quotations.

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## **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 (NS, NB, PEI, NFLD).

### **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 in the McCain Building (room 3037) or contact the programs at [elders@dal.ca](mailto:elders@dal.ca) or 902-494-6803 (leave a message).

### **University Policies and Programs**

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates) [http://www.dal.ca/academics/important\\_dates.html](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](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)

- Copyright and Fair Dealing: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/fair-dealing/fair-dealing-guidelines.html>
- Libraries: <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)
- Black Student Advising: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/black-student-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html)
- Aboriginal Student Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/native.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/native.html)
- ELearning Website: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html>
- Student Advocacy Services: <https://www.dsu.ca/services/community-student-services/student-advocacy-service>
- Dalhousie Ombudsperson: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html)
- 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.