

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**COURSE SYLLABUS  
POLI 1002  
INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS & GOVERNMENT II**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Igor Shoikhedbrod	<b>Term:</b>	Winter 2022
<b>Phone:</b>	MS Teams	<b>Days:</b>	Wednesdays and Fridays
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:igor.shoikhedbrod@dal.ca">igor.shoikhedbrod@dal.ca</a>	<b>Time:</b>	10:05a.m-11:25a.m ADT
<b>Office Hours (MS Teams):</b>	Tuesdays & Thursdays 3-4p.m ADT	<b>Location:</b>	Collaborate Ultra

Students are asked to kindly schedule an appointment in advance (for the office hours specified above) via email to ensure fairness and equal access. Please note that Dr. Shoikhedbrod has a combined total of nearly 300 students across three courses this term, so it always a good idea to book an appointment ahead of time. I look forward to meeting you during office hours to discuss course content and the study of politics more broadly.

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**TA :** Xinyu Gong [xinyu.gong@dal.ca](mailto:xinyu.gong@dal.ca)

\*The course instructor and TA will normally be responding to logistical questions by email within 48 hours, Mondays through Fridays, between 10a.m and 5:00p.m ADT (i.e. not on weekends or during statutory holidays). For substantive course content-related questions, please make an appointment with the course instructor during the instructor's scheduled MS Teams office hours.

#### **A. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

POLI 1002, together with POLI 1001, offer a general introduction to the study of politics and government. In this course you will be exposed to the fundamental concepts of political life. It will introduce you to a range of key issues and approaches that animate contemporary politics. In POLI 1002, we draw upon the political concepts, values, and institutions studied in POLI 1001 and extend their application to comparative and international contexts. Students will also be introduced to various subfields within political science, including the study of comparative politics, development, political economy, and international relations.

**NOTES:** This course, together with POLI 1002, is a general introduction to the study of politics. The two classes together fulfill the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences' writing requirement. The two courses must be taken in sequence (that is, POLI 1001, followed by POLI 1002), and must be taken in the same academic year.

**FORMAT:** Synchronous Lectures via Collaborate Ultra at the Schedule time. Please note that lectures will not be recorded. Students are responsible for catching up on any missed course material, including obtaining missed lecture notes from their peers. While lectures will not be recorded, the instructor will typically post password-protected (password: copyrightprotected) lecture slides on Brightspace by the end of each week for student reference.

Students are also strongly encouraged to volunteer as note-takers for the course. For more information on the benefits of volunteering as a note-taker, visit:

<https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/campuslife/student-services/academicsupport/Accessibility/Application%20-%20Note%20Taker.pdf>

**\*\*EXCLUSIONS:** POLI 1103X.03, POLI 1500.06, POLI 1050.03, POLI 1055.03, POLI 1060.03, POLI 1065.03 (exclusions mean that students cannot take these courses together and simultaneously obtain credits for them).

## **B. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- i. Introduce students to the main concepts and themes that animate political science—their provenance, their content, their development, their contemporary relevance, their Canadian application.
- ii. Introduce students to mechanisms through which political preferences are formed, how those affect society, political structures and institutions in general and specifically in Canada; how the processes play out in Canada: elections, voting patterns, political parties, and electoral systems.
- iii. Describe and analyze how political institutions work, particularly the Canadian parliamentary system, federalism, and the powers of the executive, the legislative, and the judiciary, through a broadly comparative lens.
- iv. Strengthen critical and independent thinking capacities.
- v. Refine skills related to the evaluation of empirical evidence derived from literature produced in the discipline.
- vi. Lay the foundations which will prepare students for more advanced courses in political science.

## **C. REQUIRED TEXT**

*Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases, Canadian Edition* (Oxford University Press, 2020). Available for purchase in hardcopy and eBook formats at the Dalhousie University Bookstore, as well as directly from the publisher's website.

*Introduction to Politics: Second Canadian Edition* (Oxford University Press, 2017). Available for purchase in hardcopy and eBook formats at the Dalhousie University Bookstore, as well as directly from the publisher's website.

The instructor has also arranged for both texts to be available for students on reserve at the Killam Memorial Library. Please visit the library for more information.

\*Additional required readings will be posted on Brightspace (B).

**D. EVALUATION COMPONENTS AND WEIGHTS****Components**

The course will be delivered entirely online via Collaborate Ultra. Work will be evaluated on an individual basis. Except for formally volunteering as a note-taker for the course, which is strongly encouraged, students are discouraged from sharing their individual work on online platforms (i.e., do not share individual work on Facebook Groups, Google Drive, Discord, Dropbox, etc.). In the past, such sharing of individual work has resulted in incidents of plagiarism and academic misconduct.

**The course assessment will be determined as follows:**

<b>List of Components</b>	<b>Percent of Total Grade</b>
Test 1 (Feb 2)	15%
Test 2 (Mar 9)	15%
Essay 1 (due March 2 at start of lecture – 1300 words)	20%
Essay 2 (due April 1 at start of lecture-- 1300 words)	20%
Cumulative Final exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar's Office)	30%
<b>TOTAL OF ALL COMPONENTS</b>	<b>100%</b>

**\*Essay questions/topics will be provided in advance by the course instructor and the precise citation style will be specified in the assignment guides on Brightspace.**

**Grade Determination and Rubric for Assessments in the Course**

Letter grade	Numerical equivalent	GPA	Definition	
A+	90-100	4.3	Excellent	Considerable evidence of original thinking; demonstrated outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
A	85-89	4.0		
A-	80-84	3.7		
B+	77-79	3.3	Good	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
B	73-76	3.0		
B-	70-72	2.7		
C+	65-69	2.3	Satisfactory	Evidence of some understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems; benefiting from university experience.
C	60-64	2.0		
C-	55-59	1.7		

D	50-54	1.0	Marginal pass	Evidence of minimally acceptable familiarity with subject matter; critical and analytical skills (except in programs where a minimum grade of “C” or “C+” is required).
F	0-49	0	Inadequate	Insufficient evidence of understanding of the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytical skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature

## E. COURSE-SPECIFIC POLICIES

### The Use of Course Materials

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are the instructor’s intellectual property and are covered by the Canadian Copyright Act. Students wishing to record lectures or other course materials in any way (this includes tape recording, filming, photographing PowerPoint slides, Brightspace materials, etc.,) are required to ask the instructor’s explicit permission. It is absolutely forbidden for a student to post, publish, or circulate the instructor’s work on a website or to sell them in other forms without formal permission.

### Course Attendance and General Expectations

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view. Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members, towards each other, towards instructors, and towards guest speakers. While expressions of differing perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

Brightspace will be the main online space for the course. This is where lectures will be delivered, assignments will be posted and submitted, and where all course announcements will be posted.

It is expected that students will log-on to Brightspace regularly and set their email accounts to receive course announcements. Students should only be using their Dalhousie email addresses when corresponding with the instructor and TA.

Online attendance is essential for success in this course. The instructor will pause the lecture at a designated interval for a brief break that will be followed by ample opportunities for students to ask questions of clarification and elaboration.

Written skills are important in this course. Proficiency in English therefore is assumed. Writing support is available for students at Dalhousie University. Students are strongly encouraged to seek out this support ahead of time.

## Accessibility

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have accessibility-related needs that may require accommodations, please feel free to contact me and/or Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/accessibility.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html)

## Submission of Work and the Use of Urkund

All assignments, including tests, will be administered entirely through Brightspace. All submissions, including tests, will be verified on Urkund for textual similarity. The terms that apply to Dalhousie University's use of Urkund are specified online:

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity/faculty-resources/urkund--plagiarism-detection.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/faculty-resources/urkund--plagiarism-detection.html)

## Missed Tests and Assignments

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to catch up with missed lecture and reading material. Test dates are scheduled in advance and cannot be changed. No make-up tests or extensions will be granted for missed tests or essays unless students have formal supporting documentation explaining why they were unable to fulfill the requirements. Examples of formal supporting documentation include medical notes issued by a certified physician/practitioner, as well as a completed absence declaration form. If you are absent from class or unable to complete any other term work, you are responsible for contacting your instructor as soon as possible to request reasonable accommodation. Extensions and the writing of make-up tests will only be granted under extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances. Appropriate documentation must be submitted within **5 days** of the missed course requirement. Please note that all course requirements must be fulfilled for the completion of this course.

## Late Penalty

Late essay submissions will be penalized **5% percent per day of lateness** (weekends included).

## Procedure for Appealing Assignment Grades

Should you have any legitimate concerns regarding assignment grades, you are welcome to submit a half-page typed appeal that explains the reasons why you are contesting the grade (to be submitted to the teaching assistant no later than 5 days, weekends included, past the date that you received your assignment grade). Please note that the re-evaluation of an assignment may result in a higher or lower grade, or the grade may remain the same. N.B. If you are still not satisfied with the outcome of the appeal procedure (i.e., you have reasons to believe that the TA's response to your grade appeal remains arbitrary and/or unfair), please contact the course instructor promptly after receiving the TA's response to your grade appeal. Students should not feel deterred from appealing their assignment grades. This is your right.

**F. University Policies, Statements, Guidelines, and Other Resources for Support**

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate.

***University Statements******Territorial Acknowledgment***

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 (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.

***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 do not follow this community expectation.

Students are required to comply with health and safety requirements on campus, and should be considerate of others' health concerns. Non-compliance may be reported under the Code of Student Conduct.

***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 being 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 their office at:

Room 107, Indigenous Student Centre

1321 Edward Street

Phone: (902) 494-6803

### University Policies and Programs

- Important Dates in the Academic Year  
[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-practicespolicy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practicespolicy.html)
- Scent-Free Program  
<https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.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/fairdealing/fair-dealing-guidelines.html>
- Libraries: <http://libraries.dal.ca>
- Student Health Services: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html)
- Counselling and Psychological Services: <https://www.dal.ca/counselling>
- Black Student Advising: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/blackstudent-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/blackstudent-advising.html)
- Indigenous Student Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)
- eLearning Website: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html>
- Student Advocacy Services: <http://www.dsu.ca/dsas>
- 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-andstudy-skills.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-andstudy-skills.html).  
Assistance with learning to write academic documents, reviewing papers for discipline -specific writing standards, organization, argument, transitions, writing styles and citations.
- 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)

## G. READING SCHEDULE

**IMPORTANT NOTE: All additional required readings will be posted on Brightspace (B). If students wish to get a head start with the (B) readings before they are uploaded, they can easily find these readings at their convenience and/or with the help of library staff by searching for them through the library catalogue.**

### Week 1

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Jan 5 (Wed) | Introduction to the course and brief overview of course syllabus.                               |
| Jan 7 (Fri) | <b>Comparative Politics &amp; Methodologies</b><br>Chaps 1 & 2 in <i>Comparative Politics</i> . |

### Week 2

- |              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Jan 12 (Wed) | <b>Back to the State</b> |
|--------------|--------------------------|

Ch. 3 in *Comparative Politics*.

Jan 14 (Fri)

**Nationalism & National Identity**

(A pre-recorded lecture will be posted for students to view on Brightspace in time for the scheduled lecture)

Ch. 13 in *Comparative Politics*.

Jerry Muller, “Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism” (B).

**Week 3**

Jan 19 (Wed)

**The Politics of Race, Ethnicity & Gender**

Ch.14 in *Comparative Politics*

Charles Mills, “The Political Economy of Personhood” (B)

Jan 21 (Fri)

**Democracy & Democratization**

Ch. 6 in *Comparative Politics*

Francis Fukuyama “The End of History and the Last Man” (B)

**Week 4**

Jan 26 (Wed)

**Authoritarian Regimes & Democratic Breakdown**

Ch.7 in *Comparative Politics*

Jan 28 (Fri)

Ch.7 in *Comparative Politics* continued

**Week 5**

Feb 2 (Wed)

**TEST 1 (during regularly scheduled lecture time)**

Feb 4 (Fri)

**No Class—Munro Day**

**Week 6**

Feb 9 (Wed)

**Political Economy**

Ch. 4 in *Comparative Politics*

Feb 11 (Fri)

**Development**

Ch.5 in *Comparative Politics*



**Week 7**

Feb 16 (Wed)     **Revolutions & Contention**  
Ch. 12 in *Comparative Politics*

Feb 18 (Fri)     **The Comparative-International Nexus**  
Ch.14 in *Comparative Politics* & Ch. 16 in *Introduction to Politics*

**(STUDY WEEK) NO CLASSES—February 21-25, 2022**

**Week 8**

Mar 2 (Wed)     **Traditional Theories of International Relations**  
Ch.15 of *Introduction to Politics*  
\* **ESSAY 1 DUE (START OF LECTURE)**

Mar 4 (Fri)     **Alternative Approaches in International Relations**  
Ch.16 in *Introduction to Politics*

**Week 9**

Mar 9 (Wed)     \***TEST 2 (during regularly scheduled lecture time)**

Mar 11 (Fri)     **Security & Insecurity**  
Ch. 17 in *Introduction to Politics*

**Week 10**

Mar 16(Wed)     **Diplomacy & Foreign Policy**  
Ch. 18 in *Introduction to Politics*

Mar 18(Fri)     **International Organizations**  
Ch. 19 in *Introduction to Politics*

**Week 11**

Mar 23 (Wed)     **International Political Economy**  
Ch.20 in *Introduction to Politics*

Mar 25 (Fri) Ch.20 in *Introduction to Politics* continued

**Week 12**

Mar (30) **Putting it all together**  
Conclusion & Glossary in *Introduction to Politics*  
Glossary in *Comparative Politics*

April 1 (Fri) TA-led review session in preparation for final exam  
\* **ESSAY 2 DUE (START OF LECTURE)**

**Week 13**

April 6 (Wed) Drop-in Q/A session with instructor via Collaborate

**CUMMALTIVE FINAL EXAM 30% (TBA by Registrar's Office).**