

POLI 1100Y — Introduction to Politics and Government
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:35 – 12:55
Sir James Dunn Building, Rm. 117

Coordinating Instructor: Marcella Firmini

Office Hours: Check with each professor (for M. Firmini – Wednesdays 9:30 am -12:30 pm and 1pm – 2pm).

Office: Henry Hicks, 356.

Email: Marcella.Firmini@dal.ca (please allow a 48 hr response time) or each professor's email listed after lecture topic

In this team-taught introductory course, you will be exposed to the diverse worlds of political life through the research and teaching interests of a diverse range of professors in the Political Science department. They will introduce you to a range of key issues and approaches that animate both their own research and contemporary politics in various parts of the world. Topics addressed will include: the nature and limits of democracy; the relationship between economic wealth and political power; the quest for human rights; the nature of diplomacy and international organization; the challenge of defining and promoting international security; the challenges of global inequality and development; forms of political participation; the politics of environmental sustainability; and the relationship between politics and the media.

READINGS FOR SECOND TERM:

1. *An Introduction to Government and Politics: a conceptual approach* (9th ed.) by Dickerson, Flanagan & O'Neill. Available at the bookstore.

2. **Please refer also to BBL**

It is very important to keep up with class readings in order to gain the full benefit of the class lectures.

****ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE DONE THE READINGS FOR CLASS. ****

Assignments and Grading: (due dates indicated and highlighted on this syllabus)

There will be two quizzes, a midterm and a final **PER TERM**. Grades from the first term constitute 50% of your final grade. Tests, quizzes, and finals will be composed of short answer questions, essay questions, multiple choice, and true/false. This term also has an in-class writing assignment worth 5%.

Quizzes worth – 10

Midterms – 15%

Finals – 20%

In-class writing assignment - 5%

Statement on Academic Integrity

All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on academic integrity and plagiarism referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the academicintegrity.dal.ca website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

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. The Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student papers be submitted in both written and computer-readable format, and to submit any paper to be checked electronically for originality.

Requests for Student Accommodation

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 and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit www.dal.ca/access for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation – Form A.

A note taker may be required as part of a student's accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 494-2836 for more information.

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

❖ JANUARY:

5: INTRO – WELCOME BACK, Course Expectations, and recap

7, 12, 14: Dr. Kristin Good (Cities & Municipalities)

Textbook: pp. 307-317

Readings: BBL

19, 21: Dr. Marcella Firmini (Introduction to International Relations)

Readings: BBL

26-28: Dr. David Black (International Development)
Readings: BBL

❖ **FEBRUARY:**

2: Dr. David Black (continued)

4: QUIZ

9, 11, 23: Prof. Michelle Coffin (Media & Politics)

Textbook: pp. 358-369

Readings: BBL

❖ **MARCH:**

Feb 25, 1 & 3: Dr. Ruben Zaiotti (European Union)

Textbook: pp. 305-307

Readings: BBL

8: MIDTERM

10: CHILD SOLDIERS PRESENTATION

15, 17, 22: Dr. Anders Hayden (Environment)

Textbook: pp. 195-205

Readings: BBL

24: In-class writing assignment due at the end of class

29 & 31: Steven Seligman (Human Rights)

Textbook: pp. 65-66

Readings: BBL

5: recap and exam prep

❖ **FINAL EXAM (Registrar's Calendar)**