Course Themes

Along with parliamentary government and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, federalism is one of the three constitutional pillars of governance in Canada. Federalism has been central to Canada’s political, economic, social and cultural development. The course examines federalism through a political economy perspective, a perspective that considers how political institutions are embedded in their economic and social contexts both influencing their development and changing in response to changes in their socio-economic and cultural environments. Furthermore, it engages with contemporary debates about the performance of Canada’s federal institutions and explores possible reform options. Topics covered in the course include, for instance, the role of regionalism and Quebec nationalism in the federation’s evolution, the relationship between the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and federalism, the relationship between Parliament and federalism, debates concerning fiscal “imbalances” in the federation, and the place of emerging “orders of government” – including municipalities and of Aboriginal governments – in the federation.

Course Objectives

This course provides students with an introduction to the way in which federalism structures Canada’s political life and has influenced Canada’s political development.

Format: This course is offered in a lecture format with some in-class discussion and debate.

Textbooks and other reading materials:


ASSESSMENT

Breakdown of the final course grade

Test 1 (In class on September 29) - 20%
Test 2 (In class on October 27) – 20%
Research paper (Due: November 24) – 30%
Final exam (2 hour closed book exam to be scheduled during official exam period) – 30%

Test and Exam Format

Students will be tested on material covered in the assigned readings and in class. The tests and the exam will include one or more of the following types of questions: 1) define and explain the significance of fundamental concepts; 2) short answers; 3) essay questions.

Grading Scale

Dalhousie University uses a common grading scale which reproduced below. It is taken from the Undergraduate Calendar 2015-2016 which is available at the following website: http://academiccalendar.dal.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=1&loaduseredits=False

17. 1 Grade Scale and Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>85-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>80-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>70-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Minimum Score</td>
<td>Maximum Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
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<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>65-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>60-64</td>
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<tr>
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<td>55-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>50-54</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0-49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INC</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Neutral and no credit obtained</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILL</td>
<td>Neutral and no credit obtained</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pending</td>
<td>Neutral</td>
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</table>
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

At Dalhousie University, we are guided by the values of academic integrity: honesty, 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.

WHAT DOES ACADEMIC INTEGRITY MEAN?
At university we advance knowledge by building on the work of other people. Academic integrity means that we are honest and accurate in creating and communicating all academic products. Acknowledgement of other people’s work must be done in a way that does not leave the reader in any doubt as to whose work it is. Academic integrity means trustworthy conduct such as not cheating on examinations and not misrepresenting information. It is the student’s responsibility to seek assistance to ensure that these standards are met.

HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE ACADEMIC INTEGRITY?
We must all work together to prevent academic dishonesty because it is unfair to honest students. The following are some ways that you can achieve academic integrity; some may not be applicable in all circumstances.

- make sure you understand Dalhousie’s policies on academic integrity (see http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html)
- do not cheat in examinations or write an exam or test for someone else
- do not falsify data or lab results

Be sure not to plagiarize, intentionally or unintentionally, for example…

- clearly indicate the sources used in your written or oral work. This includes computer codes/ programs, artistic or architectural works, scientific projects, performances, web page designs, graphical representations, diagrams, videos, and images
- do not use the work of another from the Internet or any other source and submit it as your own
- when you use the ideas of other people (paraphrasing), make sure to acknowledge the source
- do not submit work that has been completed through collaboration or previously submitted for another assignment without permission from your instructor (These examples should be considered only as a guide and not an exhaustive list.)

WHERE CAN YOU TURN FOR HELP?
If you are ever unsure about any aspect of your academic work, contact me (or the TA):

- Faculty of Health Professions Academic Integrity Website
  - Overview of academic integrity process, with resources for faculty and students
- Academic Integrity Website
  - Links to policies, definitions, online tutorials, tips on citing and paraphrasing
- Writing Centre
Assistance with learning to write academic documents, reviewing papers for discipline-specific writing standards, organization, argument, transitions, writing styles and citations

- Dalhousie Libraries
  - Workshops, online tutorials, citation guides, Assignment Calculator, RefWorks
- Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service
  - assists students with academic appeals and student discipline procedures.
- Senate Office
  - List of Academic Integrity Officers, discipline flowchart, Senate Discipline Committee

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF AN ALLEGATION OF AN ACADEMIC OFFENCE IS MADE AGAINST YOU?

As your instructor, I am required to report every suspected offence. The full process is outlined in the Faculty Discipline Flow Chart (www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html) and includes the following:

- Each Faculty has an Academic Integrity Officer (AIO) who receives allegations from instructors
- Based on the evidence provided, the AIO decides if there is evidence to proceed with the allegation and you will be notified of the process
- If the case proceeds, you will receive a PENDING grade until the matter is resolved
- If you are found guilty of an offence, a penalty will be assigned ranging from a warning, to failure of the assignment or failure of the class, to expulsion from the University. Penalties may also include a notation on your transcript that indicates that you have committed an academic offence.

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATION

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation.

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 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 or send an email to notetaking@dal.ca

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 fully participate in the class.
## COURSE LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15 and 17</td>
<td>An Introduction to Canadian Federalism</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22 and 24</td>
<td>The Political Economy of Pre- and Post-Confederation Canada</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapters 2 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 1, 6 and 8</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Relations, Federal-Provincial Conflict and Executive Federalism</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 4, 5 and 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13 and 15</td>
<td>Conflict Resolution, Judicial Review, and Intergovernmental Accords and Agreements</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20 and 22</td>
<td>The Charter, Parliamentary Supremacy and Federalism</td>
<td>Bazowski (2014)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 3, 5 and 10</td>
<td>Regionalism and Quebec</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 7 and 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 12</td>
<td>STUDY DAY – Class is Cancelled</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 17 and 19</td>
<td>Fiscal Federalism</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 24 and 26</td>
<td>Aboriginal Governance and Federalism</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2 and 4</td>
<td>“Glocalization” and Canadian Federalism</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>Federalism, Democracy and Reform Discussion of Final Exam</td>
<td>Inwood, Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important note:** October 9<sup>th</sup> is the last day to drop a fall course without a “W” and November 6<sup>th</sup> is the last day to drop a course with a “W”.
ESSAY ASSIGNMENT – POLI 2210 2015

Due: November 24th, 2015

Length: 10 double spaced pages (not including the title page and bibliography). Paper should be in 12-point font with 1 inch margins.

Research: The paper should answer one of the five questions below. The sources listed under each question are suggestions. The paper should engage with and cite at least 8 reputable secondary sources (including academic journal articles, academic books, and pieces written by established authorities on the subject for think-tanks). Citing newspaper articles and other primary sources is encouraged but they do not count toward the 8 source requirement.

Value: 30% of course grade.

1. Should municipalities be empowered in the Canadian federation and, if so, ‘how’ (and, if not, why not?)?


2. Is constitutional change necessary to address the concerns of Quebec nationalists?


3. Do institutions of intrastate federalism need to be strengthened in Canada? Which federal party’s approach to reform offers the most promise for incorporating regional and provincial perspectives into federal Parliament?


4. Is there a fundamental tension between the Charter and the principles of parliamentary sovereignty and federalism? What role does Section 33 play in mediating the tension?


5. **The Harper Conservatives coined to term “open federalism” to describe their approach to managing the federation. Do the other leaders of major political parties in Canada offer different visions/approaches to the Canadian federation? Which of the major parties’ approach would be the most effective and legitimate response to contemporary Canadian governance challenges?**


