

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PSC-104: Canadian Government

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Winter 2025

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Daniel Reeve

EMAIL: reeved@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Paul 230

HOURS: Tuesdays 3:00 – 4:00 PM & Wednesdays 1:30 – 3:00 PM; other times can be arranged.

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This introductory course examines politics, political science, Canada's political roots, the economic and social setting, the constitution, and federalism.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. The nature of politics, government, and the state, with special reference to Canada.
2. The geographical, historical, social, and international context of the Canadian political system.
3. The fundamental elements of the constitution, including its evolution.
4. Federalism, including federal-provincial tensions.
5. The tensions between nationalism and regionalism, with special reference to Quebec and Western alienation.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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Tousutti, Livianna et al. *Canadian Politics Today: Democracy, Diversity, and Good Government*. Toronto: Pearson, 2021.

This is an online textbook. To access this textbook link, the course syllabus must first be downloaded. Once you've downloaded the syllabus then click here: [PSC 104-001 Online Textbook](#)

Alternatively, the link for the textbook is also available in the D2L Content page under Course Outline.

PSC 106 and PSC 104 share the same textbook. If you purchased the textbook for PSC 104 (within the last 8 months), use it for PSC 106 and vice versa.

If you need help, check out these Revel student resources:  
<https://www.pearsonhighered.com/revel/students/support/>

The app for this textbook permits students to not only read on their mobile devices (phones, tablets, laptops, and the like), but also includes a feature where each chapter is read aloud. Students can thus listen to each chapter in a variety of ways.

Additional course readings will be available online through content section of the course D2L site.

## COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1: Jan. 7 & 9	Introductions, assignments, D2L, & Revel Power, Authority, Legitimacy Workshop	<b>Course Tour Bonus Quiz –</b> Due Jan. 14 at 12:30 PM
Week 2: Jan. 14 & 16	Read: Ch. 2 - The Context of Canadian Politics	<b>RQ1</b> – Jan. 14 at 12:30 PM
Week 3: Jan. 21 & 23	Read: Durham Report, Recommendations of Assimilation & Union (Part 1 & 2)	<b>RQ2</b> - Jan. 21 at 12:30 PM
Week 4: Jan. 28 & 30	Read: Ch. 3 – Canada and Cultural Diversity	<b>RQ3</b> - Jan. 28 at 12:30 PM
Week 5: Feb. 4 & 6	Read: Ch. 4 – Canadian Economy ICSE Prep	<b>RQ4</b> - Feb. 4 at 12:30 PM
Week 6: Feb. 11 & 13	In Class Quiz 1 (attendance required) In Class Short Essay 1 (attendance required)	<b>ICQ1</b> – Feb. 11 <b>ICSE 1</b> – Feb. 13
Week 7: Feb. 18 & 21	Reading Week	
Week 8: Feb. 25 & 27	Read: Ch. 10 – Constitution, Challenges, and Charter	<b>RQ5</b> - Feb. 25 at 12:30 PM
Week 9: Mar. 4 & 6	Read: Ch. 12 – The Federal System	<b>RQ6</b> – Mar. 4 at 12:30 PM
Week 10: Mar. 11 & 13	Read: TSIB Reading 1 (pgs. 97 – 114)	<b>RQ7</b> - Mar. 11 at 12:30 PM
Week 11: Mar. 18 & 20	Read: TSIB Reading 2 (pgs. 114 - 136)	<b>RQ8</b> – Mar. 18 at 12:30 PM
Week 12: Mar. 25 & 27	Read: Ch. 16 - The Judicial System: Law and Courts	<b>RQ9</b> - Mar. 25 at 12:30 PM
Week 13: Apr. 1 & 3	In Class Short Essay 2 (attendance required) in Ewing 110 & Ewing 200   Guest Speaker: TBA	<b>ICSE 2</b> – Apr. 1 in Ewing 110 & 200
Week 14: Apr. 8 & 10	Course Review and Reflection In Class Quiz 2 (attendance required)	<b>ICQ 2</b> – Apr. 10 <b>Participation Self-Evaluation Quiz due Apr. 11</b>

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT
<p><b>Course Tour Bonus Quiz:</b> At the start the semester, students will be asked to complete the Course Tour Bonus Quiz. The quiz will be worth up to 1%.</p>	<p>1% (bonus)</p>
<p><b>Reading Quizzes (RQ):</b> 1% each; 9% total</p> <p>With each new chapter or reading students will be asked to complete an online multiple-choice quiz in the course D2L website (in the Quiz section). The quizzes will cover the reading for that chapter. They must be completed one hour <b>prior</b> to the start of that chapter's class. RQs will be due on Tuesdays.</p> <p>There will be 9 RQs throughout the semester; the lowest graded RQ will be dropped from each student's overall grade.</p>	<p>9%</p>
<p><b>Random Discussion Assignment (RDA):</b> 2% each; 6 RDAs; 5 RDAs graded.</p> <p>Randomly throughout the semester students will be asked to discuss and consider a question from the class discussion or weekly readings. Students will submit a brief written answer (after in class peer discussion) topic to the appropriate D2L space.</p> <p>Students will not know the dates of the RDA. 6 RDAs will occur (worth 2% each) throughout the semester. The five highest scoring RDAs will count towards the final grade. The scoring system will be simple: correct (100%); incomplete (0%). Attendance taken when RDAs occur.</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p><b>In Class Short Essays (ICSE):</b> 25% per ICSE</p> <p>Students will write two ICSE during the semester. These essays will be written in class on the designated days. Attendance on those days is required. <b>ICSE 2 will occur in Ewing 110 &amp; Ewing 200, Lansdowne campus computer labs.</b></p> <p>A selection of five questions will be posted at the beginning of each module. On the day of the in-class essay only three questions (from the original five) will be available to answer. Students will select one of the three questions. Students will have approximately 75 minutes to write their answer. For more information, see the D2L content page.</p>	<p>50%</p>
<p><b>In-Class Quizzes (ICQ):</b> 15% per ICQ</p> <p>In week six and in the final week of the semester students will complete an in class multiple-choice quiz. ICQ1 will cover the material from the beginning of the course up to the previous class. ICQ2 will draw questions from all the course material that follows ICQ1. Unlike the reading-quizzes, these quizzes will not be covered in the textbook. Attendance is required at each in-class quiz. Attendance will be taken. Students will have one hour to complete the quiz. ICQs will occur in class with Camosun laptop computers provided.</p>	<p>30%</p>
<p><b>Engagement Self-Evaluation Quiz</b></p> <p>All students will be asked to make a meaningful contribution to class activities and demonstrate engagement with the topic. There are numerous ways for students to express their engagement. See the D2L site for a full account of participation grading.</p>	<p>1%</p>
<p><b>TOTAL</b></p>	<p>100%</p>

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.  
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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Students will be expected to attend class regularly. Failure to regularly attend class may result in a failing grade.

## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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Katie Waterhouse is the department chair for Social Science (of which political science is one discipline). Students can contact her at [waterhousek@camosun.ca](mailto:waterhousek@camosun.ca) for any department concerns or inquiries.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>

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Technology Support

<http://camosun.ca/its>

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Writing Centre

<http://camosun.ca/writing-centre>

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If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

### Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the

course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures” (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College’s expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Changes to this syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.