
**School of Arts & Science
Social Sciences Department**

***Political Science 106
Canadian Politics***

Winter, 2005

Instructor:	Alan Danesh
Office hours:	Tuesdays & Thursdays 09:00-10:20
Location:	Paul 233
Phone:	370-3370
E-mail:	danesh@camosun.bc.ca

Intended Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course the student should be able to describe and explain and in some cases critically assess:

- (a) the nature of politics, government, and the state, with special reference to Canada,
- (b) the basics of the executive branch of government – the formal, political, and non-political elements, with special reference to the Prime Minister and the cabinet,
- (c) the basics of Parliament – its elements, functions, procedures, and problems,
- (d) the basics of the public service – its elements, functions, processes, and problems,
- (e) the basics of the justice system – types of law, the courts, the administration of justice, and the Charter,
- (f) the basics of political parties – their roots, ideologies, financing, leadership selection, and campaigning,
- (g) the basics of the electoral system, and possible alternatives, as well as the role of the press.

Required Texts

Michael Howlett *et al*

The Political Economy of Canada
Oxford University Press, 1999

Second Edition

Whittington & Williams

Canadian Politics in the 21st Century
Thomson/Nelson, 2004

Sixth Edition

Method of Instruction

The course will be based on a series of lectures, followed by seminar-type discussions in which the students are urged to participate.

Required Readings

The course will cover the texts in their near entirety. To facilitate matters for students, lectures will generally follow the outlines of the texts. Additional materials and illustrations, however, will be introduced during lectures and discussions and students should be prepared to take notes when materials not covered by the texts are thus presented. It is therefore essential for students to read in advance in order to know when it is necessary to take notes.

Basis of Student Assessment

Evaluation will be based on three in-class examinations, each accounting for one-third of the final grade. Each examination will consist of one essay question, chosen through a random selection process at the time of the exam, and will cover material from the readings, lectures, and discussions. All examinations will be graded anonymously and on the basis of their content quality and English proficiency.

In evaluating the examination papers the emphasis will be on understanding and analysis, rather than recitation of facts. Avoid memorizing sentences, in particular when it is not clear to you what the sentences mean. Papers indicating memorization will receive a grade of Zero. As for analysis, your learning strategy should be to understand the relationships among facts, not the facts alone. Another important aspect of your paper is illustration. After discussion and analysis, give examples from current or historical developments. This will show that you understand the concepts and theories and are able to apply them to the Canadian political system as tools for analysis. More specifically, the exam paper must:

1. show a full understanding of the thesis and the main arguments of the topic;
2. cover all the major components of the topic;
3. be organized and cohesive;
4. be written in clear English and communicate ideas effectively;
5. focus on the topic and avoid unrelated material from other topics or elsewhere;
6. avoid “fillers”, padding, repetitions, and vague generalities which can be used for any exam topic; and
7. illustrate the theory by giving appropriate examples, thus “applying” the theory to the Canadian political system.

Examination Procedures

The dates of the first and second examinations will be chosen in consultation with students in order to minimize the chances of their having to write several examinations in the same week. The final examination will be held during the exam week. All examinations must be written in the section of the course in which the student is officially registered.

A grade of Zero will be granted for absence during examination, unless the student produces a medical certificate confirming serious illness and writes the substitute exam within one week of recovery.

The examination papers for the first and second examinations must be claimed by the student in person during the class session in which the papers are returned or the following session.

Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B = 75 - 79%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 90 - 94%	B- = 70 - 74%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 85 - 89%	C+ = 65 - 69%	I = See Calendar for Details
B+ = 80 - 85%	C = 60 - 64%	AUD = Audit

W = Official withdrawal has taken place.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following acts:

- (i) giving, receiving, or obtaining unauthorized information during any type of examination or test;
- (ii) obtaining or providing unauthorized questions or answers relating to any examination or test prior to the time of the examination or test;
- (iii) asking or arranging for another person to take any examination or test in one's place;
- (iv) plagiarizing, that is, appropriating the work of another or parts or passages of another's writing, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them off as a product of one's own mind or manual skill.

Academic misconduct will result in a grade of "F" for the entire course. The students should note that in accordance with the college policy quoted above, mere access to unauthorized information (for example, texts or lecture notes) constitutes academic misconduct. It is not necessary for the instructor to prove that the information has been used by the student.

Tape-Recording in the Classroom

In order to ensure free and open discussion of controversial ideas by the students, tape-recording of the proceedings is not permitted in class. Exceptions, however, will be made for students who are visually impaired or are unable to write due to physical disability.

Procedure Changes

In order to deal with the day-to-day management of the course, new procedures or revisions to procedures may be implemented from time to time throughout the semester. Such procedures and revisions will be announced in class for two consecutive sessions before they are implemented. It is the responsibility of each student to keep informed of such developments.

All matters that are not covered by this course outline are governed by official college policies and procedures.

Course Content and Study Guide

Lectures will focus on explaining and answering the following topics and questions. These topics and questions, in turn, will constitute the source from which the examination questions will be chosen through a random selection process at the time of the exam.

01. Explain how a successful government operates working with the Parliament and include in your discussion the issues of electoral success versus policy success and parliamentary success, the prime ministerial powers, limits to governmental powers with regard to the principles of responsible government, ministerial accountability, and the institutionalized opposition and its opportunities, and the roles of government caucus and parliamentary committees. Canadian Politics 05-26
02. Examine the executive powers of the prime minister and the cabinet including management functions of directing, organizing, staffing and controlling, as well as policy functions, and discuss the prime ministerial power in situations of majority and minority government, and the leadership styles of the broker, the charismatic, and the collegial. Canadian Politics 31-53
03. Examine the role of politics versus administration, and review the golden age of the mandarins and their decline, the Trudeau , the Mulroney, and the Chretien eras, and the role of politicians and bureaucrats in the twenty-first century. Canadian Politics 57-81
04. Examine the rise of provincial power and the causes of decentralization, including federal institutions, geography, cultural diversity, Quebec nationalism, the party system, uneven economic development, jurisdictional conflict, and fiscal conflict, and review the mechanisms for resolution of conflicts, such as judicial review, cooperative federalism, executive federalism, and the first ministers' conferences. Canadian Politics 85-109

-
05. Examine the question of aboriginal self-government with reference to aboriginal rights, the right to self-government, inherent rights, the third order of government, the constitutional status of self-government agreements, comprehensive land claims, the substantive provisions of self-government agreements such as constitutions, citizenship, rights of non-aboriginals, jurisdiction, financing aboriginal governments and intergovernmental relations. Canadian Politics 111-131
 06. Examine the place of Canada in the North American continent with reference to federal political institutions, the politics of continental economic integration, identity and international relations, and the question of managing the continental relationship. Canadian Politics 137-162
 07. Examine the impact of globalization on political parties with reference to convergence, neoliberalism, and the third way, convergence and the party system, and discuss the role of parties in federal-provincial diplomacy, the new era of information and communication technology, the promises and pitfalls of party powers, and the influence on parties of ideas and identity politics. Canadian Politics 167-193
 08. Examine the role of interest groups and social movements in Canadian politics with reference to the theoretical perspectives on group politics; methods of influencing politicians, the bureaucracy, the courts, and the media; and the transnational connections of interest groups. Canadian Politics 213-229
 09. Examine the role of ideology and politics in governing the Canadian economy with reference to the dominant ideological paradigms such as the Keynesian perspective and politics and its breakdown in the 1970s, the rise of the neoliberal ideology and politics in the 1980s, and the emergence of politics of the surplus as a new governing paradigm. Canadian Politics 231-251
 10. Examine the impact of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms on Canadian society with reference to what the Charter has changed, the main Charter provisions, the major Charter decisions by the Supreme Court, and the Charter debates regarding the nature of Charter rights and the role of the judiciary. Canadian Politics 261-284
 11. Examine the role of Canada as a “middle-power” on the global scene and in the shadow of the American hyperpower first in the bipolar and then in the unipolar world, and discuss its economic and military integration with the U.S. and its impact on Canada’s foreign policy options. Canadian Politics 291-308
 12. Examine the political culture of Canada with reference to symbols and the language of politics, the relationship of political culture to political parties and ideologies, individualistic and holistic approaches to the study of political culture, the process of political socialization, and the views on the societal origins of political culture. Canadian Politics 317- 336

-
13. Examine the liberal political economy with reference to its fundamental tenets, contemporary debates regarding Keynesian-welfare, neoconservative, and post-Keynesian economics, and discuss the role of the state in the three perspectives and the application of these perspectives to Canadian political economy.
Political Economy 14-42
 14. Examine the socialist political economy with reference to its fundamental tenets, contemporary debates regarding dependency and regulation political economy and social democratic political economy, and discuss the role of the state in socialist theories and the application of these theories to Canadian political economy.
Political Economy 44-80
 15. Examine the staples political economy with reference to its fundamental tenets, the Innis approach, the Mackintosh approach, contemporary debates regarding the neo-Innisian approach, the new staples approach, and discuss the role of the state in staples political economy. Political Economy 81-99
 16. Examine the place of Canada in the international economic order with reference to the dominance of staples in Canada's economy, the authority of the World Trade Organization, the question of tariffs and non-tariff barriers (quotas and subsidies), the provisions of Canada-US Free Trade and the North American Free Trade Agreement, the impact of Free Trade on Canada, and the political implications of national-international integration. Political Economy 120-156
 17. Examine the structure and organization of Canadian labour with reference to the issues of politics and collective organization in capitalist society, Fordism and industrial legality, public-sector unions and the national questions and youth, and discuss globalization's impact on labour and competitiveness, and organizational changes in the politics and structure of unions and in collective bargaining.
Political Economy 206-236
 18. Examine the structure and organization of Canadian capital with reference to the role of capital in a capitalist economy, National Policy industrialization, concentration and international competition, global regionalism and competitiveness, restructuring and mergers and concentration, and the growth of business organizations. Political Economy 237-271
 19. Examine the implementation of monetary and fiscal management in Canada with reference to the rationales and techniques, fiscal and monetary policy in the 1945-75 period and after, and constraints on macroeconomic management.
Political Economy 272-290
 20. Examine how the Canadian state has intervened extensively in the market to promote industrial development, with reference to the rationales for industrial policy and techniques of industrial strategy, international trade measures, measures to control foreign investment, establishment of crown corporations, incentives for research and development, industrial and labour adjustment measures, industrial

strategies after 1960, and the constraints on formulation of industrial strategies.
Political Economy 291-318

Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed in the Course

Students are encouraged to utilize support services available at the Writing Centre to prepare for their essay exams.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8