



**School of Arts & Science**  
**SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT**  
**PSC 104-003**  
**Canadian Government**  
**2008F**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ \_\_\_\_\_

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.  
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

### **1. Instructor Information**

(a)	Instructor:	Randall Garrison		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday	10:30- 11:00, 13:00- 15:30 and 17:00- 18:00	
		Wednesday	10:30- 12:00	
		Thursday	10:30- 11:00	
		or by appointment		
(c)	Location:			
(d)	Phone:	370-3336	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	garrison@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

### **2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

*(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)*

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to describe and explain (and in some cases critically assess):

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.

### **3. Required Materials**

Texts: Robert Jackson and Doreen Jackson. Canadian Government in Transition. 4th edition. Toronto: Nelson, 2006.

Michael Whittington and Glen Williams, eds. Canadian Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Toronto: Nelson, 2008.

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

This course is set up as a survey course taught through two one and a half hour lecture/seminar sessions per week.

The following schedule will provide a guide to lecture topics, reading assignments, and important dates:

September 2nd	INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Jackson, Chapter 1.
September 9th	DEMOCRACY/ CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY Jackson, Chapter 6. (to page 146.)
September 16th	FEDERALISM/ the SENATE Jackson, Chapter 4. Whittington and Williams, Chapter 4.
September 23rd	HOUSE OF COMMONS Jackson, Chapter 7. (to page 174.) Whittington and Williams, Chapter 1.
September 30th	PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET GOVERNMENT Jackson, Chapter 6. (pp. 146-52.) Whittington and Williams, Chapter 2.
<b>October 7th</b>	<b>RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT DUE</b>
October 7th	ROLE OF MPs (no new reading) <b>Plus REVIEW</b>
<b>OCTOBER 14th</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAMINATION</b>
October 21st	REGIONALISM Jackson, Chapter 5. (pp. 121-129.) Whittington and Williams, Chapter 5.
October 28th	QUEBEC NATIONALISM Whittington and Williams, Chapter 13. Optional: Jackson, Chapter 5. (pp. 100-121.)
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	THE CONSTITUTION and CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE Jackson, Chapter 3.
November 11th	Remembrance Day Holiday
<b>November 18th</b>	<b>TERM PAPER DUE</b>
November 18th	POLITICAL ECONOMY AND ROLE OF GOVERNMENT Jackson, Chapter 8.

November 25th THE BUDGET PROCESS/ THE POLICY PROCESS  
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 3.

December 2nd ACCOUNTABILITY AND ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT/  
**plus Review**  
Jackson, Chapter 12.

December 8-16th FINAL EXAM WEEK

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

### 1. Research Assignment- 15%

This is a short written assignment which will allow you to explore sources of information which might be used to write a term paper in political science. You will need to find five sources of information on a term paper topic. The handout for the research paper will include a suggested list of topics. Your sources must include one book, one journal article or an article from a collection of readings, one newspaper article, one online source and a fifth of any type. For each you need to identify the author, the author's sources, and evaluate the reliability of the information. The finished assignment should be 200 to 400 words in length. Your research assignment is due **October 7th**.

### 2. Midterm Examination - 30%

A midterm examination will be given in class on **October 14th**. It will consist of three sections: Fill-In-the-Blanks, Short Answers, and Essay Questions. The exam will be based on material covered to date and will include material from lectures and required readings. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on October 7th.

### 3. Term Paper- 25%

Topics for term papers must be chosen and approved by the instructor by October 21st. Requirements for the term paper will be specified in a separate handout which will include a list of suggested topics. You may not submit the same paper for two different classes at Camosun. Joint papers for two classes are acceptable only with prior approval of both instructors. Work submitted must be your own. Plagiarism may result in a zero for the assignment. Term papers are due at the end of class on **November 18th**. There will be a penalty for late papers. No papers will be accepted after the last class on December 2nd.

### 4. Final Examination- 30%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **December 8th-16th**. The format will be the similar to the second examination, though the exam will be longer. The exam will cover material presented in the course as a whole, though there will be extra emphasis on material presented since the mid-term. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on December 2nd.

## 6. Grading System

*(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)*

### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7

77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

### Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3<sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

## 7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

### 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, at Student Services or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

### STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

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

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED