



**School of Arts & Science  
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT**

PSC 106 – 01 and 02  
Canadian Government  
2009 Winter

## 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:	Ross Lambertson		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 2:00-3:00; and by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul Building, room 226A		
(d)	Phone:	370-3373	Alternative Phone: (home) – 384-3390	
(e)	Email:	<a href="mailto:lamberts@camosun.bc.ca">lamberts@camosun.bc.ca</a> (note that I will not usually be accessing this from late Thursday afternoon until noon on Monday)		
(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 basics of the executive branch of government – the formal, political, and non-political elements, with special reference to the Prime Minister and the cabinet.
3. The basics of Parliament – its elements, functions, procedures, and problems.
4. The basics of the public service – its elements, functions, processes, and problems.
5. The basics of the justice system – types of law, the courts, the administration of justice, and the Charter.
6. The basics of political parties – their roots, ideologies, financing, leadership selection, and campaigning.
7. The basics of the electoral system, and possible alternatives, as well as the role of the press.

### 3. Required Materials

- (a) Beginning Reading: "Introduction to Basic Concepts – 2008-9" (for sale in the College bookstore). This is the same reading used last Fall for sections 01 and 02 of Political Science 104.

- (b) Textbook: Robert and Doreen Jackson, *Canadian Government in Transition*, 4th edition (for sale in the College bookstore). This is the same book used last Fall for sections 01 and 02 of Political Science.
- (c) Term Paper Reading: "Is a Mixed-Member Proportional Electoral System in Canada's Interest?", Issue 13 of Mark Charlton and Paul Barker, eds., *Crosscurrents: Contemporary Political Issues*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Scarborough: Nelson, 2006): 288-322. This is for sale in the College bookstore.

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

Lectures:

- Monday and Wednesday class (section 01) – 11:00-12:20 – Young 211
- Tuesday and Thursday class (section 02) – 11:00-12:20 – Young 211

#### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) Assignments – one term paper, worth 30% of the final grade; this paper can be rewritten and resubmitted after your instructor has graded it. The higher of the two grades will be official.
- (b) *Quizzes – a multiple choice test worth 20%, one worth 25%, and a final test worth 20% – for a total of 65%.*
- (c) *Exams – none during examination week.*
- (d) A project involving attending a political event or interviewing someone in politics – worth 5%.
- (d) Class participation – an optional 2%.

#### 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
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### 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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 <sup>d</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
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