



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

**PSC 106-03  
Canadian Politics  
2009W**

## **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:	Monday	15:00- 15:30	
		Tuesday	10:00- 11:30 and 13:00-14:30	
		Wednesday	11:00- 12:30 and 15:00-15:30	
		Thursday	10:00- 11:30	
		Or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Y205		
(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 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) 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 course material is divided into three sections marked by examinations.

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

January 5/7th	INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS Jackson, Chapters 1 and 2.
January 12/14th	ELECTORAL SYSTEMS Whittington and Williams, Chapter 7.
January 19/21st	ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGNS Jackson, Chapter 11.
January 26/ 28th	MEDIA, PUBLIC OPINION, AND PARTICIPATION Whittington and Williams, Chapter 14. Plus <b>Review</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 2nd</b>	<b>FIRST EXAMINATION</b>
February 4th	CANADIAN POLITICAL CULTURE Whittington and Williams, Chapter 10.
February 9/11th	POLITICAL PARTIES AND VOTING BEHAVIOUR Whittington and Williams, Chapter 6.
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	WOMEN AND POLITICS Whittington and Williams, Chapter 11.
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	RACE AND POLITICS Whittington and Williams, Chapter 12.
February 23rd	Term Paper Registration and Research Discussion
February 25th	IDEOLOGY AND POLITICS Jackson, Chapter 10.
March 2/4/9th	POLITICAL PARTIES AND IDEOLOGY (no new reading) <b>plus Review</b>

<b>MARCH 11th</b>	<b>SECOND EXAMINATION</b>
March 16/18th	PARLIAMENT AND THE COURTS Whittington and Williams, Chapter 9.
March 23/25th	PARLIAMENT AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS Jackson, Chapter 7.
<b>March 25th</b>	<b>TERM PAPER DUE</b>
March 30th	PARLIAMENT AND INTEREST GROUPS Whittington and Williams, Chapter 8.
April 1/ 6th	CURRENT POLITICAL ISSUES I / 11 no new reading <b>plus Review</b>
<b>APRIL 8th</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Marks will be determined on the basis of the following work:

### **a. First Examination- 20%**

A preliminary exam will be held in class on **February 2nd**. It will consist of Fill-In-the-Blanks, Short Answers, and Essay Questions. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on January 28th. This examination will serve as a preview of the other examinations in this course and of the level of performance expected in the course. The format of the three examinations will be similar and this preliminary examination should be used as a guide in evaluating the effort and skills required for successful completion of this course in the areas of reading, listening, note-taking, and exam-writing.

### **b. Second Examination- 30%**

A second examination will be given in class on **March 11th**. 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 March 9th.

### **c. Term Paper- 30%**

Topics for term papers must be chosen and approved by the instructor **by February 23rd**. 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 **March 25th**. There will be a penalty for late papers. No papers will be accepted after the last class on April 8th.

### **d. Final Examination- 20%**

A final examination will be given during the last week of classes on **April 8th**. The format will be the similar to the second examination. The exam will material presented since the mid-term. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on April 6th.

## 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. (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.)
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

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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