



COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/psc.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Randall Garrison		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday & Thursday	11:30- 13:00	
		Wednesday	11:30- 12:30	
		Friday	12:30- 13:30	
(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 these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

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. 5th edition. Toronto: Nelson, 2010.

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

- (b) Other: None

4. Course Content and Schedule

September 9/11th INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS
Jackson, Chapters 1 and 2.

September 16/18th ELECTORAL SYSTEMS
Jackson, Chapter 11.

September 23/25th ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGNS
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 7.

Sept 30/ Oct 2nd MEDIA, PUBLIC OPINION, AND PARTICIPATION
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 14.
Plus **Review**

OCTOBER 7th FIRST EXAMINATION

October 9th CANADIAN POLITICAL CULTURE
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 10.

October 14/16th POLITICAL PARTIES AND VOTING BEHAVIOUR
Jackson, Chapter 10, to p 224.
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 6.

October 21st WOMEN AND POLITICS
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 11.

October 23rd IDEOLOGY AND POLITICS
Jackson, Chapter 2, pp. 22-26. (again)

October 23rd Term Paper Registration and Research Discussion

Oct 28/ 30/ Nov 4 POLITICAL PARTIES AND IDEOLOGY
(no new reading)
plus Review

NOVEMBER 6th SECOND EXAMINATION

November 11th Remembrance Day- no class

November 13/18th RACE AND POLITICS
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 12.

November 27th TERM PAPER DUE

November 20/25th PARLIAMENT AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS
Jackson, Chapter 7.

November 27th PARLIAMENT AND INTEREST GROUPS
Jackson, Chapter 10, pp. 224-232.
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 8.

December 2/ 4th PARLIAMENT AND THE COURTS
Whittington and Williams, Chapter 9.

December 9/11th CURRENT POLITICAL ISSUES I and II
no new reading
plus Review

DECEMBER 14th-21st FINAL EXAM WEEK

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

a. First Examination- 20%

A preliminary exam will be held in class on **October 7th**. 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 October 2nd. 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- 20%

A second examination will be given in class on **November 6th**. 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 November 4th.

c. Term Paper- 30%

Topics for term papers must be chosen and approved by the instructor by **October 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 **November 27th**. There will be a penalty for late papers. No papers will be accepted after class on December 4th.

d. Final Examination- 30%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **December 14th- 21st**. The format will be the similar to the previous examinations, though the final 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 second exam. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on December 11th.

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College 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 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 3rd 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.
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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.

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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

[ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED](#)