

# School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT PSC 104 - 001 and 002 Canadian Government Fall 2010 (Sep-Dec)

# **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 through Friday 11:30- 13:00		
		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 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 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

(a) Texts: Robert Jackson and Doreen Jackson. <u>Canadian Government in Transition</u>. 5th edition. Toronto: Nelson, 2010.

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

(b) Other: None

# 4. Course Content and Schedule

September 8/10th INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Jackson, Chapters 1 and 2.

September 15/17th DEMOCRACY/ CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

Jackson, Chapter 6, p. 123-125.

September 22/24th PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET GOVERNMENT

Jackson, Chapter 6.

Whittington and Williams, Chapter 2.

Sept 29/Oct 1st HOUSE OF COMMONS

Jackson, Chapter 7. (to page 161.) Whittington and Williams, Chapter 1.

October 6th ROLE OF MPs

plus Review

(no new reading)

OCTOBER 8th FIRST EXAMINATION

October 13th THE SENATE

Jackson, pp. 161-166.

October 15th FEDERALISM

Jackson, Chapter 4.

Whittington and Williams, Chapter 4.

October 20/22nd REGIONALISM

Jackson, Chapter 5. (pp. 114-120) Whittington and Williams, Chapter 5.

October 22nd RESEARCH TOPICS DUE

October 27/29th QUEBEC NATIONALISM

Whittington and Williams, Chapter 13. Optional: Jackson, Chapter 5. (pp. 94-114)

November 3/5th THE CONSTITUTION and CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

plus Review

Jackson, Chapter 3.

NOVEMBER 10th SECOND EXAMINATION

November 12/17th POLITICAL ECONOMY AND ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

Jackson, Chapter 8.

November 19th The BUDGET PROCESS

(no new reading)

November 24th The POLICY PROCESS: Gun Control

(handout)

November 26th The POLICY PROCESS: Foreign Affairs and Defence

Jackson, Chapter 2, pp. 46-50.

NOVEMBER 26th TERM PAPER DUE

December 1/3rd PARLIAMENT AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Jackson, Chapter 7.

December 8th ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

Jackson, Chapter 12.

December 10th Course Review

DECEMBER 13-21st FINAL EXAM WEEK

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

# a. First Examination- 20%

A preliminary exam will be held in class on **October 8th**. 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 6th. 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 **November 10th**. 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 5th.

# c. Term Paper- 30%

Topics for term papers must be chosen and registered with the instructor **by October 22nd**. 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 26th**. There will be a penalty for late papers. No papers will be accepted after the last class on December 10th.

#### d. Final Examination- 20%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **December 13th-21st**. 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 the last class on December 10th.

## 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	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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	Incomplete: 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	In progress: 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	Compulsory Withdrawal: 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 <a href="mailto:camosun.ca">camosun.ca</a>.

### 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