


|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>School of Arts &amp; Science</b><br/> <b>SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</b><br/> <b>PSC 105</b><br/> <b>Introduction to Politics</b><br/> <b>Fall, 2010 – section 001 and 002</b></p> |
|---|---|

## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. Instructor Information

|     |               |   |                                  |  |
|-----|---------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| (a) | Instructor:   | Ross Lambertson   |                                  |  |
| (b) | Office Hours: | Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 2:30-3:30; and by appointment |                                  |  |
| (c) | Location:     | Paul 226A   |                                  |  |
| (d) | Phone:        | 370-3373  | Alternative (home) –<br>384-3390 |  |
| (e) | Email:        | <a href="mailto:lamberts@camosun.bc.ca">lamberts@camosun.bc.ca</a>      |                                  |  |
| (f) | Website:      | TBA   |                                  |  |

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, each student will be able to:

1. Describe the nature of Political Science, including key concepts: politics, governments, states, political cultures, and ideologies.
2. Identify basic governmental structures: constitutions, federal and unitary systems, parliamentary and presidential systems, politics and governance at the world level.
3. Identify basic political actors: political parties, interest groups, social movements, the news media.
4. Critically evaluate the relationship between politics and the economy, the value of democracy (in both the developed and developing nations), and the future of politics at the world level.

### 3. Required Materials – for sale at the Camosun bookstore

**Textbook:** Eric Mintz, David Close, and Osvaldo Croci, *Politics, Power and the Common Good*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009).

**Term Paper Readings:** Mark Kingwell, “The Shout Doctrine,” *The Walrus*, June 16 2010; Jeffrey Simpson, “Chicago conciliation hasn’t worked in the White House,” *Globe and Mail*, May 18, 2010; Preston Manning, “The answer to our unruly Question Period?” *Globe and Mail*, May 21, 2010. (These are available in hard copy in libraries and on the Internet, but you can also ask for “**PSC 105 Term Paper Readings**” at the Camosun Library reserve desk.)

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

Classes are: Monday/Wednesday (section 01) or Tuesday/Thursday (section 02) at 11:30 to 12:50 in Young 211.

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

- (a) Term paper – 30% (this paper can be rewritten and resubmitted after your instructor has graded it. The higher of the two grades will be official.)
- (b) Quizzes – 60% (three multiple choice tests, each worth 20%).
- (c) Exams – none during examination week.

- (d) Seminar participation – 5% (if you prepare for, and attend, at least 15 seminars)
- (e) Project – 5% (observing politics in action; see explanation later in this course outline).
- (f) Class participation – an extra 2% (only for students who contribute in a very positive way to the classroom situation (speaking up, asking questions, constructively debating with the teacher). Note that this means that any student who is too shy to speak out could still in theory achieve a perfect grade.

## 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](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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED