

	<p><i>School of Arts &amp; Science</i>  <b>SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</b></p> <p><b>PSC 105: sections 01 and 02</b>  <b>Introduction to Politics</b>  <b>2011 - Fall</b></p>
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## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. Instructor Information:

(a)	Instructor:	Ross Lambertson		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 3:00-3:50; and by appointment.		
(c)	Location:	Paul 226A		
(d)	Phone:	370-3373	Alternative (home) – 384-3390	
(e)	Email:	<a href="mailto:lamberts@camosun.bc.ca">lamberts@camosun.bc.ca</a> (I will not usually be accessing this from late Thursday afternoon until Monday.)		
(f)	Website:	<a href="http://lambertson.wordpress.com">http://lambertson.wordpress.com</a>		

### 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*, 3rd ed. (Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012). Note that this edition is substantially different from the earlier edition that we used in the fall of 2010 and the winter of 2011. You should not try to get by with a secondhand copy of the second edition.

This new edition is for sale in the college bookstore, but it is also offered by CourseSmart as an e-textbook; the company claims that the printed version is \$104.95 but their version is only \$33.58. If you are interested in getting your textbook this way (and your instructor has no idea is this would be a good idea), you can begin by going to: <http://www.coursesmart.com/0132482444/?a=1773944>.

## Term Paper Reading:

“The Arab Spring – Tunisia.” This consists of two readings: Steve Coll, “The Casbah Coalition: Tunisia’s Second Revolution,” *The New Yorker*, April 4, 2011: 34-40; Jeffrey Goldberg, “Danger: Falling Tyrants,” *The Atlantic*, June 2011: 46-54. This is available in a course pack at the college bookstore, but you can probably access both articles for free through the Camosun library using [Academic Search Complete - EBSCO](#) (ask a librarian for help).

### 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. If you miss a class, you can come to the other section.

### 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) Class attendance – 5% (for the full 5 points you need to attend at least 90% of the classes).
- (e) Project – 5% (observing politics in action; see the explanation later in this course outline).
- (f) Class participation – an extra 2% (only for students who contribute in a very positive way to the lectures (asking questions, constructively debating with the teacher). Any student who is too shy to speak out can still in theory achieve a perfect grade.

### 6. Grading System

#### 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. (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**

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.