

	<p><i>School of Arts & Science</i> SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>PSC 105 Introduction to Political Science Fall 2012</p>
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PSC 105 – Introduction to Political Science
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INSTRUCTOR: Daniel Reeve

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OFFICE HOURS: 11:30 – 12:30 Tuesday & Thursdays (other times can be arranged)

SCHEDULE: Tuesdays 10:00 – 11:20 & Thursdays 10:00 – 11:20 PM in Young 211

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Eric Mintz, David Close, and Osvaldo Croci, *Politics, Power and the Common Good*, 3rd ed. (Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012).

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

As a comprehensive introduction, this course explores the major concepts, issues and institutions of the process of politics and various methodologies used in understanding the political world.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a foundation in the major themes of political science. Students will leave this course with a better appreciation of the ideas, actors and institutions that shape their everyday life. This newfound knowledge will not only fortify students in their pursuit of the sub-disciplines of political science such as comparative politics, political theory, and international relations, but also prove valuable in the study of business, law, philosophy, and history among others. The final goal of this course is to help students begin the exploration of a vastly complex and interrelated world through the insightful lens of the ‘master discipline’.

EVALUATION:

Students will be evaluated according to the normal procedures and standards set by Camosun College. If exams or assignment deadlines are missed, medical or legal documentation will be required in order to write make-up exams or have assignment deadlines extended. **Letter grades** will be assigned according to the standard Camosun College distribution of marks:

A+	90-100	B+	77-79	C+	65-69		
A	85-89	B	73-76	C	60-64	F	< 50
A-	80-84	B-	70-72	D	50-59		

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

1. **Quiz One** - 15%

The first exam will be held in class on **Thursday October 4th**. It will consist of Fill-In-the-Blanks, True / False, Multiple Choice, and Short Answers questions. The exam will cover material from lectures and required readings. This first examination will serve as a preview of the other examinations in this course and of the level of performance expected in the course. *A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on October 2nd.*

2. **Term Paper** - 20%

A separate handout for this assignment will be provided. The term paper is due **Tuesday October 30th** at the beginning of class. Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after November 15th.

3. **Quiz Two** - 20%

A second examination will be given in class on **Thursday November 8th**. The format will be similar to the first exam. The exam will be based on material covered since the first exam and will include material from lectures and required readings. *A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on Tuesday November 6th.*

4. **Quiz Three** - 15%

A third examination will be given in class on **Thursday November 29th**. The format will be similar to the first two exams. The exam will be based on material covered since the second quiz and will include material from lectures and required readings. *There will be a review session on Tuesday November 27th.*

5. **Quiz Four** – 20%

A final examination will be held at some point over the exam period. Students will be informed as soon as possible regarding the exact date, time and location. The format will be different from other exams. This exam will cover material presented in the course as a whole, with an emphasis on longer answer questions. *There will be a brief review after quiz three.*

6. **Weekly Reading Assignments** – 5%

Each week students will be asked to take an online multiple choice quiz that accompanies the textbook. The quizzes will cover the reading for the week (a chapter) and must be completed **prior** to the start of that week's first class. The online submission window will close one hour prior to the start of that week's class – Tuesdays at 9:00 AM.

7. **Participation** - 5%

All students will be asked to make a meaningful contribution to class discussions. Quality of participation is far more prized than quantity of comments.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE:

This course is a survey course taught twice per week. The main topics to be covered in this course will be those necessary to understand both the concept of politics and its practice. Topics to be covered will be divided into three sections:

This schedule will provide a guide to lecture topics, assignments, and quiz dates:

Week 1: September 4 & 6	Create a classroom constitution Hand out of course outline Essay Writing 101
Week 2: September 11 & 13	Ch. 1 - Understanding Politics
Week 3: September 18 & 20	Ch. 2 - The Nation-State and Globalization
Week 4: September 25 & 27	Ch. 3. – Freedom, Equality, and Democracy
Week 5: October 2 & 4	<i>Quiz 1 Review – October 2</i> QUIZ 1 – October 4
Week 6: October 9 & 11	Ch. 4 – Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, and Fascism
Week 7: October 16 & 18	Ch. 5 – Newer Perspectives: Feminism and Environmentalism
Week 8: October 23 & 25	Ch. 7 – Political Parties
Week 9: Oct. 30 & Nov. 1	Ch. 8 – Elections, Electoral Systems, and Voting Behaviour TERM PAPER DUE – Tuesday October 30 (At the beginning of class)
Week 9: November 6 & 8	<i>Quiz 2 Review – November 6</i> QUIZ 2 – November 8
Week 10: November 13 & 15	Ch. 17 – Politics and Development in the World’s Poorer Countries
Week 11: November 20 & 22	Ch. 18 – Politics and Governance at the Global Level
Week 12: November 27 & 29	<i>Quiz 3 Review – November 27</i> QUIZ 3 – November 29 (brief Quiz 4 Review follows)
Week 13: December 7 - 17	QUIZ 4 – TBA (between December 5 – 10, 17, 18)