



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

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|-----|---------------|--|
| (a) | Instructor: | Daniel Reeve |
| (b) | Office Hours: | 3:00 – 4:00PM Monday & Wednesday (other times can be arranged) |
| (c) | Location: | Paul 226A |
| (d) | Phone: | 250-370-3373 |
| (e) | Email: | reeved@camosun.ca |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to describe and explain (and in some cases critically assess):

1. Describe the nature of political science, including key concepts: politics, governments, states, political cultures, and ideologies.
2. Identify basic governmental structures and processes: constitutions, federal and unitary systems, parliamentary and presidential systems, elections, politics and governance at the world level.
3. Identify basic political actors: political parties, interest groups, social movements, and the news media.
4. Describe 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.
5. Critically evaluate some aspect of political life. (Topics may change from semester to semester, but could consist of such things as democracy, human rights, civil disobedience, social democracy, political radicalism, etc.)

3. Required Materials

Select chapters from: Eric Mintz, David Close, and Osvaldo Croci, *Politics, Power and the Common Good*, 4th ed. (Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2014).

4. Course Content and Schedule

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.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Week 1: January 9 & 11 | Introductions, D2L, Eduroam, Poll Everywhere & Assignments Essay Writing Workshop |
| Week 2: January 16 & 18 | Ch. 1 - Understanding Politics |
| Week 3: January 23 & 25 | Ch. 2 - The Nation-State SE1: Due Jan. 26 at 11:59 PM |
| Week 4: Jan. 30 & Feb. 1 | Ch. 3. – Liberalism, Conservatism & Socialism |
| Week 5: February 6 & 8 | Ch. 4 – Feminism and Environmentalism SE 2: Due Feb. 9 at 11:59 PM. |
| Week 6: February 13 & 15 | Ch. 6 – Political Parties |
| Week 7: February 20 & 22 | Reading Break (No classes this week) |
| Week 8: Feb. 27 & March 1 | Ch. 7 – Elections, Electoral Systems, and Voting SE 3: Due March 2 at 11:59 PM |
| Week 9: March 6 & 8 | Ch. 5 – Political Culture, Socialization, & Participation Debate Short Essay: Due March 9 at 11:59 PM |
| Week 10: March 13 & 15 | <i>Mandatory Debate Prep Class # 1 – March 13th</i> Guest Speaker TBA – March 15 No RQ this week. Draft of Term Paper due March 16 at 11:59 PM |
| Week 11: March 20 & 22 | Ch. 17 – Global Inequality and Development |
| Week 12: March 27 & 29 | Ch. 18 – Politics and Governance at the Global Level SE 4: Due March 30 at 11:59 PM |
| Week 13: April 3 & 5 | End of Semester Review Session Guest Speaker 2 – TBA – April 5 Term Paper due April 6 at 11:59 PM |
| Week 14: April 10 - 12 | <i>Mandatory Debate Prep Class # 2 – April 10</i> In Class Debate – April 12 |
| Take Home Final | Take Home Final Posted at noon on April 18, due by noon on April 21 |

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

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

1. Reading Quizzes – 10%

With each new chapter students will be asked to take an online multiple choice quiz that accompanies the textbook. The quizzes will cover the reading for that week (a chapter) and must be completed **prior** to the start of that week's class. The online submission window will close one hour prior to the start of that week's first class – Monday at 2:00 PM.

3. Short Essays: 15% (5% per assignment)

Students (individually or as part of a group) will write a minimum of three short essays of no more than 250 words each. A choice of four questions will be posted at the start of each section. Students / groups will choose from one of the four questions. Students or groups may submit up to four SEs with the three highest grades counting towards their final grade. Papers should be just as well-crafted as a standard essay. Late assignments will be penalized 25% per day. For more information, see the Assignment section of the D2L content page.

4. Term Paper - 25%

The term paper must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Thursday **April 6th** to the course's D2L Essay Dropbox. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day. No assignments will be accepted after April 10th. For more information, see the Assignment section of the D2L content page

5. Debate – 15% (7.5% Debate Short Essay & 7.5% Debate Group Performance)

The mandatory debate essay of no more than 250 words is due **Thursday March 9th** at 11:59 PM. For the group part of the project, students will register (through the D2L) into one of three groups (Pro / Con and Judges). Along with two mandatory prep days, the mandatory in class debate will occur on Wednesday **April 12th**. For more details, see the Assignment section of the D2L content page.

6. Engagement Grade - 5%

All students will be asked to make a meaningful contribution to class activities and demonstrate engagement with topic. There are numerous ways for students to express their engagement. See the D2L site for a full account of participation grading.

7. Take Home Final – 30%

A final exam will consist of two take home essays due at **noon** on Thursday **April 21st**. Students (no groups for this project) will have **72 hours** to compose two essays of no more than 500 words in length. Students will answer two short essay questions (from a choice of six) which draws from themes covered since the beginning of the semester. Essays will be submitted through the course's Drop box. For more information, see the Assignment section of the D2L content page.

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. <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. |

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.