



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of Social Sciences

PSC-104-002
Canadian Politics
Fall 2018

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is available on the web @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/psc.html>

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

- (a) **Instructor:** Daniel Reeve
- (b) **Office hours:** Mondays 2:30 – 3:30 & Wednesdays 11:30 – 12:30, 2:30 – 3:30, Fridays 10:15 – 11:15 (other times can be arranged)
- (c) **Location:** Paul 226A
- (d) **Phone:** 250.370.3373
- (e) **E-mail:** reeved@camosun.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to (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

Mintz, Eric et al. *Canada's Politics: Democracy, Diversity, and Good Government* (3rd Edition). Toronto: Pearson, 2017.

Copies of this work will be available in the bookstore. Two copies will also be available for short term access through the reserve section of the library.

Additional course readings will be available online through the course D2L site.

4. Course Content and Schedule:

Week 1: September 5	Introductions Review course outline, assignments, D2L, & technology
Week 2: September 10 & 12	Ch. 1 - Introduction <i>RQ1 – Due Sept. 10 by 3:00 PM</i>
Week 3: September 17 & 19	Ch. 2 - The Context of Canadian Politics <i>RQ2 – Due Sept. 17 by 3:00 PM</i>
Week 4: September 24 & 26	Durham Report, Recommendations of Assimilation & Union (Part 1 & 2) SE1: Due September 27 at 11:59 PM
Week 5: October 1 & 3	Ch. 3 – Canada and the Challenge of Cultural Diversity <i>RQ3 – Due Oct. 1 by 3:00 PM</i>
Week 6: October 10	Ch. 4 – Canadian Economy and Challenges of Inequality <i>RQ 4 – Due Oct. 10 by 3:00 PM</i>
Week 7: October 15 & 17	Ch. 4 Continued <i>RQ5</i> Extra Reading: <i>The Birth of a New American Aristocracy</i> SE2: Due Oct. 18 at 11:59 PM
Week 8: October 22 & 24	Ch. 10 – Constitution, Challenges, and Charter <i>RQ 6 – Due Oct 22 by 3:00 PM</i>
Week 9: October 29 & 31	Ch. 11 – Aboriginal Rights and Governance <i>RQ7 – Due Oct. 29 by 3:00 PM</i>
Week 10: November 5 & 7	Read: <i>Constitution Act 1982</i> – Sections 25 & 35: Aboriginal & Treaty rights <i>RQ8 – Due Nov. 5 by 3:00 PM</i> Guest Speaker - TBA SE3: Due Nov. 8 at 11:59 PM
Week 11: November 14	Website Prep Session #1 - Nov. 14 (Mandatory) Website Project: Individual Short Essay due Nov. 13 at 11:59 PM
Week 12: November 19 & 21	Ch. 12 – The Federal System <i>RQ 9 – Due Nov. 19 by 3:00 PM</i> WP: Work Plan due Nov. 23 at 11:59 PM
Week 13: November 26 & 28	Ch. 16 - The Judicial System: Law and Courts <i>RQ 10 – Due November 26 by 3:00 PM</i> SE4: Due December 1 at 11:59 PM

Week 14: December 3 & 5

2nd Website Prep Session – Dec. 3 (Mandatory)

In Class Website Showcase- Dec. 5 (Mandatory)

Take Home Final Exam

(Posted noon December 10, closes noon December 13)

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 or reading 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 – typically **11:30 AM** on Mondays. There will be 10 reading quizzes throughout the semester.

3. **Short Essays:** 30% (10% 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. **Website Project**– 25% (10% Individual Short Essay, 5% Group Work Plan, 10% Website Presentation)

Three-part project asks students to select key idea from course (list provided) and as a group create a website that highlights key ideas from that theme. Individually students will respond with a short essay to a specific question that relates to their topic area. The short essay will run approximately 250 words. It is due **November 13** at 11:59 PM. Groups will submit a work plan that explains how they will divide the project among their colleagues. The work plan will explain content and page layout. It will serve as a blue-print for the website. It is due **November 23** at 11:59 PM. Along with two mandatory prep days, groups will showcase their completed websites on the last day of class **December 5**. For more details, see the Website Page Assignment section of the D2L content page.

5. **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.

6. **Take Home Final** – 30%

A final exam will consist of two take home essays due at **noon** on **Thursday December 13**. 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)
- Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

The course will use a variety of digital technology. Access to free Wi-Fi – via Camosun’s free student Wi-Fi is highly recommended.

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. Grading Systems <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/policies.php>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. 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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. 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 at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/E-1.5.pdf> 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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