



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Arts & Science**  
**Department of Social Sciences**

**PSC-105-001**  
**Introduction to Politics**  
**Fall 2018**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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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.

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**1. Instructor Information**

- (a) **Instructor:** Daniel Reeve
- (b) **Office hours:** Wednesday and Fridays from 10:15 – 11:15 AM (or via appointment)
- (c) **Location:** Paul 226A, Lansdowne Campus
- (d) **Phone:** 250.370.3373
- (e) **E-mail:** [reeved@camosun.ca](mailto:reeved@camosun.ca)

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course a 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 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*, 5th ed. (Toronto: Pearson, 2018).

A course pack created from the necessary chapters will be available at the Lansdowne Campus book store as soon as possible. Copies of the textbook will soon (mid-September) be available at the reserve desk of the school's library.

## 4. Course Content and Schedule

### ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE:

Week 1: Sept. 5 & 7	Introductions, D2L, Eduroam, & Thought Bubble Project Writing Workshop
Week 2: Sept. 12 & 14	Ch. 1 - Understanding Politics <i>RQ1 – Due Sept. 12 by 7:30 AM</i>
Week 3: Sept. 19 & 21	Ch. 2 - The Nation-State and Globalization <i>RQ2 – Due Sept. 19 by 7:30 AM</i> <b>SE1: Due Sept 23 at 11:59 PM</b>
Week 4: Sept. 26 & 28	Ch. 3. – Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism & Fascism <i>RQ3 – Due Sept. 26 by 7:30 AM</i>
Week 5: Oct. 3 & 5	Ch. 3 Continued Guest Speaker - TBA
Week 6: Oct. 10 & 12	Ch. 4 – Feminism and Environmentalism <i>RQ4 – Due Oct. 10 by 7:30 AM</i> <b>SE2: Due Oct. 14 at 11:59 PM</b>
Week 7: Oct. 17 & 19	Ch. 5 – Political Culture, Participation & Socialization <i>RQ5 – Due Oct. 17 by 7:30 AM</i>
Week 8: Oct. 24 & 26	Ch. 6 – Political Parties <i>RQ6 – Due Oct. 24 by 7:30 AM</i>
Week 9: Oct. 31 & Nov. 2	Thought Bubble Project          Prep Session #1 (Oct. 31) <b>Individual Thought Bubble Essay due Oct. 30 at 11:59 PM</b> Ch. 7 – Elections, Electoral Systems, and Voting <i>RQ7 – Due Nov. 2 by 7:30 AM</i>
Week 9: Nov. 7 & 9	Ch. 7 Continued. <b>SE3: Due Nov. 11 at 11:59 PM</b>
Week 10: Nov. 14 & 16	Ch. 8 – Politics and Development in the “3rd World” <i>RQ8 – Due Nov. 14 7 by 7:30 AM</i> Optional SE re-write due by 11:59 on November 20.
Week 11: Nov. 21 & 23	Ch. 9 – Politics and Governance at the Global Level <i>RQ9 – Due Nov. 21 by 7:30 AM</i> <b>SE4: Due Nov. 25 at 11:59 PM</b>
Week 12: Nov. 28 & 30	Thought Bubble Project Prep Session #2 (Nov. 28) <b>Thought Bubble Group Project due Nov. 29 at 11:59 PM</b> Thought Bubble Demonstration & Evaluation (Nov. 30)
Week 13: Dec. 5 & 7	Course Review and Final Preparation (Dec. 5) Final (location TBA)

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

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

### 1. Reading Quizzes: 10% (1.1% per quiz)

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 a chapter and must be completed **prior** to the start of that week's class. Students may take each quiz twice. The online submission window will close one hour prior to the start of that class – typically Wednesday at 7:30 AM (except chapter 7, where the reading quiz falls on Friday November 2) .

### 2. Short Essays: 40% (10% per assignment)

Students (individually or as part of a group) will write a four short essays of approximately 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. Papers should be just as well-crafted as a standard essay. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day. Students will be permitted to rewrite one of the first two submitted short essays. For more information, see the Assignment section of the D2L content page.

### 3. Thought Bubble Project: 30% (15% Individual submission, 15% Group submission)

Students will register (through the D2L) into one of six groups. Student, individually, will submit a 360° image (via Google Cardboard Camera app) and craft a short description of how the image captures the idea. As a group, students will select one 360° image that best represents the complexity of the idea they wish to explain. Groups will then add additional images, in image textboxes, sounds, and potentially video to craft an interactive thought bubble. Students will attend two prep days and a presentation day (all days mandatory in order to receive full marks for this part of the project). The presentation day will occur on Friday November 29th. For more details, see the Assignment section of the D2L content page.

### 4. 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.

### 5. Final – 15%

A final exam will consist of one short essay answer from a choice of three essay topics. Students will have 1.5 hours to compose their answers. Students will answer their question which draws from themes covered since the beginning of the semester. Students will submit their Final essay through the Final drop box. The final will occur on the final day of class in a computer lab on campus. 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

## 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://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

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://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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.
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.