

**Political Science 1020E Section 550
Huron at Western
Introduction to Political Science
2021-2022 Course Outline**

COURSE DETAILS

Antirequisites:

The former Politics 021F - 026G series

Lectures:

Monday 10:30-12:30 with Dr. Bradford & Dr. Scorgie

Seminars:

Seminar 552: Thursday 2:30-3:30

Seminar 553: Thursday 4:30-5:30.

Seminar 554: Monday 9:30-10:30.

Seminar 555: Monday 12:30-1:30.

Instructor: Dr. Neil Bradford

Location: H114

Office Hours: Mondays 2:30-3:30 and Wednesdays 1:30-3:00

Email: bradford@uwo.ca

Instructor: Dr. Lindsay Scorgie

Location: A210

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30 and Wednesdays 10:00-11:00

E-mail: lscorgi@uwo.ca

Course Description:

An introduction to the study of politics. The course focuses on ideas (including politics, power, democracy, justice, freedom), ideologies (including liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism), institutions (including the nation state, constitutions, legislatures, executives, the judiciary), political mobilization (including participation, elections, parties, interest groups), and research skills, emphasizing Canadian, comparative, and international examples.

With the extraordinary circumstances of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, calls for Indigenous reconciliation and racial justice, and a likely Canadian federal election, our political studies this year will emphasize the political dynamics of 'crisis and change'.

Learning Objectives:

Students will have definitional knowledge and understanding of political science, a rudimentary knowledge and understanding of the principal theories of political analysis, a preliminary knowledge and understanding of the principal fields of political analysis, a preliminary knowledge and appreciation of political science in the context of other disciplines, and an ability to search for, gather, review, and evaluate materials relevant to the core substantive learning objectives of

Political Science 1020E.

Required Books:

Eric Mintz, David Close, and Osvaldo Croci (2019). *Politics, Power and the Common Good*. Toronto: Pearson Canada. This is the 6th edition. Please do not use earlier editions.

(This is our core textbook that builds the intellectual foundation for the discipline of Political Science)

Ben Rhodes (2021). *After the Fall: Being American in the World We Made*. New York: Random House.

(This book is a fascinating political memoir from a former global policy-maker and supplements our formal textbook with insights and reflections from the real world of politics today)

Structure:

Political Science 1020E is an introductory course in the study of politics. We will cover a wide variety of topics, including political ideologies, Canadian and comparative politics, international politics, democratic theory, and public policy.

There are four seminar/tutorial groups to which students are assigned. The seminars will be project-driven, with substantial group work each term. Details on each term's seminar agenda will be provided in early September.

Lectures will begin promptly at 10:30 with the first hour consisting of a Power Point-guided lecture delivered by the Professor. The second hour will provide the students with an opportunity to discuss the lecture and assigned readings in more depth with their peers. Students will typically tackle a series of challenging questions provided by the Professor within their assigned group, and then 'return' to the lecture after 30 minutes to take-up the issues with the Professor. Below is an approximate breakdown of the timing:

- 10:30-11:20: Lecture delivered by Professor
- 11:20-11:30: 10 minute break
- 11:30-12:00: Break-out discussion
- 12:00-12:20: 'Return' to class for discussion on group answers

All students are expected to follow the above timing, and to contribute actively in all aspects of class. Respecting the rights of the instructors and other students is paramount to successful lectures and seminars.

Topics:

Readings below are largely from the textbook. It may prove difficult at times to keep to the schedule, but every effort will be made to follow it and Professors will inform students of any adjustments. It is the responsibility of the student to check OWL on a weekly basis to obtain readings/materials for seminars and lectures. It is strongly advised that students regularly check their UWO email.

ASSESSMENT

1. Participation: Participation will be graded on the basis of regular attendance at lectures and seminars. (5%)

2. Comparative Ideology Analysis: Students will write an analytical essay that compares and contrasts two different political ideologies (eg. liberalism and environmentalism) in terms of how each addresses an urgent political/policy challenge. Students will be provided with a list of challenges to choose from, and will explain which ideology they find most compelling in relation to the chosen political/policy issue. The Comparative Ideology Analysis is to be 1,500 words. More information on the specifics of this assignment will be given in early September. (15%)

3. First Term COVID-19 “Build Back Better” Country Study: Group work and presentations for this assignment will take place in seminars throughout the first term. More information about the specifics of this “hands on” political project will be given in early September. (7.5%)

4. First Term Examination: At the conclusion of the first term students will write an in-class exam that invites critical synthesis and reflection on their course learning. (20%)

5. Second Term Policy Dialogues: Our second term weekly seminars will be organized around discussions of current public policy issues arising in political contexts around the world – from global challenges of war and peace to local issues of sustainable city-building. Each week on OWL Professors will post short, focused readings to facilitate student-led dialogues. (7.5%)

6. Second Term Research Essay: Students will be encouraged to start working on the research for their essay towards the end of the first term. They will then conduct a comprehensive study on their chosen topic throughout the second term. Professors will provide a list of possible research topics and also arrange a class visit from Huron’s Library Research and Writing team. The essay is to be approximately 2,500 words. (20%)

Formatting requirements for the essay are the following:

- 12-point Times New Roman font
- double-spaced (except for footnotes and bibliography)
- 2.5cm margins
- pages numbered
- title page with student name, date, course title, and paper title
- footnotes and bibliography must be included
- Chicago Manual of Style citation format should be carefully and consistently followed throughout (a useful Chicago Manual of Style formatting guide is provided on OWL)

7. Second Term Final Examination: At the conclusion of the second term students will have the opportunity to critically reflect on the overall course material. This exam will assess individual understanding of Political Science 1020E main themes and issues and the ability to synthesize and critique knowledge. (25%)

Due Dates:

- **Comparative Ideology Analysis:** 25 October 2021

- **First Term Examination:** December University Exam Period
- **Second Term Research Essay:** 14 March 2022
- **Second Term Final Examination:** April University Exam Period

CLASS AND SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Note: For almost all lectures, the foundational reading is the identified text book chapter. Professors will also be incorporating insights from Ben Rhodes's *After the Fall* and students should be reading/consulting this book throughout the course. Professors will indicate when specific themes from Rhodes will be in focus so students can engage directly.

Part 1: Mapping the Field of Study

September 13 Introduction – No readings (with Dr. Bradford & Dr. Scorgie)

September 20 Politics and Political Science – Ch. 1 (with Dr. Bradford)

September 27 Politics, Nation States, and Globalization – Ch. 2 (with Dr. Scorgie)

October 4 Political Ideas that Matter (1) The Classical Ideologies – Ch. 3 (with Dr. Bradford)

October 11 Political Ideas that Matter (2) The Postmodern Challengers – Ch. 4 (with Dr. Scorgie)

October 18 Democracy in Question? – Ch. 10 (with Dr. Bradford)

Part 2: Politics in Societal Context

October 25 Politics and Society – Ch. 5 (with Dr. Scorgie) *Comparative Ideology Analysis Due!*

November 1 *Reading Week – No classes or readings*

November 8 Politics and the Economy – Readings will be posted on OWL

November 15: Elections and Voting: Focus on American and Canadian Contests – Ch. 7 (Dr. Bradford)

November 22 The Politics of Indigeneity (1) – Readings will be posted on OWL (with Dr. Bradford & Dr. Scorgie)

November 29 The Politics of Indigeneity (2) – Readings to be posted on OWL; Guest Presenter to visit class

December 6 Research & Writing Workshop with Huron Library Services – No Readings

Part 3: Politics in Institutional Context

January 3 Basic Law – Ch. 12 (with Dr. Scorgie)

January 10 Federalism and Multi-Level Governance – Ch. 13 (with Dr. Bradford)

January 17 Parliamentary and Presidential Government – Ch. 14 and Ch. 15 (with Dr. Bradford)

January 24 Putting Ideas to Work: Public Policy – Ch. 16 (with Dr. Bradford)

Part 4: Political Strategy and Struggle

January 31 Political Influence – Ch. 8 (with Dr. Scorgie)

February 7 Political Parties – Ch. 6 (with Dr. Bradford)

February 14 Taking it to the Streets – Ch. 9 (with Dr. Scorgie)

February 21 *Reading Week – No Classes or readings*

February 28 City-Regions in a Global Age – Readings will be posted on OWL (with Dr. Bradford)

Part 5: Global Perspectives on Politics

March 7 International Relations in Theory – Ch. 18 (with Dr. Scorgie)

March 14 Development or Dependency? – Ch. 17 (with Dr. Scorgie) *Research Essay Due!*

March 21 Conflict and Peacebuilding in the Global South – Readings to be posted on OWL (with Dr. Scorgie)

March 28 Wrap-up Dialogue and Final Examination Review

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

Late Penalties: It is the policy of the Department of Political Science to exact a penalty of 2 marks (i.e. 2 per cent of the grade on the assignment) per day (including weekends) for late papers. Papers will not be accepted by instructors if they are more than two weeks late.

Class Attendance: You are strongly advised not to miss any class meetings. Important material, detailed instructions, information and insights on course themes, examinations, written work, course objectives and other essential matters will be presented in these hours.



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine

appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academic-support.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.