

HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
THE CANADIAN REGIME: ROOTS AND BRANCHES
POLITICAL SCIENCE 2223F (550)

2018

Instructor: Dr. P.W. Nesbitt-Larking (A301) (519) 438-7224 ext. 286
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Lecture: Thursday 15:30 - 17:30 W18

Complementary Hour: Tuesday 14:30 – 15:30 W18

Office Hours: Monday 16:30 – 17:30 Tuesday 12:30 – 13:30

Antirequisite(s): Political Science 2103A/B, 2130, 2133A/B, 2230E.

Prerequisite(s): Political Science 1020E

Required Texts:

Patrick Malcolmson, Richard Myers, Gerald Baier, and Thomas Bateman. 2016. *The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada*. 6th Ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Peter H. Russell, Francois Rocher, Debra Thompson, and Amanda Bittner. 2016. *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics*. 2nd ed. Toronto: Emond.

Both books are available in the University Bookstore

Course Description:

The Canadian Regime: Roots and Branches is intended to offer students a broad introduction to the political culture, political economy, constitution, and principal institutions in the Canadian experience. The course builds upon the conceptual knowledge acquired in Politics 1020E and similar introductory courses.

The course begins with an exploration of the evolution of Canadian political life, concentrating upon Indigenous politics, the political culture, regional and national identities, Quebec politics, ideologies and Canadian political economy. On the basis of this structural and historical analysis, the logic and operations of the

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Canadian Constitution, Charter politics, the distinctive nature of Canadian federalism, and Canada's institutional structure, are unfolded.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Satisfactory achievement in this course is measured by the degree to which students demonstrate competence in the following assessable categories of expectation:

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge demonstrated both orally and in written form, through description, explanation, critical understanding and analysis of core course concepts, including: Indigenous political life (self government and land claims), Indigenous women's politics, the Indian Act, the French in Canada, Quebec nationalism, the Tremblay Report, English-Canadian nationalism, Canadian regional and linguistic political cultures, federal-provincial relations, federal union, federal spending power, equalization, interstate/intrastate federalism, Western alienation, Prairie politics, Atlantic cooperation, ideologies in Canada (liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism, environmentalism), the Regina Manifesto, the Vertical Mosaic, elites and classes in Canada, income inequality, the Canadian Constitution, Constitution Act 1867, Constitution Act 1982, constitutional conventions, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC), Canadian institutions of government and the state (House of Commons, Senate, the legislative process, backbenchers, parliamentary reform, prorogation, federal and provincial executives, Crown, Governor General, Cabinet, office of the Prime Minister/ Premier, central agencies, judiciary, civil service and public bureaucracies), majority and minority governments, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Notwithstanding Clause and Reasonable Limitations, judicial review, Canada's courts, the Charter Revolution, urban governance.

Knowledge and understanding of the principal theories of Canadian political analysis: assimilation, bilingualism, colonialism, Court Government, elite theory, equality, federalism, feminism, liberty, multiculturalism, multinationalism, pluralism, regime, Reasonable Accommodation, Responsible Government, regionalism, sovereignty, sovereignty-association.

Communication Skills: An ability to communicate Canadian political scientific information, arguments, and analyses with precision, relevance, and adequate style in writing and orally. An ability to write in the Canadian political science essay format and to address set questions under time-limited examination conditions. An ability to understand and apply scholarly documentation techniques appropriate to Canadian political science. A capacity to engage in reasoned dialogue and debate with others over theories, issues, and perspectives on the Canadian regime.

EXPECTATIONS

Assignment drop-off

Essays and other written assignments must be handed to the instructor directly or placed in the essay drop-off box.

What Your Grades mean

The University of Western Ontario Senate has adopted a set of grade descriptors which explain the meaning of grades assigned in all university courses:

- A+ 90-100% One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
- A 80-89% Superior work which is clearly above average
- B 70-79% Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
- C 60-69% Competent work, meeting requirements
- D 50-59% Fair work, minimally acceptable
- F below 50% Fail

Course expectations and aspirations

- An expectation of self-directed, independent and active learning.
- An expectation of routine attendance in scheduled meetings.
- An expectation that assigned readings will be read thoroughly and annotated prior to scheduled meetings.
- An expectation that each student will participate in an active and relevant manner, contributing ideas and insights derived from the assigned reading.
- An aspiration toward precision, accuracy and clarity in oral communication, including active listening skills.
- An aspiration toward enhanced depth and breadth of learning as the course proceeds.
- An aspiration toward more critical and analytical thinking as the course proceeds and assignments are completed.
- An aspiration toward a continued curiosity toward new ideas and an openness toward others and their ideas.

Political Science Department 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 working day for late papers. Papers will not be accepted by instructors if they are more than two weeks late.

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Documentation: Students must follow the *Canadian Journal of Political Science* Editorial Style Guidelines. Internet Documentation: All information obtained through the Internet must be cited in footnotes/endnotes and bibliographies. Internet citations must include all of the same information that is provided when citing a book or article. This includes the name of the author, name of the organisation that has posted the website, the title, the date the website was consulted, and the website address. For more details on proper electronic citation, consult the information desk at the Huron University College library. Assignment Drop-off: Essays and other written assignments must be handed to the instructor directly or placed in the essay drop-off box.

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.

ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES:

1. Participation. Ongoing assessment of the quantity and quality of student participation and background preparation: **20 per cent**
2. Weekly Quiz on Assigned Readings: **30 per cent** (Starting in Week 2)
3. Complementary Assignment (due November 13, 2018): **15 per cent**
4. Course Essay. An Assigned Essay (due December 4, 2018): **35 per cent**

COURSE METHODS:

Course methods comprise assigned reading and essay reading research, formal essay composition, social media/editorial/opinion-based writing, instructor-based exposition, large group seminar participation, small group seminar participation, and reader recognition/response written assignments under time-limited conditions.

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COURSE SCHEDULE:

Note: Each of the readings listed below is **REQUIRED**. Readings should be completed before the start of the specified week.

Week Beginning:

1. Sept. 3. Nuts and Bolts: Why Regime Facts Matter in a Post-Truth World

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Preface, Ch. 1.

2. Sept. 10. Indigenous Politics

Reading:

Russell et al., 10, 38, 58, 61, 62, 63, 64.

3. Sept. 17. Political Cultures in Canada

Reading:

Russell et al., 9, 11, 12, 59, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69.

4. Sept. 24. Prairie Populism and Maritime Rights: Regions and Regionalism in Canada

Reading:

Russell et al., 8, 25, 75, 76, 77, 78.

5. Oct. 1. Class and Inequality In Canada

Reading:

Russell et al., 71, 72, 73, 74.

6. Oct. 15. Two, Three, or Multiple Solitudes? Quebec and French Canada

Reading:

Russell et al., 4, 5, 6, 7, 35, 37, 45.

7. Oct. 22. The Constitution: The Basic Law

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Ch. 2.

Russell et al., 2, 3, 36, 39, 46.

8. Oct. 29. The Constitution: Responsible and Representative Government

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Ch. 3.

Russell et al., 1, 16, 18.

9. Nov. 5. (Two) Founding Nations or Ten Equal Provinces?: Federalism in Canada

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Ch. 4.

Russell et al., 40, 41, 42, 43, 44.

10. Nov. 12. Notwithstanding...: The Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Ch. 5, Ch. 8.

Russell et al., pp. 245-248 (text of Charter).

11. Nov. 19. The Charter of Rights in Political Context

Reading:

Russell et al., 47, 48, 49, 50.

12. Nov. 26. Canada's Parliamentary Institutions

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Ch. 7.

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Russell et al., 13, 14, 17.

13. Dec. 3. The Prime Minister, the Executive Branch, and the Public Service

Reading:

Malcolmson et al., Ch. 6.

Russell et al., 15.



Appendix to Course Outlines is posted on the OWL course site.