

POL 2230E 001
Canadian Government and Politics
2013-14 Course Syllabus

Professors:	Dr. Vuk Radmilovic (Term 1)	Dr. Cristine de Clercy (Term 2)
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Office Hours:	Wednesday 1-2 pm (or by app.).	TBA

Course Time: Tuesday 2:30-4:30
Classroom: MC 110

Prerequisite: Political Science 1020E or 020E
Antirequisites: 2130, 2133a/b, 2155f/g, 130, 133a/b, 155f/g

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE PREREQUISITES/ANTIREQUISITES

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have **not** taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be **ineligible** for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees.

This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course requisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Office of the Dean, Faculty of Social Science

The Professors and Teaching Assistants will respond to email and will do their best to reply within 48 hours (**excluding weekends**). Do note that university policy precludes the Professors and T.A.s from responding to email messages that were not sent from a Western email account. Note, also, that grades may not be discussed via email and that no assignments will be accepted via email. Please do not send email messages via OWL.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

The subject of this course is Canadian government and politics. The course introduces students to the societal and institutional features of Canadian democracy. Topics covered include civil society, political culture, the media, the constitution, the parliamentary system, the public service, regionalism, the federal system, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the courts. The course will also provide an introduction to the major topics and issues that have in recent times occupied the minds of Canadian policymakers and of the Canadian public. By the end of the course, the students will develop a basic understanding of the core concepts involved in the study of Canadian

government and politics and be exposed to some of the key issues and debates in the study and practice of Canadian politics.

The course includes two key components: lectures and tutorials. There will be one two-hour lecture held during each week. Lectures will generally build on the required readings, but new material will also regularly be presented. For this reason, active attendance during lectures is essential for a successful completion of the course.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

1. Stephen Brooks. *Canadian Democracy*. 7th Edition. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2012.
2. Margot Northey, Lorne Tepperman and Patrizia Albanese, *Making Sense: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing: Social Sciences*, 5th ed. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2012.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Tutorial Participation (10%)

Annotated Bibliography (5%) – due October 22nd, 2013.

Term 1 Test (15%) – November 19th, 2013.

Term 1 Essay (15%) – due December 3rd, 2013.

Term 2 Test (15%) – February 11, 2014.

Term 2 Essay (15%) – March 11, 2014.

Final Exam (25%) – Held during the April 2014 exam period.

- *Tutorial Participation (10%).*

Tutorials are a vital addition to the weekly lectures. They will provide opportunities for students to discuss the readings and receive guidance on how to prepare for tests and written assignments. The allocation of the tutorial grade will be made by the Teaching Assistant on the basis of quality and quantity of participation on a weekly basis. Further information on tutorial expectations will be provided during the first tutorial meeting. Tutorials will commence in **week 2** of the course.

Attendance in tutorials is compulsory. Should circumstances arise that prevent you from attending your assigned tutorial, meet with the professor from that term to discuss your situation. If the circumstances are medical, the professor may ask you to submit the appropriate documentation to Social Science Academic Counselling.

- *Annotated Bibliography (5%) – **DUE OCTOBER 22nd, 2013.***

You are required to submit a descriptive annotated bibliography of sources that you will use when writing your Term 1 Essay. For guidance on how to write an annotated bibliography, go to <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific->

[types-of-writing/annotated-bibliography](#), or make an appointment with your TA.

The annotated bibliography should include between **8 and 10 scholarly sources**, including books, chapters in edited books, and articles published in academic journals. It is expected to be no more than 7 pages in length, typed and double-spaced, using a standard 12 point font and standard (1"/2.54cm) margins.

Citations must be organized according to the **Social Science Style (SSS)**, as described in Margot Northey, Lorne Tepperman and Patrizia Albanese, *Making Sense: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing: Social Sciences*, 5th ed.

Students **must** submit their annotated bibliographies to **Turnitin.com**, and include a copy of the originality report generated by Turnitin.com, to be accepted.

A penalty of **3% per day including weekends and statutory holidays** will be assigned to late assignments. Late assignments will be accepted for a **maximum of ten days, including holidays and weekends**. After this time the papers will not be accepted for grading. Late papers can be submitted to turnitin over weekends, on the condition that a hard copy of the paper is submitted, along with the turnitin receipt, as soon as the university opens the next working day.

- *Term 1 Test (15%) – NOVEMBER 19th, 2013 (IN CLASS)*

This test will be composed of a number of multiple choice and short-answer questions. Students will be provided guidance on how to prepare for the test during lectures.

- *Term 1 Essay (15%) – DUE DECEMBER 3RD, 2013*

Essays should be approximately 2500-3000 words (10-12 pages), excluding endnotes, parenthetical notes, and bibliography. Essays should be typed and double-spaced, using a standard 12 point font and standard (1"/2.54 cm) margins.

Citations must be organized according to the **Social Science Style (SSS)**, as described in *Making Sense: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing*.

The purpose of Term 1 and Term 2 essays is to demonstrate your ability to write a research paper with a clear and concise argument and to demonstrate an understanding of the subject of enquiry. To write a successful paper you must take a position, construct an argument and marshal evidence to support your position. Students must also consider the arguments against their own position and, where possible, rebut counter arguments. Your objective is to present and defend an argument in a clear, logical, and organized manner. Students will be graded on their understanding of the topic, the quality of their critical analysis and argumentation, and their organization and writing style (including grammar and proper use of citations).

Essays must present a clear and logical argument (thesis) based on scholarly research. To do so, you must use between **8 and 10 scholarly sources**.

Deductions will be taken if students fail to incorporate between 8 and 10 academic sources. Deductions will also be taken if students rely too heavily on one or two sources. Please include **the name of your T.A.** on the cover page of your essay.

Students **must** submit their essays to **Turnitin**, and include a copy of the originality report generated by Turnitin.com, to be accepted.

A penalty of **3%** per day **including weekends and statutory holidays** will be assigned to late assignments. Late assignments will be accepted for a **maximum of ten days, including holidays and weekends**. After this time the papers will not be accepted for grading. Late papers can be submitted to Turnitin over weekends, on the condition that a hard copy of the paper is submitted, along with the Turnitin receipt, as soon as the university opens the next working day.

For information on how to go about researching and writing the essays you should consult *Making Sense: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing: Social Sciences*.

Important information about Plagiarism: *Your research paper must be your own work. If you refer to someone else's work, quote them, or borrow ideas, you must cite them! This outline includes a policy statement on plagiarism – read it and follow it. If you are in doubt as to what to cite, remember: in this case, more is better than less.*

*Papers must be submitted to Turnitin.com (through the course webpage on WebCT) electronically prior to submitting hard copies for grading. Students must attach the Turnitin.com submission receipt with their assignment **or the paper will not be marked.***

- **Term 2 Test (15%) – February 11, 2014 (IN CLASS).**
This test will be composed of a number of multiple choice and short-answer questions. Students will be provided with guidance on how to prepare for it during lectures.
- **Term 2 Essay (15%) – March 11, 2014.**
The same general instructions provided for Term 1 Essay (above) apply for Term 2 Essay. Specific essay topics will be distributed and reviewed in the lecture.
- **Final Exam (25%) – Held during the April 2014 exam period.**

Term 1 Essay Topics:

1. The prorogation crisis of 2008-09 has shown that the Canadian system of responsible government is in a state of disarray and in dire need of reform. Discuss.
2. Court victories and greater constitutional and political recognition of Aboriginal peoples over the last few decades suggest that the demands driving the recent Idle No More movement are unjustified. Discuss.
3. Evidence suggests that multiculturalism has succeeded in promoting the integration of immigrants and minority groups into the Canadian social, political and economic fabric. Discuss.

Requests to write on special topics will not be entertained. Essays submitted on a topic that is not listed in this course outline will be assigned a grade of "0." Students are not allowed to change their topic from the one used for the Annotated Bibliography. It is not acceptable to hand in the same assignment for two or more courses.

Students **must** write the Annotated Bibliography and Term 1 Essay on **one** of the Term 1 Essay topics.

Grade Appeals

If you are concerned that your assignment was not graded fairly, you should first discuss the grade with the T.A. who marked your assignment. After that meeting has occurred, you may ask to have your assignment reviewed.

To request a review of your assignment, you **must provide a 1 page explanation** as to why you think your assignment was improperly graded (i.e. what do you think you did that should have been given more weight?). The explanation, the original assignment, and a clean copy of the assignment, all **in hard copy form**, must be submitted to your Professor **no later than 3 weeks** after the assignment was **made available for return**. A second reader will then grade your paper. If the second reader assigns a grade that is less than 5% higher or lower than the original grade, the original grade will stand. If the second marker assigns a mark that is 5% (or more) higher or lower than the original grade, the assignment will be passed on to the Professor for final grading.

NOTE: Students must take responsibility for picking up their marked work in a timely manner. **No appeals will be considered more than 3 weeks after the assignment/exam was made available for return.** Grades may be either raised **or lowered** on appeal. Students who wish to appeal an examination grade should follow the same procedure noted above for assignments.

Resources:

Students are encouraged to visit the library and use the services of the reference librarians for help with their critical analysis, annotated bibliography and research paper. The Writing Support Centre at UWO is available to help students with their assignments (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing/index.html?main>).

Students can also make use of the Martin Westmacott Political Science Resource Room, located in SSC 4109. The room has a variety of resources (videotapes, books, journals and newspaper articles) and program information about undergraduate programs offered by the department. The room is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Various support services are also available through UWO. You can access information about the Registrar's Office at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca> and Student Development Services at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca>.

IMPORTANT POLICIES

Submission of Assignments:

Assignments are due in class (the lecture). Assignments may be submitted before the lecture, immediately at the end of lecture, or during the break in the lecture. **The professor will not be in the classroom to accept assignments after the end of class.** Assignments may not be submitted by fax or e-mail, outside of class time (the lecture), or while the lecture is in progress.

All assignments are subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All assignments 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>). Students must submit their work to Turnitin, and assignments **must** include a copy of the originality report generated by Turnitin.com to be accepted.

Late penalties:

As noted above, a penalty of **3%** per day **including weekends and statutory holidays** will be assigned to late assignments (Annotated Bibliography and Term Essays). Late assignments will be accepted for **a maximum of ten days, including holidays and weekends**. After this time, the papers will not be accepted for grading. Late papers can be submitted to Turnitin over weekends, on the condition that a hard copy of the paper is submitted, along with the Turnitin report, as soon as the university opens the next working day.

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 Web site: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>

Extensions:

Extensions are not given. Students are able to hand assignments in late subject to the stated policy above. However, when there are genuine and unavoidable family or medical circumstances, you may seek academic accommodation, as detailed below. If you fail to hand in an assignment, but are pursuing academic accommodation, **please advise your professor immediately.**

A Note Regarding Computer Problems:

Students are expected to back up their written work and lecture/tutorial notes. Furthermore, students will be responsible for finding replacement lecture/tutorial notes where they fail to back-up their files.

Academic Accommodation:

If a situation should arise where you require accommodation because of a medical or personal issue, Social Science Academic Counselling (located at SSC 2105/2114) is available to help you. You can talk to a counsellor, who can then pass along any recommendations for accommodation. Their contact information is:

Telephone: 519 661-2011
Recorded information: 519 661-2052
Fax: 519 661-3384
Email: ssaco@uwo.ca
Office hours: 9:30am - 4:00pm

This procedure means that you do not have to provide your instructor or T.A. with any details of your situation, but ensures that the proper documentation has been provided. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SPEAK WITH A COUNSELLOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER AN ISSUE ARISES. Academic accommodation will ONLY be provided if you speak with an Academic Counsellor and provide them with documentation of your issue and if the issue is brought to their attention in a timely fashion. While academic accommodation may be warranted, students should not assume that a full week's extension will be granted. Instead, the accommodation will reflect the seriousness of the situation. For example, if a student produces medical documentation detailing that s/he was sick for two days, a two-day extension normally will be granted. Therefore students should submit their work accordingly, even if the academic accommodation process is still underway.

Note Regarding Medical Illness:

Please be aware that the policies regarding medical documentation have changed. The following is an excerpt from the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness - Undergraduate Students (S.08-113).

Documentation from Family Physicians and Walk-In Clinics

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following web site: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>. Hard copies are available from Academic Counselling in the Faculties.

Documentation from Student Health Services

Students obtaining documentation from Student Health Services should sign a "release of information." This form authorizes Student Health Services to provide information to the student's home Faculty. Release of information forms are available from, and can be arranged through, the student's home Faculty Academic Counselling service.

Documentation from Hospital Urgent Care Centres or Emergency Departments

Students should request that an SMC be filled out. Students may bring this form with them, or request alternative Emergency Department documentation. Documentation should be secured at the time of the initial visit to the Emergency Department. Where it is not possible for a student to have an SMC completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that his/her ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities was seriously affected.

Use of Electronic Devices:

Students are not permitted to use any electronic devices during test and exams. Students are asked to turn off their cell phones during lectures and tutorials. Laptops are permitted during lectures and tutorials ONLY for the purpose of note-taking; if students use their computers for other activities their laptops may be confiscated for the remainder of the session.

The course instructors claim material and image copyright. So, please ask for permission if you want to audio record or video record any part of the course.

TERM 1 LECTURE SCHEDULE

September 10th – Week 1: Introduction to the Course

- No Readings.

September 17th – Week 2: Introduction to Political Life

- Brooks, Chapter 1, pp. 1-29.

September 24th – Week 3: Political Culture

- Brooks, Chapter 2, pp. 31-76.

October 1st – Week 4: The Social and Economic Setting

- Brooks, Chapter 3, pp. 77-103.

October 8th – Week 5: Language Politics

- Brooks, Chapter 13, pp. 402-431.

October 15th – Week 6: Diversity and Multiculturalism

- Brooks, Chapter 14, pp. 432-456.

October 22nd – Week 7: Aboriginal Politics. **Annotated Bibliography Due**

- Brooks, Chapter 16, pp. 488-518.

October 29th – Week 8: Interest Groups

- Brooks, Chapter 11, pp. 342-371.

November 5th – Week 9: The Media

- Brooks, Chapter 12, pp. 372-399.

November 12th – Week 10: The Constitution

- Brooks, Chapter 5, pp. 128-161.

November 19th – Week 11: **Term 1 Test (in class)**

- No readings.

November 26th – Week 12: Rights and Freedoms

- Brooks, Chapter 6, pp. 162-194.

December 3rd – Week 13: The Courts **Term 1 Essay Due**

- Lori Hausegger, Matthew Hennigar and Troy Riddell, Chapter 2, "The Structure of Canadian Courts," from *Canadian Courts: Law, Politics and Process*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2009.

End.

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"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."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

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."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

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 Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS **MUST** BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

Plagiarism

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "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>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.