

**Political Science 3336F – Elections and Voting
Course Outline, Fall 2013**

Course Instructor: Dr. Vuk Radmilovic

Course Meetings: Thursday 3:30-5:30, SSC 4255

Office: SSC 4162.

Office Hours: Wednesday, 4-5pm (or by appointment).

E-mail: vradmilo@uwo.ca

Contact Information: Professor will do his best to reply to e-mails 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.

Introduction: This course examines the role of elections in maintaining democratic governance from theoretical and empirical perspectives. Topics to be covered include: electoral systems; the legal framework governing election campaigns; the role of parties and the media in election campaigns; and various influences on voting behaviour. The focus will be placed on understanding these topics in the Canadian case.

Prerequisites: Political Science 2230E or 2234E or 2244E

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.

Required Textbooks:

1. MacIvor, Heather. 2009. *Election*. Emond Montgomery Publications.
ISBN: 978-1-55239-321-5.
2. LeDuc, Lawrence, Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. McKenzie and Andre Turcotte. 2010. *Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics*. Toronto: Dundurn Press.
ISBN: 978-1-55488-796-5.

Students will be required to read a number of additional materials which will be available through the UWO library or through the OWL course page.

Evaluation:

- *Attendance and Participation (20%)*
Attendance will be recorded each week and the participation grade will be based on an assessment of each student's contribution to class discussion and attendance at seminars. Please note that **regular participation in class discussions is essential**. Attendance with no significant contribution to class discussion will result in a participation grade of no more than 2/10. The participation grade will be assigned in December.
 - *Weekly Discussion Questions (10%)*
Every week students are required to submit 3 discussion questions about the week's readings. The questions should help guide class discussions, and should also indicate any commentary or questions that the student has about the material for the week. They will be graded on those attributes. The questions are to be typed and double-spaced, and they are due at the beginning of class starting in week 2. They **will not be accepted late**.
 - *Research Paper (40%) – DUE NOVEMBER 21ST*
Students must write a research paper (12-14 pages, double-spaced) on some aspect of Canadian elections and voting. Students are encouraged to choose a topic that interests them. Paper topics must be approved by the instructor by October 17. The final paper, due November 21, will be graded on your thesis, argument, research, analysis, and writing.
Students are encouraged to attend writing clinics offered by the Student Development Centre throughout the year to improve their writing skills. **ONLY HARD COPIES OF THE ASSIGNMENT WILL BE GRADED – ELECTRONIC COPIES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE**. All assignments must also be submitted to Turnitin.com before being handed in. A copy of the turnitin.com receipt **MUST** be attached to the assignment for it to be accepted.
A late penalty of **3%** per day **including weekends and statutory holidays** will be assigned.
- A Note on 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***
- *Presentation (15%)*
Each student will be required to prepare and present one (1) seminar. The seminar presentation will involve a review of literature assigned for the topic. Seminar presentations should be **no more than 25 minutes** in length to ensure

that there is adequate time for discussion and debate. The purpose of the presentation is to **outline** and **critically assess** the major themes, issues, and conclusions that emerge from the assigned literature. The presenter of the seminar should **not attempt** a detailed summary of the assigned literature. Students are encouraged to use power point presentations and video clips where appropriate.

Failure to present the seminar on the assigned date will result in a **grade of 0%**. Each week one or two students will serve as seminar discussants. It will be the responsibility of the seminar discussants to comment on the presentations (**3-5 minutes** in length) and to initiate discussion by posing two or three questions that will encourage discussion. Seminar discussants will be assessed on the quality of their commentary and on the originality of the discussion questions. The grade assigned for this portion of the seminar will be a component of the participation grade.

- *Presentation Commentary Paper (15%).*

Students must submit a presentation commentary paper (8-10 pages in length, double-spaced) **one week after the seminar presentation (in class)**. The commentary paper should seek to **summarize** and **critically assess** the most important themes and issues covered in the presentation and raised in class discussions.

A late **penalty of 5%** per day **including holidays and weekends** will be assigned to Commentary Papers submitted after the deadline. Commentary Papers submitted more than 5 days after the deadline **will not be graded**.

Class Schedule and Reading Assignments:

September 12th – Week 1: Introduction to the Course

- No Readings.

September 19th – Week 2: Electoral Politics in Canada: An Overview

- LeDuc et al. Chapter 1: Continuity and Change (pp. 21-61).
- MacIvor: Chapter 1: Introduction.
- MacIvor: Chapter 2: Forty and Counting + Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.
- Alain-G. Gagnon and A. Brian Tanguay, eds, *Canadian Parties in Transition* (2007), Chapter 3 "The Evolution of the Canadian Party System" (Patten).

September 26th – Week 3: Legal and Institutional Framework I

- MacIvor: Chapter 3: Understanding Electoral Systems.
- Louis Massicotte. 2008. "Electoral Reform in Canada." In André Blais, ed., *To Keep or To Change First Past the Post?* (New York: Oxford University Press).
- Alan C. Cairns. 1968. "The Electoral System and the Party System in Canada, 1921-1965," *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 1 (1, March): 55-80.

- Jensen and Siaroff, "Regionalism and Party Systems: Evaluating Proposals to Reform Canada's Electoral System," in Henry Milner, ed, *Steps Toward Making Every Vote Count* (Peterborough: Broadview, 2004).

October 3rd – Week 4: Legal and Institutional Framework II

- MacIvor: Chapter 4: Canada's Election Law: Less Than Meets the Eye.
- MacIvor: Chapter 5: Constituency Boundaries in Canada.
- Lisa Young and Harold J. Jansen, "Reforming Party and Election Finance in Canada", in Lisa Young, Harold, J. Jansen, (eds), *Money, Politics, and Democracy*, UBC Press, 2011, pp. 1 -19.
- Harold J. Jansen and Lisa Young, "Cartels, Syndicates, and Coalitions: Canada's Political Parties after 2004 Reforms" in Lisa Young, Harold, J. Jansen, (eds), *Money, Politics, and Democracy*, UBC Press, 2011, pp. 82 – 103.

October 10th – Week 5: Election Campaigns

- MacIvor, Chapter 6: Constituency Campaigning in Canada (Munroe Eagles and Annika Hagley).
- MacIvor, Chapter 7: Democracy and the Candidate Selection Process in Canada (Steve Patten).
- MacIvor, Chapter 8: Campaign Strategy: Triage and the Concentration of Resources (Thomas Flanagan).
- Alex Marland, "Constituency Campaigning in the 2011 Canadian Federal Election," in *The Canadian Federal Election of 2011*. pp. 167-194. Dundurn Press, 2011.

October 17th – Week 6: Media and Polling

- Alain-G. Gagnon and A. Brian Tanguay, eds, *Canadian Parties in Transition* (2007), Chapter 16, "Television Advertising by Political Parties: Can Democracy Survive It?" (Brooks).
- Alain-G. Gagnon and A. Brian Tanguay, eds, *Canadian Parties in Transition* (2007) Chapter 17, "The Internet and Political Communication in Canadian Party Politics: The View from 2004" (Barney).
- MacIvor: Still Waiting for an Internet Prime Minister: Online Campaigning by Canadian Political Parties (Tamara A. Small).
- MacIvor: Polling as Modern Alchemy: Measuring Public Opinion in Canadian Elections (André Turcotte).

October 24th – Week 7: Voters and Parties

- MacIvor: Andrea Perrella, "Overview of Voting Behaviour Theories" in Heather MacIvor (ed), *Election*, Emond Montgomery Publications, 2010, pp.221 – 249.
- MacIvor: Joanna Everitt, Elisabeth Gidengil, Patrick Fournier and Neil Nevitte "Patterns of Party Identification in Canada" in Heather MacIvor (ed), *Election*, Emond Montgomery Publications, 2010, pp. 269 – 284.

- Amanda Bittner, " Personality Matters:The Evaluation of Party Leaders" in Cameron D. Anderson, and Laura B. Stevenson, (eds), *Voting Behaviour in Canada*, UBC Press, 2010, 183 – 207.
- MacIvor: Voter Turnout (Lawrence LeDuc and Jon H. Pammett).

October 31st – No Classes, Fall Study Break

November 7th – Week 8: The Federal Elections 1957 and 1958

- Lawrence Le Duc, Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. Mc Kenzie, Andre Turcotte, *Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics*, Dundurn Press, 2010, pp. 167 -204.
- John Meisel, *The Canadian General Election of 1957*, University of Toronto Press, 1962, pp. 267 – 277.
- J. Murray Beck, *Pendulum of Power*, Prentice Hall, 1968, pp. 291 – 328.

November 14th – Week 9: The Federal Elections 1968, 1972, 1974 .

- Lawrence Le Duc, Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. Mc Kenzie, Andre Turcotte, *Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics*, Dundurn Press, 2010,pp. 241 – 301.
- J. Murray Beck, *Pendulum of Power*, Prentice Hall, 1968, pp. 399 – 419.

November 21th – Week 10: The Federal Election 1988 **RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

- Lawrence Le Duc, Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. Mc Kenzie, Andre Turcotte, *Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics*, Dundurn Press, 2010,pp. 371 – 397.
- Anthony Westell, "Setting the Stage" in Alan Frizzell, Jon Pammett, , Anthony Westell (eds.), *The Canadian General Election of 1988* , Carleton University Press, 1989, pp. 1-14.
- Peter Maser, "On the Hustings" in Alan, Frizzell, Jon Pammett, Anthony Westell (eds.), *The Canadian General Election of 1988*, Carleton University Press, 1989, pp. 55-74.
- Graham Frazer, *Playing for Keeps: The Making of the Prime Minister,1988*, Mc Clelland and Stewart, 1989, pp. 445 – 455, 463 – 466.

November 28th – Week 11: The Federal Election 1993

- Lawrence Le Duc, Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. Mc Kenzie, Andre Turcotte, *Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics*, Dundurn Press, 2010, p. 399 – 436.
- The Editors, "Introduction" in Alan Frizzell, Jon Pammett,Anthony Westell, (eds.), *The Canadian General Election of 1993* , Carleton University Press, 1994, pp. 1 – 7.
- Peter Woolstencroft," "Doing Politics Differently"?: The Conservative Party and the Campaign of 1993" in Alan Frizzell, Jon Pammett ,Anthony Westell, (eds.), *The Canadian General Election of 1993* , Carleton Univ. Press, 1994, 9-26.

- Stephen Clarkson, "Yesterday's Man and His Blue Grits: Backward into the Future", in Alan Frizzell, Jon Pammett, Anthony Westell, (eds.), *The Canadian General Election of 1993*, Carleton University Press, 1994, pp. 27 – 41.

December 5th – Week 12: The Federal Election 2011

- Lawrence LeDuc, Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. Mc Kenzie, Andre Turcotte, *Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics*, Dundurn Press, 2010, pp.521- 550.
- Jon H. Pammett and Lawrence LeDuc, "The Evolution of the Harper Dynasty," in *The Canadian Federal Election of 2011*. pp. 303-331. Dundurn Press, 2011.
- Harold Clarke and Tom Scotto, "Winners and Losers: Voters in the 2011 Federal Election," in *The Canadian Federal Election of 2011*. pp. 271-303. Dundurn Press, 2011.
- Nik Nanos, "From A Nothing Election To A Seismic Shift", *Policy Options*, Vol 32, No 06, June – July, 2011, pp. 14 – 16.

**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.