

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 3367 G – Section 001  
POLITICAL ECONOMY: NORTH AMERICA**

**Course Outline Winter 2014**

Office Hours and Contact Information

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**OBJECTIVES:**

An examination of the impact of North American economic and social integration on Canada/Mexico/U.S. relations. Consideration is given to the applicability of various theories of political integration and economic interdependence to the case of Canada, Mexico and the United States.

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE RE PREREQUISITES/ANTIREQUISITES**

**Important Notice Re: Prerequisites/Antirequisites** Please Note: 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 an 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 prerequisites, 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

**Prerequisite(s):** Political Science 2231E, or International Relations 2701E.

The policy of the Department of Political Science is that admission of a student to a course for which the student **lacks the necessary prerequisite does not constitute grounds for an appeal.** Please note that students who lack the course prerequisite may be removed from the course.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

Required Texts:

Yasmeen Abu-Laban, Radha Jhappan and Francoise Roçher, editors, *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*. Broadview Press, Peterborough, Ontario. 2008

Jeffrey Ayres and Laura Macdonald, editors. *North America in Question: Regional Integration in an Era of Economic Turbulence*. University of Toronto Press, 2012

## **ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

### **1. Assignments**

Book or Film Review	20%	February 11, 2014
Weekly Reading Synopsis	15%	January 14 – April 9, 2014
Seminar Participation	15%	January 7 – April 9, 2014
Essay	50%	April 8, 2014

2. The book or film review will be a paper of 1,000 words on a book or film to be selected by the student with agreement from the instructor. Reviews are due at the beginning of class on February 11, 2014. There will be a late penalty of 2% of the book/film review grade for each day the review is late including Saturdays and Sundays. Please note: books which are used as texts or assigned readings in Political Science Courses are not acceptable.

3. The essay will be a paper of 2,500 words on a topic to be agreed upon with the instructor. Papers are due at the beginning of class at 12:30 PM on April 8, 2014. There will be a late penalty of 2% of the essay grade for each day the essay is late including Saturdays and Sundays. No paper will be accepted after 1 PM on April 15, 2014. Please see the Department's plagiarism policy which is attached to this Outline. Please note: **the Political Science Department will not**

**accept essays; consequently students must hand in essays in person to the Instructor in class or during office hours.**

4. In this senior seminar course the instructor has at least two expectations: 1. 100% attendance; 2. advance preparation for the seminar including all required readings. Seminar participation will be graded on the **quality** and **consistency** of student contributions to our discussions during seminar meetings. Final seminar grades are calculated on this formula: **average contribution X number of seminars attended**. Participants are encouraged to raise relevant issues in current affairs. You may also participate by making comments on the course site on OWL. Each weekly discussion topic will be posted on OWL and will be open for two weeks only.

5. Weekly Reading Synopsis: beginning with the class reading scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> each student must hand in at the start of class each week a brief (200 word) written account outlining an important theme or issue raised in at least one of the readings assigned for that week.

6. 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 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>).

7. Electronic devices are not allowed during tests and examinations. You are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations

8. **Submission of essays through turnitin.com**, which is accessed through this course's site on OWL.

“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> ).”

9. 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..

10. Support Services: The web site for the Registrar's Office at Western University is

<http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>

Support services including Counselling and Student Development may be accessed at

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

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.

#### 11. Statement on Documentation for Accommodation for Medical Illnesses:

The Instructor's policy applies **only to work worth less than 10% of the total course grade which in this course means that all requests for accommodation for medical illnesses must go through the following process:**

Where medical documentation is required, such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office, and it will be the Dean's office that will make the determination whether accommodation is warranted. Given the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy, **instructors may not collect medical documentation.**

Note: In all cases where accommodation is being sought for work **totaling 10% or more of the final grade in a course**, students are directed to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office.

Student absences for reasons other than illness shall continue to be verified according to current practices.

The entire document can be accessed at:

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

#### 12. Tentative Seminar Meetings and Topics – Subject to change

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|------------|---|
| January 7  | Introduction to the study and discussion of political economy and North America. Review of course materials and assignments.  |
| January 14 | Defining North America.<br>Readings: <i>Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations</i> , Chapter 1 – The New World; Chapter 2 – Nation-building and regionalism; Chapter 3 – Root of North American Economic Development; <i>North America in Question: Regional Integration in an Era of Economic Turbulence</i> : Chapters 1, 2, 3 |
| January 21 | Pre-European North America<br>Readings: <i>Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations</i> , Chapter 10 – North American First Peoples  |
| January 28 | Political Institutions in Canada, the United States and Mexico  |

- Readings: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 7 – Political Institutions in the United States; Chapter 8 – Political Institutions in Mexico; Chapter 9 – National Institutions in North America
- February 4      Economic integration and economic union  
 Reading: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 4 - Governance of North America – NAFTA; Chapter 5 – Birth of a Union
- February 11     Book/film reviews are due. No readings are assigned. There will be an in class film viewing (TBA) followed by class discussion
- February 25     Reading: *North America in Question: Regional Integration in an Era of Economic Turbulence* Chapters 5, 6 and 8 of Part II: North American Problems without North American Governance.
- March 4          Human Rights and Borders  
 Readings: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 11 – Default Convergence? *North America in Question: Regional Integration in an Era of Economic Turbulence*, Chapter 7 - Borders and Security in North America
- March 11         Labour Policy and Social Policy  
 Readings: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 12 – Under Pressure; Chapter 13 – Ragged Cruelty
- March 18         The *Underground Economies* of North America  
 Readings: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 15 - Migration in North America; *North America in Question: Regional Integration in an Era of Economic Turbulence*: Chapter 4 – The Mexican Political Security Crisis
- March 25         Toward a Fortress North America  
 Readings: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 16 - From the 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel to the Rio Grande; Chapter 17 – North American Security and Foreign Policy
- April 1            The Democratic Deficit  
 Readings: *Politics in North America: Redefining Continental Relations*, Chapter 6 – Globalization and the Democratic Deficit; Chapter 19 – Civil Society Organizing Under Continental Integration; *North America in Question: Regional Integration in an Era of Economic Turbulence*: Part III, Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12

April 8 Concluding Remarks and Discussion – The North American Community  
Course essays due.

**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.

\*Reprinted by permission of the Department of History

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](mailto: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.