

**Canadian Politics II: Society
Political Science 9532a
University of Western Ontario
Fall 2015**

Seminar: Wednesday 9:30-11:30, SSC 4105

Professor: Laura Stephenson

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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.

Course Description

This course concentrates on understanding governance in Canada from the perspective of the role that citizens play. We will survey some of the main ways that citizen preferences, opinions and ideas are transmitted to the government, either directly or indirectly. Topics will include theories of democratic governance, political culture, political participation, vote choice, political parties, interest groups and social movements, and the media.

Learning Objectives

- By the end of this course, students will be able to communicate the many ways that citizens have influence on democracy in Canada.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of how academic research is conducted on issues in Canadian politics.
- Students will have the opportunity to sharpen their analytic and argumentative skills, through classroom discussions and their summary analysis assignments.

Assignments

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| 1) Weekly Reading Summaries (weeks 2-12, due start of class) | 30% |
| 2) Participation (including attendance, active participation in discussion, and presentation of reading summaries and summary analysis) | 20% |
| 3) Lead Seminar | 10% |
| 4) Summary Analysis Paper (due December 9, start of class) | 40% |

Weekly Reading Summaries

Students will be asked to write summary papers for each of weeks 2-12. The papers should be no more than 2 double-spaced pages in length. In that space, students should provide comments on three aspects of the readings. First, what are two themes that arise from the readings? Some weeks the readings will be less obviously connected than others, and some thought should be given to how the readings contribute to the overall theme of the course (citizen input in politics). Second, what insights did you gain by doing the readings? These can be either new pieces of information you acquired or confirmation or comment on previously-known information. Third, provide 3 questions for discussion based on the readings.

Papers are due at the beginning of each class (9:30am) and students will be asked to provide a brief report on their paper each week. Late papers will not be accepted. In the case of absence, papers can be sent to the instructor by email *prior* to the start of class.

Lead Seminar

Each student will be asked to lead discussion at least once during the term. Students will be graded on the extent to which they are able to bring out the key issues in the material and guide a stimulating discussion.

Summary Analysis Paper

Students will produce a summary analysis paper at the end of the course. The purpose of the assignment is to provide students an opportunity to summarize what role they think citizens play in Canadian democracy. In addressing this issue, it is expected that students will draw upon what they have learned in the course as well as their own understanding of Canadian politics. The paper is expected to make use of course materials, rather than outside research (although outside research is not prohibited). More information about the assignment will be provided in class.

The papers should be no more than 20 double-spaced pages in length. The assignments will be graded on the quality and comprehensiveness of the argumentation. The paper is due at 9:30am (start of class) on December 9. Students will make brief presentations of their arguments and conclusions in class that day.

Readings

All readings will be available online or from the instructor. There is no required text.

Topics and Readings (readings that are indented are optional)

1) September 16: Introduction

2) September 23: Democratic Theory and Canadian Democracy

- a. David Held, *Models of Democracy* 3rd ed. (Stanford: Stanford University Press), 2006, ch. 3.
- b. G. Bingham Powell, Jr. *Elections as Instruments of Democracy* (New Haven: Yale University Press), 2000, ch. 1.
- c. Russell J. Dalton, *Citizen Politics* 6th ed. (Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press), 2014, ch. 2.
- d. Lawrence LeDuc, *The Politics of Direct Democracy* (Peterborough, ON: Broadview), 2003, ch. 1.
- e. Neil Nevitte and Stephen White, "Citizen Expectations and Democratic Performance: The Sources and Consequence of Democratic Deficits from the Bottom Up." In *Imperfect Democracies*, ed. Patti Tamara Lenard and Richard Simeon (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2012.

3) September 30: Political Culture

- a. David J. Elkins and Richard E. B. Simeon, "A Cause in Search of Its Effect, or What Does Political Culture Explain?" *Comparative Politics* 11(2): 127-145, 1979. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2307/421752>
- b. Nelson Wiseman, *In Search of Canadian Political Culture* (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2007, ch. 1.
- c. Neil Nevitte, *The Decline of Deference* (Peterborough, ON: Broadview), 1996, ch. 3.
- d. Seymour Martin Lipset, *Continental Divide* (New York: Routledge), 1990, ch. 3.
- e. H. D. Forbes, "Hartz-Horowitz at Twenty: Nationalism, Toryism and Socialism in Canada and the United States." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 20(2): 287-315, 1987. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423900049453>
 - a. Gad Horowitz, "Conservatism, Liberalism, and Socialism in Canada: An Interpretation." *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science* 32(2): 143-171, 1966. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S03154890000058X>
 - b. Nelson Wiseman, "A Note on "Hartz-Horowitz at Twenty": The Case of French Canada." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 21(4): 795-806, 1988. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423900057450>

4) October 7: Participation

- a. André Blais, Elisabeth Gidengil, Neil Nevitte and Richard Nadeau, "Where does turnout decline come from?" *European Journal of Political Research* 43(2): 221-236, 2004. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1475-6765.2004.00152.x>
- b. Elisabeth Gidengil, André Blais, Neil Nevitte and Richard Nadeau, *Citizens* (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2004, ch. 5.
- c. Tracy Raney and Loleen Berdahl, "Birds of a Feather? Citizenship Norms, Group Identity, and Political Participation in Western Canada." *Canadian*

Journal of Political Science 42(1): 87-209. 2009.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423909090076>

- d. Paul Howe, *Citizens Adrift* (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2010, ch.10.
- e. Jon H. Pammett and Lawrence LeDuc, "Explaining the Turnout Decline in Canadian Federal Elections: A New Survey of Non-voters." *Elections Canada*, 2003.
<http://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=index&lang=e>
 - i. André Blais, *To Vote or Not to Vote* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press), 2000, ch. 1.

5) October 14: Issues in Electoral Administration

- a. Alan C. Cairns, "The Electoral System and the Party System in Canada, 1921-1965." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 1(1): 55-80, 1968.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423900035228>
- b. Peter John Loewen and André Blais, "Did Bill C-24 Affect Voter Turnout? Evidence from the 2000 and 2004 Elections." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 39(4): 935-943, 2006. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423906060343>
- c. Jerome H. Black, "From Enumeration to the National Register of Electors." *IRPP Choices* 9(7): 1-46, 2003. <http://irpp.org/wp-content/uploads/assets/research/strengthening-canadian-democracy/new-research-article-2/vol9no7.pdf>
- d. André Blais, Agnieszka Dobrzynska and Peter Loewen, "Potential Impacts of Extended Advance Voting on Voter Turnout." *Elections Canada*, 2007.
http://www.elections.ca/res/rec/fra/Potential_Impacts_e.pdf
- e. Andrea Lawlor and Erin Crandall, 2011, "Understanding third-party advertising: An analysis of the 2004, 2006 and 2008 Canadian elections." *Canadian Public Administration* 54(4): 509-529. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1754-7121.2011.00190.x>

6) October 21: Voting Models

- a. Cameron D. Anderson and Laura B. Stephenson, *Voting Behaviour in Canada* (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2010, ch. 1.
- b. Fred Cutler, "The Simplest Shortcut of All: Sociodemographic Characteristics and Electoral Choice." *Journal of Politics* 64(2): 466-490, 2002.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/2691857>
- c. Anthony Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (New York: Harper and Row), 1957, ch. 14.
- d. Patrick Fournier, Fred Cutler, Stuart Soroka, Dietlind Stolle and Éric Bélanger, "Riding the Orange Wave: Leadership, Values, Issues, and the 2011 Canadian Election." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 46(4): 863-897, 2013.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423913000875>
- e. Ronald D. Lambert and James E. Curtis, "Perceived Party Choice and Class Voting." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 26(2): 273-286, 1993.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S000842390000295X>

7) October 28: Other Considerations in Voting

- a. Elisabeth Gidengil, Neil Nevitte, André Blais, Joanna Everitt and Patrick Fournier, *Dominance and Decline* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press), 2012, ch. 4.
- b. Cameron D. Anderson, "Economic Voting and Multilevel Governance: A Comparative Individual-Level Analysis." *American Journal of Political Science* 50(2): 449-463, 2006. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-5907.2006.00194.x>
- c. Herman Bakvis and Laura G. Macpherson, "Quebec Block Voting and the Canadian Electoral System." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 28(4): 659-692, 1995. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S000842390001934X>
- d. Elisabeth Gidengil, André Blais, Richard Nadeau and Neil Nevitte, "Making Sense of Regional Voting in the 1997 Canadian Federal Election: Liberal and Reform Support Outside Quebec." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 32(2): 247-72, 1999. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423900010489>
- e. André Blais, "Why Is There So Little Strategic Voting in Canadian Plurality Rule Elections?" *Political Studies* 50(3): 445-454, 2002. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/1467-9248.00378>
- f. Shaun Bowler and David J. Lanoue, "New Party Challenges and Partisan Change: The Effects of Party Competition on Party Loyalty," *Political Behavior* 18(4): 327-343, 1996. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/586637>

8) November 4: Political Parties

- a. Richard Johnston, André Blais, Henry E. Brady, and Jean Crête, *Letting the People Decide* (Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's), 1992, ch. 3.
- b. Richard Johnston, "Polarized Pluralism in the Canadian Party System." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 41(4): 815-834, 2008. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423908081110>
- c. William Cross, *Political Parties* (Vancouver: UBC Press), ch. 2.
- d. R. Kenneth Carty and William Cross, "Can Stratarchically Organized Parties be Democratic? The Canadian Case." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 16(2): 93-114, 2006. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13689880600715912>
- e. R. Kenneth Carty, "Has Brokerage Politics Ended? Canadian Politics in the New Century." In *Parties, Elections, and the Future of Canadian Politics*, ed. Amanda Bittner and Royce Koop (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2013.
- f. Harold J. Jansen and Lisa Young, "Cartels, Syndicates, and Coalitions: Canada's Political Parties after the 2004 Reforms." In *Money, Politics and Democracy*, ed. Lisa Young and Harold J. Jansen (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2011.

9) November 11: Pressure Groups and Social Movements

- a. Lisa Young and Joanna Everitt, *Advocacy Groups* (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2004, ch. 2.
- b. Miriam Smith, *A Civil Society? Collective Actors in Canadian Political Life* (Peterborough: Broadview Press), 2005, ch. 2. (e-book in library)
- c. Eric Montpetit, "Are Interest Groups Useful or Harmful: Take Two." In *Canadian Politics* 6th ed., ed. James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon (Toronto: University of Toronto Press), 2014. (e-book in library)

- d. Alexandra Dobrowlosky, "Of "Special Interest": Interest, Identity and Feminist Constitutional Activism in Canada." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 31(4): 707-45, 1998. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423900009616>
- e. John Constantelos, "Playing the Field: Federalism and the Politics of Venue Shopping in the United States and Canada." *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 40 (3): 460-483, 2010. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/publius/pjq010>

10) November 18: Women and Politics in Canada

- a. Elisabeth Gidengil, "Economic Man - Social Woman?" *Comparative Political Studies* 28(3): 384-408, 1995. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0010414095028003003>
- b. Lisa Young, "Slow to Change: Women in the House of Commons." In *Stalled*, ed. Linda Trimble, Jane Arscott and Manon Tremblay (Vancouver: UBC Press), 2013.
- c. Elizabeth Goodyear-Grant and Julie Croskill, "Gender Affinity Effects in Vote Choice in Westminster Systems: Assessing "Flexible" Voters in Canada." *Politics and Gender* 7(2): 223-250. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X11000079>
- d. Linda Trimble and Jane Arscott, *Still Counting* (Peterborough: Broadview Press), 2003, ch. 6.
- e. Lisa Young, "Women's Movements and Political Parties: A Canadian-American Comparison." *Party Politics* 2(2): 229-250, 1996. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1354068896002002004>
- f. Melanee Thomas and Marc André Bodet, "Sacrificial lambs, women candidates, and district competitiveness in Canada." *Electoral Studies* 32(1): 153-166, 2013. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2012.12.001>

11) November 25: Visible Minorities, Persons with Disabilities, Aboriginal Peoples and Politics in Canada

- a. April D'Aubin and Deborah Stienstra, "Access to Electoral Success Challenges and Opportunities for Candidates with Disabilities in Canada." *Electoral Insight* 6(1), April 2004. http://www.elections.ca/res/eim/pdf/insight_2004_04_e.pdf
- b. Jerome H. Black, "Racial Diversity in the 2011 Federal Election: Visible Minority Candidates and MPs." *Canadian Parliamentary Review* 36(3), 2013. http://www.revparl.ca/36/3/36n3e_13_Black.pdf
- c. Kiera L. Ladner, "Aysaka 'paykinit: Contesting the Rope Around the Nations' Neck." In *Group Politics and Social Movements in Canada*, ed. Miriam Smith (Peterborough: Broadview Press), 2008.
- d. Daniel Guérin, "Aboriginal Participation in Canadian Federal Elections: Trends and Implications." *Electoral Insight* 5(3), November 2003. http://www.elections.ca/res/eim/pdf/insight_2003_11_e.pdf
- e. Karen Bird, "The Political Representation of Visible Minorities in Electoral Democracies: A Comparison of France, Denmark and Canada." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 11(4): 425-465, 2005. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13537110500379211>

12) December 2: Media and Politics

- a. Richard Nadeau and Thierry Giasson, "Canada's Democratic Malaise: Are the Media to Blame?" In *Strengthening Canadian Democracy*, ed. Paul Howe, Richard Johnston and André Blais (Montreal: IRPP), 2005.
- b. Elizabeth Goodyear-Grant, *Gendered News* (Vancouver: UBC Press), ch. 5.
- c. Tamara A. Small, "What the Hashtag? A content analysis of Canadian politics on Twitter." *Information, Communication & Society* 14(6): 872-895, 2011.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2011.554572>
- d. April Lindgren, "Toronto-area Ethnic Newspapers and Canada's 2011 Federal Election: An Investigation of Content, Focus and Partisanship." *Canadian Political Science Association* 47(4): 667-696, 2014.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423914000912>
- e. Kelly Blidook, "Media, Public Opinion and Health Care in Canada: How the Media Affect 'The Way Things Are'." *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 41(2): 355-374, 2008, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423908080426>

13) December 9: Conclusion/Paper Presentations