University of Western Ontario
Department of Political Science
Fall/Winter 2016-2017
Political Science 3326E Canadian-American Relations

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Office: SSC 4084
Office Hours Fall Term: Monday 1:30-2:30, Wednesday 2:30-3:30.
Office Hours Winter Term: Tuesday 11:30-12:30, Wednesday 2:30-3:30
Class: Mondays 11:30 – 1:30

This course will help you critically assess the current state of Canadian-American relations through a variety of perspectives, issues and policy debates. We will emphasize the importance of theories and arguments related to North American integration and divergence from local, regional and global perspectives. We will explore economic and political integration as well as forms of divergence where students will analyze developments in the areas of defence, security, environment, culture and labour. Students will also debate and discuss the processes of policy development in comparative terms, with an emphasis on the role of actors in civil society. The course has both lecture and seminar elements, therefore students are expected to complete the required readings prior to class and come prepared to discuss and debate the issues and themes of the week.

Objectives:

This course has three main objectives. First, this course is designed to outline and allow you to assess the perspectives and issues that shape the context and nature of Canadian-American Relations. This will provide a foundation for any future interests and research in this area and establish a comparative foundation for your studies. Second, the assignments in this course are designed to help you develop your critical thinking in ways that relate to specific issues and events in Canadian-American Relations. While we will cover a range of debates and issues, you need to decide which topics you find most interesting and which issues you will focus on in your work. Third, by the conclusion of this course you should be able to provide a critical and original argument about Canadian-American relations. Your ability to accomplish these objectives will be assessed using the assignments and work outlined below.

Antirequisites: Political Science 2139, 3367F/G
Prerequisites: Political Science 2230E or 2231E or 2244E or International Relations 2210E

Grade Evaluation:
Weekly Participation and Attendance - 20%
First Term Assignment – 7%
Preparatory Work - 10%
Mid-term Exam - 14%
Second Term Assignment – 7%
Essay/Policy Analysis - 28%
Final Exam – 14%

By the end of the course students should be able to:
1. Discuss different approaches to Canada-US relations
2. Describe the key events, changes over time and the current state of Canada-US relations
3. Think critically and write about an issue in Canada-US relations
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of policy or inter-state issue in Canada-US relations
5. Participate in a presentation about the history, context or ideas of a Canada-US issue
6. Analyze current policy and political issues between Canada and the US
7. Discuss a current Canada-US issue in historical context

**Recommended Texts (do not purchase until AFTER the first class):** Students will likely want to choose the text that most relates to their area of interest in Canada-US relations. There is no single required textbook for the course. All the texts below are recommended, based on your area of interest.


**Readings:**
All other readings are available on-line, on 2-hour reserve, or in the periodical section at the Weldon Library.

**Background resources:** This course assumes a popular level of understanding of Canadian and American relations, but a primer for topics and issues of which you may be unfamiliar can be useful. Apart from the suggested textbooks you should also check out recent issues of “Key Journals and Annuals” for the study of Canadian Foreign Policy & Canada-U.S. Relations (courtesy of John Kirton, U of Toronto, 2009, via Srdjan Vucetic):

- [Canadian Foreign Policy](#)
- [Canada Among Nations](#)
- [International Journal](#)
- [Global Brief](#)
- [American Review of Canadian Studies](#)
- [Canadian Public Policy](#)
- [Policy Options](#)
- [Canadian Journal of Political Science](#)
- [Literary Review of Canada](#) [reviews of recent books]

**Crowd-sourced essay resources:** Given that you will be researching a specific area of Canada-US relations throughout the course, it makes sense to develop your knowledge alongside those who have come before you. Consequently, I encourage students to add and remove useful essay sources from a master list provided on week 1. These are some starting points for your research, but not exhaustive nor necessarily relevant to your approach, so remain critical about their use.

**Weekly Participation and Attendance—20%**
The success of the class depends on the willingness of students to keep up with the readings on a weekly basis and to take part fully and fruitfully in discussion and class exercises. Participation marks are composed of both
The sources of evidence used by the author and any potential limitations or absences in the sources, as well as the relevance of their sources for your research.

d) The applicability of the article to your own area of research as well as an overall assessment of the strength of the argument’s claims.

e) At least 3 academic sources (they can be from course materials) used to test the veracity of the arguments in the article. This should include at least one of the optional textbooks for the course.

2) Response Papers: 5 individual response/reaction papers from the week’s readings. These must be handed in on separate weeks and should reflect and engage with some of the assigned reading material for the week, and any comments received from the instructor. Consequently grading expectations for this assignment will be based on a cumulative total. The response papers can use the suggested questions in OWL for the week to guide the responses. For a description of expectations please see OWL. The length of each paper should be between 250-500 words and must be handed in by email to dbousfi@uwo.ca with the title “POLS 3326 Response paper #1-5). The response papers can only be handed in on the same day as the class in which the reading was discussed. The name, student number and date must be on the submission.

3) Peer Editing: This exercise is designed to allow students to understand what it is like to go through an academic peer review process. This exercise requires exactly 4 students (no exceptions). Students will pick a date no later than October 31 (preferably much sooner) to begin the exercise. On the given date each of the students will email dbousfi@uwo.ca the first 5 pages of the final essay for the second term. These papers should be in proper essay format with footnotes, citations and data included. The instructor will then anonymize the assignments and distribute them to members of the group. Each group member will then critically assess the arguments of their peers and provide written feedback for each assignment due by November 14, 2016. The assignment will be graded on the quality of the peer feedback, NOT the essay itself. Peer feedback should assess the strength of the arguments, the validity of the sources and provide useful suggestions for revision. The feedback will be assembled and given back to the original author for use in their final assignments.

4) Media Assessment. This assignment will critically engage with a movie or documentary that deals with Canada-
US relations. A list of acceptable material is available on the course webpage, and all media must have sufficient levels of Canada-US content to warrant its use. All media assessments must have prior approval of the instructor and must be signed up on the course website at least 2 weeks before it is handed in. The media assessment must critically engage with the content of the movie for its use in understanding Canada-US relations, as well as base arguments in academic research and debates. You should assess the media for its arguments about Canada-US relations, and the viability of the arguments given the academic debates on the issue. The assignment should be a minimum of 1250 words, in proper essay format (with title page and bibliography) and have a minimum of 4 academic sources.

5) Proposed Alternative: A proposed alternative that engages with the material, or engages the class on the week’s material, or demonstrates a clear perspective about an issue or topic in Canada-US relations (subject to the instructor’s approval). The date of any alternative option must be set on the wiki site at least 2 weeks before its presentation to the class.

Midterm Exam 14% [During the Official Exam Period]
The midterm exam will focus on issues and concepts from the first term, and the officially scheduled exam will likely include an essay and short term format. If offered, the take home exam will be available to write on Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout the exam period. The exam will be written in proper essay format with academic sources and reference to a relevant textbook from the term, received within 24 hours of receipt and a maximum of 8 pages. Students may be given the opportunity to participate in the creation of exam questions, as well as voting on format and terms included on the exam.

Term 1 Preparatory work - 10% Due November 28, 2016
Students will produce a 1250-1500 word description, excluding references (250 words per page) of the area of interest for the study, due on November 28, 2016. The assignment should highlight the area of interest of your research; the different perspectives that could be used to research the topic (methods, approaches, issues, events or people); one form of analysis that you think will be most fruitful; as well as a list of potential sources that are directly relevant to your area of interest (potential issues, gaps or problems with this list can be addressed in the assignment). The assignment must be in proper formal essay format (no bullet points, short form or colloquial language), should use subheadings to identify key issues, use proper citation and should NOT INCLUDE ANY FORM OF ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY. Dictionaries, encyclopedias, and Wikipedia should not be used and use of web material is subject to instructor’s prior approval. A basic structure for the assignment would be:

1) Title, topic and thesis question or area of interest for potential research.
2) Possible approaches to study the issue (such as comparative, international, cultural, idiosyncratic, personality driven, legal, political economic, class, environmental or labour based). And why the one method seems most appropriate.
3) A summary of key points or issues likely to structure your research. These should outline key ideas, concepts, people or places, but express clear analytical thinking. Simple lists or unfocused summaries are not likely to receive high marks.
4) A discussion of potential problems or pitfalls in this issue and/or weaknesses in the list of resources you have complied. This is not an annotated bibliography; rather it is an assessment and overview of common themes, author biases, missing data, weak analyses, etc.
5) An overarching statement of the usefulness or goals of the research and why the topic chosen is relevant to Canada-US relations. This could form the basis for the introduction or conclusion of your later research, but should provide a general overview.
6) The list of resources you are likely to draw upon in the paper as well as any that you have cited in the preparatory work (in other words, your bibliography). This may include non-academic sources, but there must be a minimum of 4 academic sources (and they should cover at least three different themes in your work). You must include a discussion of the importance of one of the optional course textbooks or your assignment will be considered incomplete.
7) A title page with your name, a title for your future research, the date of submission and the course number on it.
Term 2 Assignment 7%
Students can choose to options 1 or 2 from the first term or the post-essay or group assignment below.

1) Group Presentations: A group assignment based on your essay topics following these guidelines, failure to include any part of the group assignment will result in mandatory grade penalty.
   a. A group presentation should highlight broad themes in your chosen areas of research, rather than present each person’s work individually.
   b. Present a common theme, theory or idea that unites the members of the group and tries to best encapsulate each individual member’s approach.
   c. Provide a clear common argument for your group’s perspective on Canada-US relations.
   d. Provide at least one media source that is relevant and insightful as to the group’s chosen topic.
   e. Develop a group work exercise for the class that allows the class to engage with key themes and ideas for your individual member’s work.
   f. Develop an essay question for the final exam based on the group’s work.
   g. Include a package of individual summaries (150 words per group member), that will be handed in at the end of the presentation to the instructor. The individual summary should outline your role in the group’s preparation and organization, propose a possible grade based on your participation and work, and highlight the role that your research topic has in the group’s overall presentation.

2) Term 2 Post Essay assignment: Due April 3, 2016
This assignment is a reflection on your second term’s essay’s strengths and weaknesses, as well as changes and surprises that you encountered in the writing process. For a more detailed description of expectations please see OWL. It should address the comments from the essay, or general problems or issues from the process. It is a minimum of 1250 words (5 pages) with no maximum number of pages. The assignment can use the format of the First term Preparatory Work. The Post-Essay assignment should suggest ways that the research would be improved as well as issues with sources and topics.

Term 2 Essay - 28%; Due March 20, 2016
Students will write a major research paper (A) or policy analysis (B) (based primarily on academic sources) on a topic of their choice, to be arrived at in consultation with the instructor. Essay/policy analysis topics should be chosen by week 8. In selecting a topic, you should be as imaginative and innovative as possible while bearing in mind the availability of relevant primary sources and the soundness of the topic in a theoretical sense. The topic selection requires a discussion with the instructor to determine the essay/policy topic. Not discussing the essay topic prior to choosing one may result in papers with limited relevance to Canada-US relations, and will be unable to achieve full marks. Students must engage with at least one optional textbook per term (2 minimum) to complete the assignment. A penalty of five (5) percent per day (excluding weekends) to a maximum of 5 days will be assessed for essays/policy analyses submitted after the due date. In the interest of fairness to all students, there will be no exceptions to this unless you have arranged in advance for an extension. All extensions must be arranged in advance of the day on which a paper is due. Papers submitted after deadlines (including excused late papers) will be marked, but comments may not be provided.

A) Final paper requirements: The final draft of the paper should be 15 pages (3750 words) in length (excluding the bibliography) and must be presented in proper scholarly format. See the Criteria for Evaluation of Written Assignments and the Essay Evaluation Checklist for a detailed description of the essay requirements.

B) Policy analysis requirements: Policy analysis is not a formal essay; it is an assessment and appraisal of an existing policy with recommendations and proposals based on evidence and a theoretical orientation (a fundamental belief in the way the world functions). The policy analysis should be 15 pages (with properly sourced and relevant infographics, charts or illustrations). A policy analysis should include the following components:
1. An executive summary: 200 words, with the purpose of the analysis on the first page. It should be
clear and concise and summarize the entire policy analysis.
3. Background: contextualize the issue, state your interest in the issue, identify actors and discuss key elements of the issue. This should engage with the history and context of the issue for both Canada and the US as well as engaging with at least 2 of the suggested textbooks.
4. Policy options: a policy analysis should include three policy options moving forward. These options should anticipate opposition; outline the advantages and disadvantages as well as any factors impacting the implementation of the proposal. In other words, your policy options should address their feasibility and the most grounded perspective possible.
5. Policy recommendation: you must recommend one of the policy options and justify the choice without excessive equivocation. You should also propose a plan of implementation for your policy recommendation.
6. A list of references and sources used throughout the summary. Footnotes should also be used throughout the text.

**Final Exam – 14% (During Exam Period)**
The final exam will focus on issues and concepts from the *entire course*, and the officially scheduled exam will likely include an essay and short term format. If offered, the take home exam will be available to write on Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout the exam period. The exam will be written in proper essay format with academic sources and reference to a relevant textbook from each term, received within 24 hours of receipt and a maximum of 8 pages. Students may be given the opportunity to participate in the creation of exam questions, as well as voting on format and terms included on the exam.

### Assignment Descriptions and Learning Outcomes

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Identify key themes and arguments in written work, synthesize arguments analytically into written form</td>
<td>Recognize the importance of listening; communicate verbally and in analytic and clear fashion; an awareness of the extensive and limits of one’s own knowledge, informed by exposure to information, concepts, theories and experience</td>
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<td>Response Papers</td>
<td>Ability to identify different methodological approaches; apply a specific methodological approach to a specific Canada-US issue; analyze the Canada-US issue for trajectory; evaluate likely outcomes of the issue</td>
<td>Communicate in written form in an analytical and clear fashion; an awareness of the extensive and limits of one’s own knowledge; assess evidence critically; well-developed research skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay/Policy Analysis</td>
<td>Ability to identify different methodological approaches; apply a specific methodological approach to a specific Canada-US issue; analyze the Canada-US issue for trajectory; evaluate likely outcomes of the issue</td>
<td>Communicate in written form in an analytical and clear fashion; an awareness of the extensive and limits of one’s own knowledge; assess evidence critically; well-developed research skills</td>
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<td>Article Review</td>
<td>Ability to identify different methodological approaches; analyze written work for the arguments about a Canada-US issue; evaluate the effectiveness of the argument</td>
<td>Identify Canada-US issues in academic and popular arguments; assess the foundation and validity of claims about the Canada-US issue; critically assess the history and context used to justify contemporary claims</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparatory Work</td>
<td>Ability to identify different methodological approaches; apply a specific methodological approach to a specific Canada-US issue; analyze the Canada-US issue for trajectory; evaluate likely outcomes of the issue</td>
<td>Identify Canada-US issues in academic and popular arguments; assess the foundation and validity of claims about the Canada-US issue; critically assess the history and context used to justify contemporary claims</td>
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<td><strong>Peer editing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Critically assess each other’s arguments for validity in terms of Canada-US relations; gain a basic understanding of the academic editing process; work with peers to develop strong arguments about Canada-US relations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Group Presentations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ability to identify different methodological approaches; apply a specific methodological approach to a specific Canada-US issue; analyze the Canada-US issue for trajectory; evaluate likely outcomes of the issue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Post Essay Assignment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Identify key themes and arguments in one’s own written work, synthesize arguments analytically into written form; Communicate in written form in an analytical and clear fashion; an awareness of the extensive and limits of one’s own knowledge; assess evidence critically;</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Exam</strong></td>
<td><strong>Communicate in a written format in an analytical and clear fashion; situate knowledge historically and contextually; assess evidence critically; how power culture and history condition knowledge formation; understand the ambiguity, uncertainty, ubiquitous and controversial nature of politics</strong></td>
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**Guidelines for Success in Class**

Since there seldom are definitive answers to the questions we will be asking about Canadian-US relations, and much of what you will learn in this course will be enhanced by the ideas and perspectives of your colleagues. But for this to work, everyone must participate fully and constructively. Be mindful of the following points, and you will be successful:

1. Come to all classes having read the assigned readings for that week and prepared to participate in discussion. It is useful to remember that some week’s readings may be more relevant to your research interests than others, and focusing on readings that are most salient to your interests will ensure maximum usefulness in the course.
2. Participate in discussions, but do not over-participate. Everyone must be given an opportunity to take part in discussions. Constructive participation involves the raising of relevant points and ideas. Online participation will be considered as well in participation marks.
3. Demonstrate respect for the ideas presented by others at all times. This is essential to open discussion and the free exchange of ideas. This does not mean that you must agree with others. Informal debate will teach you even more about your own position while simultaneously exposing you to different viewpoints. Make use of such opportunities, but no disrespectful behavior will be tolerated.
4. Raise questions when you have them. Raising useful questions counts as participation. You can use minute papers, online forums, e-mail, twitter, facebook or in class lecture to raise questions you encounter throughout the course. Uncertainties are usually shared by others – when you raise your questions in class everyone learns while you build your own participation grade.

**Criteria for Evaluation of Written Assignments**

These criteria will be used in evaluation of written work and possibly in combination with the checklist below. Please be sure to read them carefully:

**Analytical Content**: Higher grades will be given to work that demonstrates the ability to interpret, critically assess and develop insights of the material. To determine whether or not your argument is analytical, ask...
yourself "Am I demonstrating to the reader my insights in an academic way?" If you are simply summarizing or describing in detail phenomena, your work is unlikely to have high analytical content.

Helpful signs you are not developing analytical content: Excessive quotes; beginning or ending a paragraph with a quote; short (fewer than 4 sentences) paragraphs; no sources in a long paragraph; lack of similar argument in introduction and conclusion.

Development of an Argument: Higher grades will be given to work that has a clearly stated argument and a set of logically developed and reasonably comprehensive points in support of that argument. Academic arguments need not be personal (though in certain instances they can be – check with the instructor), rather they demonstrate the logical progression of the position you are developing. The key here is to attempt to convince your reader of the soundness or feasibility of your argument. Nuanced arguments recognize obvious criticisms and seek to address them logically. Consistency of an argument throughout a paper is important.

Helpful signs your argument may be in trouble: Using the same author or quote more than a few times in successive paragraphs; your introduction and conclusion are not similar; you introduce material in the introduction and the conclusion that cannot be found elsewhere; you have quotes in your conclusion; your attempt to address obvious criticisms contradicts your thesis, you adopt multiple theoretical frameworks; you cannot find any sources that agree with your central claims.

Grammar, Spelling, and Style: Higher grades will be given to written work that is grammatically correct and is clearly and accurately written, while lower grades will be given to work that is difficult to read or understand due to excessive grammatical and/or spelling errors.

While different approaches work for different people, it is recommended that you try the following every time you have a written assignment: after completing your assignment, put it away for a while (ideally, for a few days); when you pick it up again, read it carefully, slowly, and aloud (when we are familiar with a paper we tend to skim it during proof-reading, thereby missing errors – so make sure you are reading it word for word). Mistakes in grammar may not always look wrong, but they usually sound wrong. If you need some help with writing style or grammar, there are many resources available on campus.

Meeting the Requirements of the Assignment: All written work must be submitted on time, must be of the appropriate length, must use the required number and type of resources, and, most importantly, must address the issues or questions posed in the assignment.

Important Notices
General
All students must complete all course requirements. Failure to do so (e.g., by not handing-in an assignment or by missing an examination without due cause) will subject the student to the appropriate University regulations. Students must also keep a duplicate copy of their assignments.

Late Assignments - Formal Guidelines
Late papers will be accepted, but will be subject to a late penalty of 5 per cent per weekday to a maximum of 5 days, after which they will not be accepted and a mark of 0 will be recorded. In the interest of fairness to all students, there will be no exceptions to this unless you have arranged in advance for an extension. All extensions must be arranged in advance of the day on which a paper is due. Papers submitted after deadlines (including excused late papers) will be marked, but comments will not be provided.

Plagiarism
Students must also note that it is a serious academic offense to hand in the same assignment to two or
more courses or to pass off another person’s work as their own (i.e., plagiarism). The University of Western Ontario “Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy” defines plagiarism as follows:

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).

At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required: (i) to pass a brief oral examination on their assignment before a final grade is assigned and/or (ii) provide and electronic copy of their assignment so that their work can be checked using plagiarism-checking software (e.g., Turnitin.com). As stated in the University of Western Ontario “Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy:”

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).

Examinations
The final course examinations will be held during the regular examination periods. No substitute examinations will be given; therefore students should not make their travel plans until they know their examination schedules.

Reading Note
Bear in mind that much of this course will be tailored to your interests, so you should be selective and use your discretion when reading course material. Like the course texts, many of the weeks assigned readings have optional or bonus material which will benefit some students more than others. Some longer articles and chapters may be less relevant to your area of interest and can be skimmed rather than read in great detail. The readings in this course provide a well-rounded understanding of Canada US relations, and all students are encouraged students to do all readings, but scheduling constraints and other course demands will always be an issue. Be strategic in your emphasis and selective in your choices to maximize the effectiveness of this course for your studies.
Reading Schedule

**Week 1 - September 12 - Intro and Overview of Course**

**Week 2 - September 19 - Overview and Attitudes**
- John McDougall, Canada-U.S. Relations at the Turn of the Century, ch. 2.
- Norman Hillmer, Are Canadians Anti-American? Policy Options (July/August, 2006).
- Carl Elk, Canada –US Relations, Congressional Research Service, April 2012 pages 1-12

**Week 3 - September 26 - Characterizing Canada-US Relations – Who has the best metaphor?**

**Week 4 – October 3 – Upping the Anti: Anti-Canadianism and Anti-Americanism**
- Lumsden, Ian, ed. Close the 49th parallel, etc: the Americanization of Canada. Edited by Ian Lumsden for the University League for Social Reform. Toronto, University of Toronto Press [1970].

October 10 – Thanksgiving – NO CLASS

**Week 5 - October 17 – Gun control – When is freedom dangerous?**
- For Discussion [http://truthout.org/news/item/13890-the-second-amendment-was-ratified-to-preserve-slavery](http://truthout.org/news/item/13890-the-second-amendment-was-ratified-to-preserve-slavery)

**Week 6 - October 24 – How are policies coordinated?**

**Week 7 – October 31 – Trade Policy and Economic Legacies**
Week 8 – November 7 – 9/11, Borders and the Rise of the Right (MOST TERM 1 ASSIGNMENTS DUE)


Week 9 – November 14 - Theorizing Canada-US dynamics - Is Canada subject to American Imperialism?

- George Grant, Lament for a Nation: The defeat of Canadian Nationalism (Ottawa: Carleton University Press, 1965). Ch 1 and 2.

Week 10 – November 21 - The Politics and Race in Canada and the US

- Baldwin, Andrew, Laura Cameron, and Audrey Kobayashi, eds. Rethinking the great white north: Race, nature, and the historical geographies of whiteness in Canada. UBC Press, 2011. Introduction

Week 11 - November 28 – Where is the Arctic and what kind of sovereignty is it?


Week 12 – December 5– The Wheat Economy and EXAM REVIEW


TERM 2

Week 13 – January 9- Religion and Politics in Canada and the US


Week 14 - January 16 – Leadership and Prime Minister-President Dynamics

Week 15 - January 23 – Culture, Survival and Donuts


Week 16 - January 30 – Protecting Canada: Internet, Satire and Beer


Week 17 - February 6 - Missile Defense and Nationalism

- Cristina Masters, "Gendered Defences, Gendered Offences: What is at Stake in the Politics of Missile Defence?" Canadian Foreign Policy, 12, 1 (Spring 2005), 105-118.

Week 18 - February 13 – Canada, the US, Haiti

- Podur, Justin. Haiti’s New Dictatorship, Pluto 2012. Intro and Ch, 1.

February 20- Reading Week – No Classes

Week 19 - February 27 - North American Water Management


Week 20 – March 6 - North American Energy Issues


Week 21 - March 13 – Cyber-threats and Cyber-cooperation


Week 22 - March 20- Aboriginal 'North America'

- Irlbacher-Fox, Stephanie. Finding Dashaa: Self-government, Social Suffering And, Aboriginal Policy in


Week 23 - March 27 - Social Welfare and Assistance Policies


Week 24 – April 3 – Regionalism and Integration in North America + EXAM REVIEW

- McDougal, "Political integration in Europe and North America" Chapters 6 and 7.
Well Done/Average/Problem

Focus/Main Arguments/Purpose
- Introduction overviews argument and is directly relevant to thesis
- Thesis is clear and strongly linked to Canada-US relations
- Thesis clearly articulates an approved approach to Canada-US relations
- Introduction outlines the three major arguments that will appear in the essay
- Introduction is concise, free of hyperbole and outlandish claims

Content/Support/Key Ideas
- Each paragraph has a clear topic/theme and is linked to the three main arguments
- Analytical arguments (why does this matter to my thesis?) are used in each section
- Claims and observations are supported by diverse (non-repetitive) and primarily academic sources
- Critical thinking and critique is used when dealing with common concepts in Canada-US relations and course material
- Primary attention is paid to the argument without excessive focus on counter-arguments
- Overall, your argument is reasonable, logically and follows from your thesis

Citations and Quotations
- Dictionary and encyclopedia definitions are never used
- Proper use of quotation marks, referencing and consistent citation throughout the entire paper
- All quotes over 4 lines long are inset, and the immediate sentence following the quote explains its significance to the paragraph (no ‘self-explanatory’ quotes, always assume I haven’t read your quote)
- Sources are not repetitive, authors are not used excessively, and an array of viewpoints are referenced
- Citation method includes complete and easily accessible information and no ‘uwu’ URLs

Research
- No textbooks are used for primary arguments, the McDougal text is not directly referenced more than 3 times
- Insights from class discussion are considered and key concepts from the course are dealt with in detail
- No single text is considered authoritative or exhaustive on any issue or topic
- Relevant academic debates and recent pertinent events are referenced
- Academic journals or relevant recent books are the cornerstone of the analytical arguments and approach

Organization
- Introduction and conclusion make similar arguments and assess the overall validity of your approach
- Subheadings separate different sections when necessary and appropriate
- Paragraphs are unified around one issue, case or example and clearly linked to the central argument
- There is a logical order of ideas, and no excessive repetition, or filler to hit page limits
- There is a logical order of ideas, and no excessive repetition, or filler to hit page limits

Expression/Style
- Language is specific, avoiding broad generalizations on excessive lack of nouns
- Hyperbole (‘the US waited forever’; ‘All Canadians believe that...’) is avoided
- The prose is graceful and free of jargon, slang, textisms (‘lol’, ‘omg’, ‘wtf’)
- Words are used correctly, thesaurus has not been used excessively
- Rhetoric is minimized and ‘rule of three’ is avoided (‘the US dealt with insult, injury and exploitation’)
- Meanings are clear - there is no need to read between the lines
- Ad hominem, straw man and deference/appeals to authority are not used as the foundation for critical thought

Mechanics
- Sentences are short, concise, and rarely longer than 2-3 lines
- There are no sentence fragments (less than ¼ of a line), or run-on sentences (or excessive use of semi-colons)
- Spelling is accurate, capitalization is consistent
- Abbreviations are always explained on first use (WTO [World Trade Organization], contractions avoided (can’t, won’t)
- Subjects agree with verbs, pronouns agree with their antecedents

Format
- Essays include full reference list with all sources listed
- Essays are typed, double-spaced, single sided, on white paper, and stapled together
- Title page with name, date, instructor, student number and descriptive and relevant title is included
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.

Mental Health at Western: If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for more information on these resources and on mental health.

1 Portions of this course outline have drawn on the course outlines, advice and insights of Isabella Bakker, J. Marshall Beier, Stephen Burgess-Whiting, H. McKeen-Edwards, Srdjan Vucetic and John Kirton. All courtesy and thanks is given to these authors.