

**Political Science 1020E:  
INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE  
2020-2021**

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**Course Description:  
What is this Course about?**

What is politics?  
Who has political power and why?  
Who gets to speak and what happens when they are not heard?  
What are different ways to set up political systems and government?  
What is democracy and is it the best political system?  
What do ideas like capitalism, socialism, equality or freedom mean in politics?  
How must politics transform to address reconciliation, racism, gender, sexualities, ableism, settler colonialism, and fundamentalism and their impact on everyday life?  
Why do people and states fight each other?  
Should international rules govern the Internet, pandemic responses, refugee policies, or Indigenous-settler treaties?  
Should the environment be a political priority and why is it not?

Together, we will consider what is politics, worldviews which explain our political world, the different political systems and institutions, and important global issues.



Online ordering URL: <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/political-ideologies-andrew-heywood-v9781137606044?term=9781137606044>

Wolff, Jonathan. *An Introduction to Political Philosophy*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016.

E-book ISBN: 9780191074837

Online ordering URL: <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/an-introduction-to-political-philosophy-jonathan-wolff-v9780191074837?term=9780191074837>

**TERM 2:**

Love, Maryann Cuismano. *Global Issues beyond Sovereignty*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

E-book ISBN: 9781538117354

Online ordering URL: <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781538117354>

For tutorials, readings' and videos' links & URLs will be posted on the OWL site itself, so are not listed on this Course Outline.

**Learning Outcomes:  
What is this Course teaching you?**

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Learning Outcomes</i>
Tutorial Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize the importance of engaging colleagues' ideas</li> <li>• Communicate verbally in an analytic and clear fashion</li> <li>• An awareness of the extent and limits of one's own knowledge, informed by exposure to information, concepts, theories and experience</li> </ul>
Essays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational skills that contribute to scholarly and personal independence</li> <li>• Well-developed research skills, such as those articulated by the Political Science Research Competency Guidelines adopted by the Association of College and Research Libraries</li> <li>• Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion</li> <li>• Situate knowledge historically and contextually</li> <li>• Assess evidence critically</li> <li>• Ethical dimensions of problem identification and methodology</li> </ul>
Lectures & Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of diverse theories and approaches</li> <li>• Understanding of methods; knowledge of epistemological approaches and ontological diversity</li> <li>• Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion</li> <li>• Situate knowledge historically and contextually</li> <li>• Assess evidence critically</li> <li>• How power, culture and history condition knowledge formation</li> <li>• Understand the ambiguity, uncertainty, ubiquitous and controversial nature of politics</li> </ul>

## Course Requirements: How are you graded?

Your grade will be determined as described below.

### 10% Tutorial Participation:

Term 1: 5%

Term 2: 5%

### 30% Essay

Bibliography: 5%

Outline: 5%

Essay: 20%

### 60% Exams:

Nov: 15%

Dec: 15%

Feb: 15%

Apr: 15%

**Tutorials:** Typically, tutorials are small group meetings, led by a Teaching Assistant (TA), to discuss weekly topics, share thoughts on the Readings, and encourage public speaking skills in a supportive and constructive environment. Given our current situation, we provide an *asynchronous tutorial experience*, but if and where possible, we may provide some synchronous opportunities. Some tutorial materials will also be tested on the exams (and these materials will be stated and clarified before the exam). Most importantly, you must show you have read/viewed the tutorial materials by connecting them clearly in your responses and postings in response to the tutorial questions. More details will be posted on the OWL site.

**Essay:** A key aspect of Political Science is learning to write strong, well-researched and properly argued essays. Thus, we use a scaffolding process to help you learn to write a strong essay. First, we will show you how to generate and write an academic and scholarly Essay Bibliography. Second, after reading and reviewing your sources, you will produce an Essay Outline so we can help you develop strong arguments and ensure your arguments have support in and draw from your sources. Finally, you pull together your research and arguments into the Final Essay, which has particular components – thesis, citations, etc. – and show your ability to make coherent, interconnected, well-written, well-researched and well-argued analyses of your essay topic. More details will be posted on the OWL site.

**Exams:** The exams are all multiple-choice and will be based on the lectures, the textbook and some specified tutorial content. The purpose of the exams is to evaluate your learning, knowledge and engagement with the course materials.

## OWL Website: Why should I check this regularly?

To enter our OWL website, go to <http://owl.uwo.ca> to look for your “POLISCI 1020E” tab. On this website, you will find information about the class, grades, tutorial information, links to other resources, and more. In particular, Lecture Videos will be posted on the OWL site and Tutorial Participation is done through the OWL site. It is recommended you set aside a time every week to watch the videos and take notes. All exams will be completed through the OWL site.



**Schedule of First Term Lectures and Tutorials:**  
**What questions are we covering? What do we read? What are the Learning Outcomes?**

Wk	Date	Lecture	Learning Outcomes
1	Wed Sep 9	<p><i>Who/What/Why of Poli Sci</i></p> <p>Introduction to the Course</p> <p>What is Political Science? Why Study it? Why does Politics matter? What are some key questions and concepts?</p> <p>What is the Westphalian State? What are some philosophical arguments about why the State was created? What is the State of Nature?</p> <p>Reading: Wolff, Chapter 1</p> <p>Tutorial 1: Who are you? Tell us a bit about yourself ... → Go to the OWL site's "Forums" page to participate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand what is Political Science</li> <li>• Distinguish between Political Science and politics, but also their relationship</li> <li>• Evaluate approaches to studying Political Science</li> <li>• Evaluate the philosophical arguments for the State as Western globalized concept</li> </ul>
2	Mon Sep 14	<p><i>History of The State, Types and Political Obligation</i></p> <p>What is the historical development of the Westphalian State? Why do we follow the State? What are the types of State? Why is it important and problematic?</p> <p>Reading: Wolff, Chapter 2; Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapter 2</p> <p>Tutorial 2: When are we Justified in Disobeying the State? See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a definition, description and criteria for understanding the State</li> <li>• Evaluate the historical development of the State as Western globalized concept</li> <li>• Analyze arguments as to why there is Political Obligation to follow the State</li> </ul>
3	Mon Sep 21	<p><i>Government, Authority, Democracy and Liberty</i></p> <p>Who should rule? What is Liberty? What is Democracy? What is Legitimacy?</p> <p>Reading: Wolff, Chapter 3 &amp; 4; Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapter 4</p> <p>Tutorial 3: Should free speech ever be limited? Under what conditions and why? If never, why not? See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn definitions of key concepts: liberty, democracy, legitimacy, coercion, property, justice</li> <li>• Understand important debates about these key concepts</li> </ul>
4	Mon Sep 28	<p><i>Justice, Property and Nationalism</i></p> <p>What is Distributive Justice? What are some approaches to Justice? What is Property? What is a Nation? What is Nationalism? What are the types of Nationalism?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapter 6</p> <p>Tutorial 4: How should we deal with the issue of economic inequality in distributive justice? See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiate between Justice and Distributive Justice</li> <li>• Understand what is Property and why it matters to Justice and Politics</li> <li>• Develop a definition, description and criteria for understanding Nationalism</li> </ul>

5	Mon Oct 5	<p><i>Ideologies and Liberalism</i></p> <p>What are Ideologies? What are the key ideas of Liberalism?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Political Ideologies</i> Chapter 1 &amp; 2</p> <p>Tutorial 5: Tutorial: Are liberal democracies the best form of government? See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand what is an 'ideology' and its component elements</li> <li>• Develop a definition, description and criteria for understanding the ideology</li> <li>• Evaluate the historical development and contemporary relevance of the ideology</li> </ul>
6	Mon Oct 12	<p><i>Conservatism and Marxism</i></p> <p>What are the key ideas of Conservatism? What are the key ideas of Marxism?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Political Ideologies</i> Chapter 3 &amp; 4</p> <p>Tutorial 6: Should property rights be absolute? What property should be owned by the State for collective benefit? When should the State be allowed to take your property? See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a definition, description and criteria for understanding the ideology</li> <li>• Evaluate the historical development and contemporary relevance of the ideology</li> </ul>
7	Mon Oct 19	<p><i>Fascism, Feminism and Environmentalism</i></p> <p>What are the key ideas of Fascism? What are the key ideas of Feminism? What are the key ideas of Environmentalism?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Political Ideologies</i> Chapter 7, 8 &amp; 9</p> <p>Tutorial 7: What policies should be pursued to deal with gender inequalities and why? See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a definition, description and criteria for understanding the ideology</li> <li>• Evaluate the historical development and contemporary relevance of the ideology</li> </ul>
	Mon Oct 26	<p>Essay Bibliography is due by 11:55pm via OWL site, so check OWL site for submission details</p>	
8	Mon Oct 26	<p><i>Multiculturalism, Radical Political Islamism and Indigenous Politics</i></p> <p>What are the key ideas of Multiculturalism? What are the key ideas of Political Islamism? What are the key ideas of Indigenous Politics?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Political Ideologies</i> Chapter 10 &amp; 11</p> <p>Tutorial 8: <i>What is Canadian multiculturalism? Is it a beneficial or negative approach to dealing with multi-ethnic societies?</i> See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a definition, description and criteria for understanding the ideology</li> <li>• Evaluate the historical development and contemporary relevance of the ideology</li> </ul>
	Nov 2-8	<p>READING WEEK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destress! Take a break! Connect with Loved Ones</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>and Friends</li> <li>• Prepare for Exam</li> </ul>
9	Mon Nov 9	<p>Political Regimes, Constitutions and Government</p> <p>What is a Political Regime? What are some types of Political Regimes? What is a Constitution and Constitutionalism?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapter 5 and Chapter 13 292-304</p> <p>Tutorial 9: What is your analysis of the US election? What should be the priority for the President-elect and Congress? <i>See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define what is covered by the idea of a Political Regime and Constitutionalism</li> <li>• Analyze the different Political Regimes to understand contemporary relevance</li> </ul>
X	Sat Nov 14 11am- 1pm	<p>TERM 1 MID-TERM EXAM via OWL and ProctorTrack Covers: Weeks 1-8 <i>BUT NO Tutorial materials</i></p> <p>[NOTE: SRA and Counselling Accommodation exams will be held on Friday Nov 20 4-6pm]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review lectures and textbook readings</li> <li>• Synthesize information</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge of course materials</li> </ul>
10	Mon Nov16	<p>What is the Electoral System? What is a Political Party? Why do we need Political Parties? What are Political Party Systems?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapter 10 and 11</p> <p>Tutorial 10: Why are people voting for populist parties? Are populist parties a threat to democracy? <i>See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand what are Electoral and Party Systems and how they are connected</li> <li>• Compare different Political Parties in theoretical understandings and apply to contemporary political parties in different countries</li> </ul>
11	Mon Nov 23	<p>What is the Executive? What is the Bureaucracy? How are they connected?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapters 14 and 16</p> <p>Tutorial 11: Who is more powerful: a Prime Minister or a President? Are more limits on executive branch powers better or a hinderance to 'good government'? <i>See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define these Branches of Government</li> <li>• Describe their roles and differences, including across different countries' political systems</li> <li>• Evaluate their role in governance</li> </ul>
12	Mon Nov 30	<p>What are Assemblies? What is the Judiciary?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapters 15 and 13, 307-313</p> <p>Tutorial 12: Why are young people not participating in formal politics? Are young people not politically-engaged at all? <i>See OWL site for videos list URL and/or readings.</i></p> <p><i>Also last tutorial for the first Term 1, so do thank your TA and classmates for a fun tutorial!</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define these Branches of Government</li> <li>• Describe their roles and differences, including across different countries' political systems</li> <li>• Analyze and evaluate their role in governance</li> </ul>
13	Mon Dec 7	<p>What is a Political Culture? What is the relationship between Media and Politics? What is a 'post-truth' politics?</p> <p>Reading: Heywood <i>Politics</i> Chapter 9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the cultural context of politics</li> <li>• Evaluate the contemporary impact of the changing</li> </ul>

			landscape of media – regular, social, etc. – on politics
	?	<p>TERM 1 FINAL EXAM          Scheduled by the Registrar via OWL and ProctorTrack          Covers: Weeks 9-13 AND <i>Select Tutorial material (see OWL site)</i></p>	•

**Key Dates:**  
**What Assignment dates are most important?**

Weekly, due by Thursdays 11:55pm	Tutorial Participation
Mon Oct 26 11:55pm	Essay Bibliography
Sat Nov 14 11am-1pm	Term 1 Mid-Term Exam
December	Term 1 Final Exam
Mon Jan 25 11:55pm	Essay Outline
Sat Feb 27 11am-1pm	Term 2 Mid-Term Exam
Mon Mar 15 11:55pm	Essay
April	Term 2 April Exam

**Key Dates:**  
**What general dates are most important?**



September 07, 2020	Labour Day; Western closed
September 09, 2020	Fall/ Winter term classes begin
September 17, 2020	Last day of registration; Last day to add a course on campus or Distance Studies



October 12, 2020	Thanksgiving; Western closed
November 02 to 08, 2020	Fall Reading Week
November 30, 2020	Last day to drop a full course without academic penalty
December 09, 2020	Fall/ Winter Term classes end
December 10, 2020	Study Day
December 11 to 22, 2020	Mid-year examination period
December 22 to January 03, 2020	Holidays; Western closed
January 04, 2021	Classes resume
February 13 to 21, 2021	Spring Reading Week
April 02, 2021	Good Friday; Western closed
April 05, 2021	Fall/ Winter Term classes end
April 06 to 07, 2021	Study Days
April 08 to 30, 2021	Final examination period

(Source: <https://www.uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/important%20dates.html>)

**Important Information &  
Rules About the Course:  
What are some general rules governing this course?**

1. Necessary conditions for passing this course: you must **submit the Essay and complete all Exams** for the course. If you do not meet the aforementioned conditions, then *you will receive a failing grade for the course*. You should contact Nig Narain ([nnarain@uwo.ca](mailto:nnarain@uwo.ca)) **immediately** to sort out these matters
2. Pre-requisites and Anti-Requisites:  
Prerequisites: none  
Anti-requisites: the former Politics 020E and 021F-026G, Politics 1020E 002, Politics 1020E 003, Politics 1021F/G-1026F/G  
Please Note: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite 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*
3. USE your UWO/Western email account: Send and receive emails by the UWO email

system so that your information is confidential and secure. Also, your non-UWO email may get caught in spam, etc., and may not get a response or review.

4. Non-medical and medical accommodation: Students should check out the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>). For assignments worth 10% or more, documentation must be submitted by the student directly to *their* appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the Instructor or TA, and the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted. Any non-medical absences or absences for assignments worth less than 10%, will be dealt with by the Instructor on a case-by-case basis, and may include consultation with the Department of Political Science, Academic Counsellor and/or the Deans' offices. For tutorials, note that only 8 out of 10 tutorials are considered for the grade, so 2 tutorial absences are provided, and *NO further* accommodation without medical documentation will be provided.
5. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices: NO electronics devices are allowed during tests and examinations.
6. 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, at the following Web site:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)
7. Concerning Turnitin: "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>)."  
Also check:  
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID>
8. Multiple-Choice Exam format checking software: "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."  
Also check:  
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID>

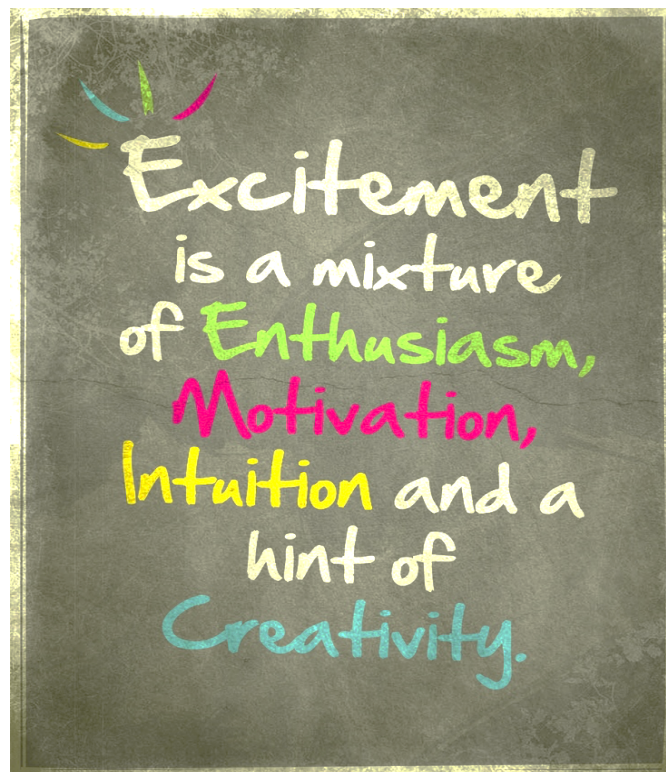
9. Support Services: “Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

Respectful conduct and engagement: Note conduct should accord with the University of Western Ontario Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed as a PDF from: [http://studentexperience.uwo.ca/student\\_experience/studentconduct.html](http://studentexperience.uwo.ca/student_experience/studentconduct.html).

In general, please be respectful of and courteous to yourself, me, our TAs, your class colleagues, and others during discussions and other course engagements.

10. *Please also read the Appendices which follow after this page.*

*Approach us with your questions or concerns:  
we want to help YOU  
learn, improve & do your best. ☺*



NOTE: As we are in a situation of 'emergency remote online teaching' and subject to technology and other issues out of our control, we may need to make adjustments to the above as needed. We will inform you as soon as possible of necessitated changes, and will work to minimize impact on you and our course. Thank you in advance for your cooperation! ☺

## 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/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.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.**

## Attendance Regulations for Examinations

EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE (Sen. Min. Feb.4/49, May 23/58, S.94, S.3538, S.3632, S.04-097) A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations: 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year. 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

## Medical Policy, Late Assignments, etc.

Students registered in Social Science should refer to [https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical\\_accommodation.html](https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html) 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.

## University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

**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

## 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](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

- The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at [www.registrar.uwo.ca](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca)
  - Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here) can be reached at:

<https://westernusc.ca/your-services/>

- Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://sdc.uwo.ca/>
- Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

## Procedures for Requesting Academic Consideration

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes: Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form provided that the conditions for submission are met;

- For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in order to be eligible for academic consideration. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Counselling unit to clarify what documentation is appropriate.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (upset stomach) or upsets (argument with a friend) are **not** an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- must communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence.

Academic consideration **is not** normally intended for students who require academic accommodation based on an ongoing physical or mental illness (recurring or chronic) or an existing disability. These students are expected to seek and arrange reasonable accommodations with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible in accordance with the Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disability.

Students who experience high levels of stress related to academic performance (including completing assignments, taking part in presentations, or writing tests or examinations). These students should access support through Student Health and Wellness and Learning Skills Services in order to deal with this stress in a proactive and constructive manner.

## Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the **online Self-Reported Absence portal**. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities **within 48 hours or less**.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances: Students will be allowed:

- a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April;
- a maximum of one self-reported absence between May and August.

Any absences in excess of the number designated above, regardless of duration, will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities.

- The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
- The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (write a test, submit a paper) during that time; • The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30 am on the day following the last day of classes each semester regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- Self-reported absences **will not be** allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period;
- Self-reporting **may not be** used for assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.
- students must be in touch with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

## Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

Students seeking academic consideration for a medical absence not covered by existing Student Accessibility Services (SAS) accommodation, will be required to provide documentation in person to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in the form of a completed, signed Student Medical Certificate (SMC) where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.

## Request for Academic Consideration for a Non-Medical Absence

Students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence will be required to provide appropriate documentation to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.