



POLI-203 – Canadian Government & Politics

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022
Course Outline Review Date: 2022-09-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course introduces students to Canadian government and politics by concentrating on the theoretical constructs fashioned by political scientists. Students develop an even more in-depth comprehension of the historical foundation and current operation of the Constitution/Charter of Rights and Freedoms as well as the four institutional components of the federal system. Students will be exposed to various issues surrounding these aspects of this national field of political science.

Program Information:

This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several University Studies Programs. Refer to the College Program Calendar for additional information.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences

Instructional Activity and Hours:

| Activity | Hours |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction | 45 |
| Seminar/Tutorials | |
| Laboratory/Studio | |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Practicum/Field Experience | |
| Co-op/Work Experience | |
| Other | |
| Total | 45 |

Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at other BC institutions, please see <http://www.bctransferguide.ca>. All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in BC or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrollment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Dyck, Rand. (2012) *Canadian Politics. Concise Fifth Edition*. Toronto: Nelson Education.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand the concept of political analysis;
- appreciate the complexity of political science and its relevance to events in our own time;
- employ social science research techniques to develop sound oral presentations;
- analyze, assess, and respect multiple points of view;
- develop informed opinions by reading political texts critically;
- use social science research techniques to complete written assignments, including the proper documenting of sources; and
- gain an appreciation for what political scientists accomplish with their study.

Course Topics:

- Historical Context and Institutional Foundations
- Canadian Constitution and Constitutional Change
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- The Provinces and the Federal System
- Policy Making Process
- The Executive
- Parliament
- Political Parties
- The Bureaucracy

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

| Assessment Type | % of Total Grade |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Class Participation | 5% |
| Course Tests and Quizzes | 35% |
| Issues of the Day Research/Discussion | 25% |
| Research Essay | 35% |
| Total | 100% |

Grade Scheme

| A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D | F |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| >=90 | 89-85 | 84-80 | 79-76 | 75-72 | 71-68 | 67-64 | 63-60 | 59-55 | 54-50 | <50 |

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
 - Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty
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Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.