

APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
School of liberal Arts
Winter, 2019



COURSE OUTLINE

POLI 101

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: Michael Kulachkosky

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APPROVED BY: Andrew Richardson

DATE: April 30, 2018

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THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

INSTRUCTOR: Sara McPhee-Knowles

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

OFFICE LOCATION:

CLASSROOM: Online

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TELEPHONE:

DATES: Jan-Apr 2019

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the institutional and constitutional structure of government in Canada and its relationship to a variety of issues in civil society. Topics include its fundamental framework, the constitution, the core institutions of governance and politics, citizen participation, and such contemporary issues as nationalism, regionalism, multiculturalism and reconciliation. The course offers students an overview of the important pieces of the contemporary system of government in Canada to serve as a basis for debate and discussion of modern political issues, and will make connections between Canadian government institutions and policies and Indigenous peoples and governance.

PREREQUISITES

None.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

POLI 101 is a fully online course; therefore, students must have their own computer and Internet connection and be able to navigate current word-processing, presentation, email, and web-conferencing software. Students must have the ability to record video.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

In progress.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Demonstrate knowledge of terms, facts, and concepts relating to Canadian government and politics;

- Identify and describe the institutions of government in Canada and their historic interrelationships;
- Describe contemporary and emerging political relationships between Indigenous peoples and government;
- Demonstrate a broad understanding of Canadian government and politics;
- Analyze and respond to issues, challenges, and opportunities within Canadian politics, such as nationalism, regionalism, and multiculturalism.

COURSE FORMAT

Fully online via Yukon College's Learning Management System. Course delivery may also include scheduled, web-conference meetings between instructor and students.

ASSESSMENTS

Assignments

Current Event Linkages: Students will produce two, two-page papers linking a current event of their choosing to topics discussed in class. The instructor may choose to provide current events to choose from.

Presentation: Students will present on one theme addressed in the course. Presentations will be 8-10 minutes in length and include a one-page brief to accompany the presentation. Presentations will be recorded and uploaded so that other students may view them and provide feedback. Visual aids are optional.

Online contributions: Students will participate in discussion posts, mini quizzes, and video responses, and offer feedback on other students' presentations.

Late Assignment Policy: Without prior approval, linkage papers and presentations that are turned in late will have 2% of the final grade deducted per 24 hr period, to a maximum of 10%. Papers turned in more than 5 days late will not be accepted. Students who require an extension must contact the instructor by email prior to the assignment due date.

Tests

Mid-term Exam: Students will be assessed on their comprehension of key concepts and themes addressed up to the mid-point of the course. The exam will consist of short discussion questions and essay questions. The exam will be posted on Moodle and must be completed within a one-week period.

Final Exam: Students will be assessed on their comprehension of key concepts and themes addressed in the entire course. The exam will consist of short discussion questions and essay questions. The exam will be posted on Moodle and must be completed by the final day of the exam period.

EVALUATION

Current Events Linkage x 2	20%
Midterm Test	20%
Presentation	15%
Online contributions	15%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

Cochrane, Christopher, Kelly Blidook and Rand Dyck. *Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches*. 8th. ed.

Further readings will be provided by the instructor.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

WEEK	TOPIC
1	Introduction: course overview and syllabus; approaching the study of politics and institutional foundations and the evolution of the state
2	Constitutional development and the federal system
3	The Charter of Rights and Freedoms and intergovernmental relations: federal, provincial, territorial, and Indigenous governments
4	The policy making process and the executive
5	Parliament and the bureaucracy
6	Canada's legal system
7	Canadian political culture
8	Political parties
9	Elections and the electoral system
10	Linking people to government: citizenship engagement and participation
11	Interest and advocacy groups: social justice, indigenous rights, and lobbying
12	The social environment: multiculturalism, reconciliation, and decolonization
13	Exam Week