UNIVERSITY of ALBERTA
INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE
POL S 101 A2
Fall 2015

Instructor: Sevan Beukian
Time: MWF 11:00 – 11:50 PM
Room: SAB 436
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00AM-12:00PM or by appointment
Office: 11-7 HM Tory
E-mail: beurkibe@ualberta.ca

COURSE-BASED ETHICS APPROVAL: N/A

COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING COMPONENT: N/A

PAST OR REPRESENTATIVE EVALUATIVE COURSE MATERIAL AVAILABLE: Contact Instructor

ADDITIONAL MANDATORY INSTRUCTIONAL FEES: None

COURSE PREREQUISITES: No prerequisites. Policy about course outlines, grading and related matters can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is one term 3 credit required course, during which we will be exploring some of the most important ideas and concepts in the field of political science. The purpose of this introductory class is to familiarize students with central concepts, approaches and ideas in politics. We will be tackling concepts such as democracy, institutions, government, and ideas such as liberalism, Marxism, feminism, etc. The course will be based mostly on the required textbook, but we will also be reading some news sources which I have posted on eclass. The course is also an overview of the major subdivisions of the discipline of political science such as international relations, comparative politics, and political theory.

COURSE GOALS:

After completing this course, students will have developed a stronger understanding of the various concepts and ideas in the field of politics, more confidence in discussing matters and issues in political science. By the end of the class, the student will gain skills in critical thinking and analysis, in applying learned themes to our contemporary world situation. The class is also designed to help you in improving your public speaking skills (in terms of presenting your ideas and arguments coherently in a discussion), and your writing skills through the assignments. We will hold at least one (possibly two) writing seminar sessions during which the aim will be to present the students with techniques and tips on improving their writing skills and public speaking skills. In addition, I always encourage students to come and see me from the beginning of the term if they think they have public speaking difficulties, and I will provide them with more personalized tips on improving their performance.
CLASS FORMAT:

Mondays and Wednesdays will consist of lectures followed by some discussion time in seminar sessions on Fridays. Seminar sessions will be divided into several sections in order to ensure class sizes provide space for discussion on the lecture and reading material. Students will discuss their views, arguments and understanding of the material assigned for the week and also give presentations. Therefore, it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT for the students to DO THE WEEKLY ASSIGNED READINGS. The lectures are based on that assumption. There will be one (possibly two) writing seminars to guide you on what sources to use/not to use, how to cite/write bibliography, how to write an academic paper, and the expectations on assignments assigned for the whole term. We will also talk about plagiarism and how to avoid it.

COURSE TEXTS:

The following textbook is required for this course. You can purchase it from the University of Alberta Bookstore or on www.amazon.ca


- Optional: you can find various resources such as books, articles and newspapers through the University of Alberta Libraries, by accessing databases such as JSTOR and so on.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

The course requirements are outlined below. Students should note that in all but exceptional situations, all components of the course must be completed to receive a passing grade. Policy regarding missed term work is outlined in Section 23.4(3) of the University Calendar. Tests and assignments will be assigned a letter grade. The instructor will not ‘curve’ or adjust final grades according to any preset formula. Improvement throughout the semester will be taken into consideration. Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students’ grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>All Term</td>
<td></td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Paper</td>
<td>October 9</td>
<td></td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>November 16</td>
<td></td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>TBD (check Beartracks)</td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Response Paper: Details of the response paper will be posted online on eclass.

Final Examination: This will take place on the assigned date. There I will distribute a study guide to help you go over the major themes and questions we tackled during the term. This will be a CUMULATIVE exam. It will not be open book.

Research Paper: The first paper is about 5-7 pages long, 12 font, double spaced, pages should be numbered. All papers are handed in as HARDCOPY, printed on one side of the paper. In addition, you
can have an extra page for the title and the bibliography. I will give you essay topics to select from, and you should choose one of these topics. This is a research paper, so you are required to find additional resources online – I will hold a writing seminar to show you how to do this. You need to use 4 sources (minimum, you are NOT required to use more, but you can use more if you want to do so.) I will give you a sheet of acceptable sources to cite and use for academic papers on the writing seminar day.

There will be at least one writing workshop held in class to explain the most important points you need to remember while writing your papers. We will also discuss plagiarism and how to avoid it – let me state here that I do NOT tolerate plagiarism. In this sense, we will also cover how to quote your sources and reference them. Try to write your papers well in advance in order to leave some time for you to re-read it (check spelling mistakes and sentence structures), and submit the edited version. It is best not to submit a paper you wrote a few hours before the class! It will show in your writing. Spelling and grammatical mistakes will affect your mark. So please be careful and re-read what you wrote.

**Participation:** Students are expected to attend weekly seminars having read all of the required readings as marked on the syllabus and eclass. The participation mark will be given based on the student’s active and critical contribution to the class discussion. Student class participation will be evaluated based on the QUALITIES of the comments you make in class and not the quantity. Taking notes while reading the material for the week and preparing comments on ideas that are seem to interest the reader will help the student to contribute to the discussion segment of the class. Coming to the discussion sessions is important and will count towards the participation mark of the course. The mark of your participation will take into account student attendance, contribution to the discussion, and comments on the readings.

**Classes for the Fall term begin September 1st and end December 7, 2015.**
The Add/Drop date is September 15, 2015.
The 50% Refund Deadline is October 2, 2015.
Course Withdrawal deadline (no fee refund) is November 30, 2015.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic Integrity**
The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at [http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/ CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodesofStudentBehaviour.aspx](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodesofStudentBehaviour.aspx)) and avoid any behavior that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University. All Students should consult the Truth-In-Education handbook or Website at [http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE](http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE) regarding the definition of plagiarism and its consequences when detected.

**Learning and working environment**
The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate
behavior that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice: http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca. Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures can be found in the GFC Policy Manual, section 44 available at http://gfcpolicymanual.ualberta.ca.

Recording of Lectures
Audio or Video recording of lectures, labs, seminars, or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for the use of personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the instructor.

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components
Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absence due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by email within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of grade for the attendance and participation components of the course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completes as a result.

Late assignment policy
Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 5% per day, including weekends, for a maximum of one week. After one week, the assignment will not be accepted. If students foresee a problem in meeting an upcoming deadline, it is their responsibility to discuss alternative arrangements with the professor at least 1 week in advance. Sufficient notice will be given for all assignments, making general lateness unacceptable.

Specialized Support and Disability Services (SSDS)
If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with SSDS, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; ssdsrec@ualberta.ca; 780-492-3381; www.ssds.ualberta.ca).

Course Modification Statement
The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Date of Deferred Final Examination
Not applicable.
Grading Scheme
Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>86-89%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-85%</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>74-76%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-73%</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>64-67%</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-63%</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55-60%</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal Pass</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-55%</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 50%</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
If you have any questions or concerns about your standing in the class, lecture material, assignments, or class discussions please schedule an appointment with the instructor or drop in during office hours. I encourage students to meet with the instructor or TAs if the student feels that he or she may need alternative arrangements for class participation. We will work closely with the student in order to ensure that they are able to participate effectively and receive their marks in fairness.

OFFICE HOURS
If you have any questions or concerns regarding your standing in the class, lecture material, assignments, or class material in general, please schedule an appointment with the instructor or TA or drop in during office hours to discuss these. If you cannot make it during scheduled office hours, please email the instructor or TA to arrange an alternative time and date for meeting.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION AND ETIQUETTE
Email communication with the instructor or TA in this class should be considered formal, similar to other professional email correspondence (for work for example). Please make sure you include a subject line that briefly describes the email content. Make sure you mention the course and section you are in. Always sign your complete name at the end of your email.
It is important to write emails that are respectful and clear. Your email should address your instructor by title and name (Professor Smith, Ms. Jones) unless instructed otherwise. Finally, if you have substantive questions about the content of the course, please see me during office hours when we can talk more productively.

LAPTOPS AND TABLETS
Laptops and tablets are great ways to take notes in class if you are inclined to do so. However, please refrain from checking email or accessing the internet for recreational use during class and restrict your laptop activities to note taking or looking up items pertinent to class discussion.
FEELING OVERWHELMED? (In need of student, social, financial or security services?):

The Student Distress Centre is there to listen, offer support, supply information and provide services:

- Call: 492-HELP (492-4357)
- Drop in: 030-N in the S.U.B.
- Visit: www.su.ualberta.ca/sdc
- Chat: http://www.campuscrisischat.com/

EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR
(UPDATED EFFECTIVE APRIL, 2008)

30.3.2(1) **Plagiarism:** No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student’s own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) **Cheating:**

30.3.2(2) a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2) b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6 (4).

30.3.2(2) c No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.

30.3.2(2) d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2) e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known to the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

30.3.6(4) **Misrepresentation of Facts:** No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. See also 30.3.2(2) b, c, d and e.

30.3.6(5) **Participation in an Offence:** No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

The Truth In Education (T*I*E) project is a campus wide educational campaign on Academic Honesty. This program was created to let people know the limits and consequences of inappropriate academic behavior. There are helpful tips for Instructors and Students. Please take the time to visit the website at: http://www.ualberta.ca/tie
COURSE SCHEDULE:

The course schedule is subject to change. All changes will be posted on eclass.

The course format will typically be lectures followed by some discussion as the weekly readings are covered in class. Some Fridays will be seminar days when you will go to your sections with your TAs and discuss the texts/themes. PLEASE CHECK THE SYLLABUS AND ECLASS FOR SEMINAR DAYS. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO KEEP TRACK OF THE SCHEDULE AS PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS IS GRADED.

Week 1
September 2: First day of classes – no readings
    Introduction to the course and syllabus
September 4: Chapter 1: Understanding Politics
NO SEMINARS this week

Week 2: September 9-11
➔ September 9: Sexual Assault Awareness Workshop.
September 11: Chapter 2: The Nation-State and Globalization
NO SEMINARS this week
➔ LABOUS DAY September 7 NO CLASS

Week 3: September 14-18
Chapter 2: The Nation-State and Globalization
SEMINAR WEEK (September 18)

Week 4: September 21-25
Chapter 3: Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, and Fascism
WRITING SEMINAR WEEK (September 25)

Week 5: September 28, 30-October 2
Chapter 4: Newer Perspectives: Feminism and Environmentalism
SEMINAR WEEK (October 2)

Week 6: October 5-9
Chapter 5: Political Culture, Political Participation, and Political socialization
SEMINAR WEEK (October 9)
➔ RESPONSE PAPERS DUE in class during seminar.

Week 7: October 14-16
Chapter 7: Elections Electoral Systems, and Voting Behaviour
No SEMINARS this week
➔ October 12: Thanksgiving Day NO CLASS.

Week 8: October 19-23
Chapter 9: Unconventional and Highly Conflictive Politics: From Protests to Revolutions
SEMINAR WEEK (October 23)

Week 9: October 26-30
Chapter 8: Political Influence  
SEMINAR WEEK (October 30) ➔ in-class workshop for the final research paper

**Week 10: November 2-6**  
Chapter 13: Multiple Governments  
SEMINAR WEEK (November 6)

➔ **FALL READING WEEK NOVEMBER 9-13: NO CLASSES**

**Week 11: November 16-20**  
Chapter 17: Politics and Development in the World’s Poorest Countries  
SEMINAR WEEK (November 20)  
➔ **RESEARCH PAPERS DUE IN CLASS ON NOVEMBER 16**

**Week 12: November 23-27**  
Chapter 18: Politics and Governance at the Global Level  
SEMINAR WEEK (November 27)

**Week 13: November 30- December 2-4**  
TBD  
Seminar Week (December 4)

**Week 14: December 7**  
Review week for Final Exam

**FINAL EXAM (Cumulative)** TBD - MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE DATE on BEAR TRACKS.
Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. For the most recent version of the Code, visit http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/

NOTICE TO INSTRUCTORS REGARDING PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS AND PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE

The U of A considers plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence to be serious academic offences. Plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence can be avoided if students are told what these offences are and if possible sanctions are made clear at the outset. Instructors should understand that the principles embodied in the Code are essential to our academic purpose. For this reason, instructors will be fully supported by Departments, Faculties and the University in their endeavours to rightfully discover and pursue cases of academic dishonesty in accordance with the Code.

At the beginning of each term, we ask you to review with your students the definitions of plagiarism and cheating. We are now also asking you to review with your students the definition of Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence. Your co-operation and assistance in this matter are much appreciated.

30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student’s own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

Cheating (Continued)

30.3.2(2)c No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.

30.3.2(2)d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2)e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. This includes such acts as the failure to provide pertinent information on an application for admission or the altering of an educational document/transcript.

30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

More information can be found at: http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx
**EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR**  
**FOR REVIEW WITH EACH CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY TERM**

**Procedures for Instructors Regarding**  
**Plagiarism, Cheating,**  
**Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence**

The following procedures are drawn from the *Code of Student Behaviour* as approved by GFC and the Board of Governs. The guidelines summarize what instructors must do when they have reason to believe that a student has plagiarized, cheated, misrepresented facts or participated in an offence. If you have questions about these guidelines, or about the policies, please talk with the senior administrator in your Faculty responsible for dealing with student discipline—usually an Associate Dean or the Appeals and Compliance Officer (Appeals Coordinator), University Governance (2-2655).

**30.5.4 Procedures for Instructors in Cases Respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour**

30.5.4(1) When an Instructor believes that a Student may have committed an Inappropriate Academic Behaviour Offence [30.3.2] or that there has been Misrepresentation of Facts [30.3.6(4)] or Participation in an Offence [30.3.6(5)] in cases respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour in the course that he or she instructs, the Instructor will meet with the Student. Before such a meeting, the Instructor shall inform the Student of the purpose of the meeting. In the event that the Student refuses or fails to meet with the Instructor within a reasonable period of time specified by the Instructor, the Instructor shall, taking into account the available information, decide whether a report to the Dean is warranted.

30.5.4(2) If the Instructor believes there has been a violation of the Code, the Instructor shall, as soon as possible after the event occurred, report that violation to the Dean and provide a written statement of the details of the case. The Instructor may also include a recommendation for sanction.

**Possible Sanctions**

One or more of the following sanctions given in 30.4.3 (2) and (3) of the Code are commonly used for plagiarism, cheating, participation in an offence, and misrepresentation of facts:

- 30.4.3(2) a.i a mark reduction or a mark of 0 on any term work or examination for reason of Inappropriate Academic Behaviour
- 30.4.3(2) a.ii Reduction of a grade in a course
- 30.4.3(2) a.iii a grade of F for a course
- 30.4.3(2) a.iv a remark on a transcript of 8 (or 9 for failing graduate student grades), indicating Inappropriate Academic Behaviour, in addition to 30.4.3(2)a.i, 30.4.3(2)a.ii or 30.4.3(2)a.iii
- 30.4.3(3) b Expulsion
- 30.4.3(3) c Suspension

The following sanctions may be used in rare cases:

- 30.4.3(3) e Suspension of a Degree already awarded
- 30.4.3(3) f Rescission of a Degree already awarded

**30.6.1 Initiation of an Appeal**

30.6.1(1) When a Student has been found to have committed an offence under the Code of Student Behaviour or an Applicant is found to have committed an offence under the Code of Applicant Behaviour, whether or not that Student or Applicant has been given a sanction, the Student or Applicant may appeal that decision, except in the case of a decision of the Discipline Officer under 30.5.6(2)e.ii, which remains final and is not subject to appeal. In cases where a severe sanction has been recommended to the Discipline Officer, once the student receives the final decision of the Discipline Officer, the student can appeal the decisions of both Dean and the Discipline Officer at the same time. The written appeal must be presented to the Appeals Coordinator in University Governance within 15 Working Days of the deemed receipt of the decision by the Student or Applicant. The finding that an offence has been committed, the sanction imposed or both may form the basis of appeal. The written appeal must also state the full grounds of appeal and be signed by the Appellant. The appeal shall be heard by the UAB.

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**PROFESSOR STEVEN PENNEY**  
**CHAIR, CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**DR STEVEN DEW**  
**PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)**

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* The Campus Law Review Committee is a standing committee of General Faculties Council (GFC) responsible for the review of the *Code of Student Behaviour* and of student disciplinary procedures.

Updated: 27/08/2015