UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
POL S 101(X01): Introduction to Politics  
FALL 2015

Lecture day: Wednesday  
Time: 6:00PM-9:00PM  
Room: Tory 1-93

Instructor: Isaac Odoom  
Office: HM Tory 11-15  
Office hours: Wednesdays 12noon to 2pm or by appointment  
Email: iodoom@ualberta.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course invites students to explore the discipline of political science—its concepts, methods, approaches, issues and ongoing debates. Topics to be covered include political power, political authority, sovereignty, and the state. Others are party systems, political ideology, elections and electoral systems, democracy, authoritarianism among others. As well, students will be introduced to international politics, international political economy and international security.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Understand and explain some basic concepts in political science covered in the course.
- Distinguish between the different forms of government and political systems
- Appreciate the role of politics in our day-to-day life and to understand contemporary political activities in the state and in the global arena.
- Improve on their critical thinking, writing and research skills. The course is also aimed at helping students gain university level learning skills that will help them succeed throughout their academic career. Students are encouraged to be curious in a way that leads to thoughtful, critical, and self-reflective considerations about politics.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:
The following is required textbook for this course and can be purchased at the bookstore:


When necessary, other lecture materials will be made available to students in advance of the following week’s lecture.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: None
Policy about course outlines can be found in §23.4(2) of the University Calendar.
CLASS FORMAT, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESOURCES:
The course will be taught in a combination of lecture and more interactive formats. Sometimes political thinking is learned by doing it loud, in the company of others, that is, trying out arguments, listening to others, and assessing their positions.

Class attendance for this course is highly expected. Should any student have a cogent reason to be absent from class, effort must be made to notify the instructor in advance. In this course, lectures are generally designed to supplement, explain, contextualize and/or provoke critical evaluation of assigned readings. It is the responsibility of the students to complete all required readings and assignments in time. Students should come to the class prepared and ready for participation by contributing in discussions of assigned readings and debate other students on issues under study whenever necessary. Do not miss class!

It is recommended that students keep abreast with current political issues by reading major newspapers (The Globe and Mail, the National Post, Edmonton Journal, Metro Edmonton etc.) and/or watching news bulletins from television stations such as CBC, CTV, CNN and the BBC News. If you do not regularly read newspapers or news broadcasts, download some apps!

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:
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 in accordance with the University’s four-point scale. The instructor will not ‘curve’ or adjust final grades according to any preset formula. Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students’ grades:

GRADE DISTRIBUTION, ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment/Exam</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Outline/Proposal</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Monday, October 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Friday, November 6 @4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>December 2</td>
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Mid-Term Exam: Students will write a mid-term test on Wednesday, October 14 in class. The test will be made up of multiple-choice questions, short, and long answer questions based on lectures and readings from the first half of the term.

Research/Position Paper: Students are required to write and submit a term paper (approx. 1500-2000 words, double-spaced, Times New Roman font size 12) on suggested topics (TBA) or any topic of student’s choice on any of the topics/themes covered in the term selected in consultation with the instructor.

- The Research essay must state a clear main argument (thesis statement) in the introductory paragraph. In the body of the paper, student must support thesis, cite and
briefly discuss contrary views, and develop own argument or position on the topic/issue. End the paper with a summary of the main arguments and conclusion.

- Student must use at least three (3) scholarly/academic sources together with other sources.
- Use the Chicago Manual of Style for referencing and choose in-text bracketing, endnotes, or footnotes. Also include a complete bibliography. This style guide is available online through the library network.
- Include a bibliography listing all sources used in the essay. Do not pad the bibliography with items you did not actually use.

Additional research paper requirements form will be posted on eclass. Research paper shall be submitted to the instructor in class or to the Political Science Department General office (Tory Room 10-16) by the deadline Friday, November 6 @4pm.

Final Exam: The final exam will be comprised of materials covered in lectures as well as from all of the assigned readings. The instructor will hold an exam review session in the last lecture before the exam to review all relevant materials. Final Exam will be held on the last day of class (December 2).

Research outline/proposal: Details about the research outline/proposal will be posted on eclass.

GRADING SCHEME:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0 (90-100%)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0 (85-89%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7 (80-84%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3 (77-79%)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0 (73-76%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7 (70-72%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3 (67-69%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0 (63-66%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7 (60-62%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3 (55-59%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimal Pass</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0 (50-54%)</td>
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Failure  F  0  (0-49%)

GRADE APPEALS:
The appeals process can be found on the Department of Political Science website under “Political Science Grade Appeal Policies and Procedures”. Note that appeals related to work that are handed back prior to the final exam must be initiated before the schedule time for the final exam.

LATE PENALTIES, PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Late assignments: It is your responsibility to inform the instructor as soon as it becomes clear that your work will be late. If you do not communicate in advance, and your reasons for being late does not also explain this lack of communication, and if, in the judgement of the instructor, there is no valid reason for a late assignment (e.g. health or domestic affliction) then you should be prepared to be penalized by one grade per day on the letter scale. For example, a B would become a B- on the first day, a C+ on the second day, and so on.

Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty: 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 www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which 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.

Further information on cheating and plagiarism:
- Office of Student Judicial Affairs website: www.osja.ualberta.ca (comprehensive information regarding academic integrity for students, instructors and TA’s)
- “Don’t Do It” sheet provided by the Faculty of Arts
- “Don’t Cheat” sheet provided by University Governance

Audio or Video Recording: 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 a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the instructor.
SPECIALIZED SUPPORT & DISABILITY SERVICES: Students with disabilities or special needs that might interfere with their performance should contact the professor at the beginning of the course with the appropriate documentation. Every effort will be made to accommodate such students, but in all cases prior arrangements must be made to ensure that any special needs can be met in a timely fashion and in such a way that the rest of the class is not put at an unfair disadvantage. Students requiring special support or services should be registered with the office of Specialized Support & Disability Services (SSDS): http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/SSDS/. This is particularly important for students requiring special exam arrangements. Once you have registered with SSDS, it is your responsibility to provide the instructor with a "Letter of Introduction" and, if necessary, an "Exam Instruction & Authorization" form.

FEELING OVERWHELMED? (In need of student, social, financial or security services?): The Student’s Union Peer Support Centre is there to listen, offer support, supply information and provide services:

- Call: 492-HELP (492-4357)
- Drop in: 2-707 in the S.U.B.
- Visit: http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/psc/
- Email: psc@su.ualberta.ca

POLICY ON OFFICE HOURS AND EMAIL COMMUNICATION

When contacting the instructor by email, please put the course number in the subject line along with some indication on what you would like to discuss. Please also remember to include your name in the sign off since not all email addresses give easy identifying information.

Instructor aims to respond to emails within one business day, but responses may be more sporadic on the weekends and over holidays. If the topic of your query requires a fairly involved answer which will likely elicit more questions, you may be asked to come in person.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE CLASSROOM: Cell phones, pagers, iPods, PDAs, etc., are to be turned off or put on silence during lectures, seminars, and exams (except under exceptional circumstances in which approval has been granted by the instructor). Always exercise courtesy in how you use technology in the classroom.
OUTLINE OF READINGS AND COURSE SCHEDULE:
*This schedule is subject to changes by the instructor in the course of the term.

Part 1: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS

Week 1: .............................................................................................................................

(Sept. 2): Course Organization/Introduction
What is Politics? Why study Politics?

- Recommended Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 1

Week 2: .............................................................................................................................

(Sept. 9): Concepts: Power, Authority, Legitimacy, and Sovereignty

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 2

Part 2: POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Week 3: .............................................................................................................................

(Sept. 16): Freedom, Justice, Ideologies

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 3

Part 3: GOVERNMENT AND COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Week 4: .............................................................................................................................

(Sept. 23): Role of Government, and the State

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 4 [*Guest Lecture]

Week 5: .............................................................................................................................

(Sept. 30): Branches of Government

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 5 [*Guest Lecture]

Week 6: .............................................................................................................................

(Oct. 7): Political Systems

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 6

Week 7: .............................................................................................................................

(Oct. 14) - MID-TERM EXAM
Essay Workshop
Week 8: (Oct. 21): Elections and Political participation

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 7

** Research Outline/Proposal due (Oct. 19)

Week 9: (Oct. 28): Policy making and Interest groups

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 8

Part 4: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Week 10: (Nov. 4): Introduction to International Politics

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 11

**RESEARCH ESSAY DUE (November 6)

Week 11: ***** Reading Week (No Classes) *****

Week 12: (Nov. 18): International Security

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 12

Week 13: (Nov. 25): International Political Economy

- Required Reading: MacLean & Wood, Chapter 13
  * Conclusion and Course/Exam Review

Week 14: Final Exam (Dec. 2)
### EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30.3.2(1) Plagiarism</th>
<th>30.3.2(2) Cheating</th>
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<td>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.</td>
<td><strong>30.3.2(2)</strong> 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.</td>
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<th>30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>30.3.2(2) a</strong> 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. <strong>30.3.2(2) b</strong> 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).</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<th>30.3.2(2) Cheating</th>
<th>30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence</th>
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<td><strong>30.3.2(2) c</strong> No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work. <strong>30.3.2(2) d</strong> 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
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**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](http://www.ualberta.ca/tie)
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 Governors. 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

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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