POLS 224 A2
Canadian Government
TR 12:30-1:50
T 1 107

D. Mark Blythe, PhD.
dblythe@ualberta.ca
Tory 11-6

Course description: This course focuses on federal institutions and processes in Canada. Topics include parliament, the constitution, political parties and the electoral system. Please note that Canadian politics was previously a full-year course, POLS 220. It has now been split into two half-year courses, POLS 224 (Canadian Government) and POLS 225 (Canadian Politics).

Pre-requisite: POLS 101. Students must have completed POLS 101 or its equivalent before registering in this course.

Completing this course fulfills a core requirement for POLS majors

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, students will have developed an understanding of federal politics and government in Canada. Particular emphasis will be given to both having and supporting an informed view of the federal institutional structures and processes. Students will learn how to articulate and support their political views with evidence, argument and analysis. All exams, for example, will require students to demonstrate knowledge of text and lecture material, articulate a clear position on said material, and advance an argument in support of the student’s position.

Required Text:


NB: In the reading list below, The Dyck text will be indicated by “D & C”. The Whittington text by “W & W"

Grade Evaluation:
EXAMS

WEIGHTING

DATE

Midterm exam 30% October 1
Essay (5-7 pages) 30% November 10
Final Exam 40% TBA

Format of Exams:
All exams will be in written format. All answers should contain the following components:
a) a clearly stated position, (worth 10% of answer grade), b) demonstration of knowledge of
relevant text and lecture material (worth 60% of answer grade), and c) a rationale or argument in
support of position (worth 30% of answer grade). Sample and study questions will be made
available to students prior to exams.

Grade Criterion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>3.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>75-76</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>2.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>65-66</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-56</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Lecture Schedule & Assigned Readings:

N.B: Readings are relevant background material and should be considered prior to the
lecture.

Day 1: Class introduction. We will go through course outline indicating the main topics
to be considered. The instructor will also say a few words regards to the format of
the class, and how students will be evaluated.

Topic 1: Required Reading A Brief Political History D&C chapter 2
Recommended: Donald Creighton, *The Road to Confederation*. Toronto: Macmillan, 1964

**Topic 2:**

*No required reading*  
**Ideologies in Canada**


**Topic 3:**

*Required Reading:*  
**Parliament**

D&C chapter 23  
W&W chapter 1


**Topic 4:**

*Required Reading:*  
**The Executive Branch**

D&C chapter 21  
W&W chapter 2


**Topic 5:**

*Required Reading:*  
**Federalism**

D&C chapter 18  
W&W chapter 4


September 29: Midterm review

I will provide several past exam and study questions and outline the grading criteria

**October 1: Midterm exam**

Students will be asked three questions, and must answer two of them. Students will be expected to articulate a clear position (worth 10% of your answer grade),
demonstrate knowledge of text and lecture material (60%), and advance an argument in support of his/her position (30%)

**Topic 6:**
*Required Reading:* Constitution part 1 D&C chapter 17


**Topic 7:**
*Required Reading:* Constitution part 2 D&C chapter 19 W&W chapter 9


*October 22: Essay workshop*

**Topic 7:**
*Required Reading:* Political Parties D&C chapter 14 W&W chapter 6


**Topic 8:**
*Required Reading:* Elections & electoral system D&C chapter 13 W&W chapter 7


**Topic 9:**
*Required Reading:* Campaigns D&C chapter 15

*November 10: Essay due*

**Topic 10:**
*Required Reading:* Public Policy D&C chapters 20 & 22.

**Topic 11:**
*Required Reading:* Canada External Relations D&C chapter 10 W&W chapter 14

December 1: term review/final exam prep class.

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 behaviour 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 Ombudsman Office: (http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110.

Academic Honesty:
All students should consult the information provided by the Office of Judicial Affairs regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook and Information for Students). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor. An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.

Student Accessibility Services:
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 Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssdz.ualberta.ca).

FEELING OVERWHELMED? (In need of student, social, financial or security services?)
The Student Distress Centre listens, offers support, supplies information and provides services:

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

LEARNING AND WRITING SUPPORT
Students looking to improve their essay writing or study habits are encouraged to visit the Student Success Centre at 2-300 Students Union Building. The SSC exists to help students maximize their educational experience. The writing resources staff provide workshops and one-on-one sessions with students, for a small fee. Visit the website at:
www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/academicsupport/writingstaff.cfm

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/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx) and avoid any behaviour 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."

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING
All students should consult the “Truth-In-Education” handbook or website (http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE) regarding the definitions of plagiarism and its consequences when detected. An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. Before unpleasantness occurs, consult http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE. Also discuss this matter with any tutor(s) and with the instructor.
**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 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. 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thesis/Introductory paragraph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduce/state the significance of the subject material</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. State a position in regards to the material</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Briefly indicate how you support your position</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sources etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Title page</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Bibliography</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Citation</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>- used an appropriated number of sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>- used a method indicating a page number</td>
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<td>- properly cited direct material</td>
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<td>- properly cited indirect material (e.g., paraphrasing)</td>
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<td>- citations were consistent throughout your essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Factual content</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considerations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Was the research effort thorough?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Was the research effort effective in obtaining background information and evidence to substantiate the argument?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehension of the material</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Considerations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Did the paper demonstrate a clear understanding of the material?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Persuasiveness of argumentification</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considerations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Was the paper’s argument clearly stated and did the paper remain focused on substantiating this argument?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Was the argumentation well-organized, logical, and convincing?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Depth of analysis and sophistication of the argumentation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Insightfulness and originality</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Was the paper well written? That is, were words chosen wisely, sentences worded effectively, and paragraphs planned to make important points clear to the reader.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
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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).

30.3.2(2) 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**

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

* 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