UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
Department of Political Science

Introduction to Politics - Pol S 101  
(Fall 2016)

Instructor:  
John Church, Ph.D.

Time:  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.30 a.m.-10.50 a.m.

Place:  
TB 95

Contact:  
https://www.ualberta.ca/arts/about/people-collection/john-church
Office hours: by appointment.

Purpose of the Course

This course provides an introduction to a systematic study of the ideas, institutions and interests associated with modern government. Students explore the significant concepts, methods, approaches and issues considered necessary for the study of politics.

Note: This course is the prerequisite for most second year political science courses.

Course Prerequisite: N/A

Course Objectives: After completing this course, students will:

1) Understand the core political concepts, the institutions of liberal democracy, and the political climate of the current global era.
2) Be able to articulate and support their political views.

Required Text


Grading Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. Exams and other assignments will be graded using a raw score equivalent to the percentage weight of the assignment. For example, if the exam is worth 20% of the final grade, it will be marked out of a total of 20. Final grades will be assigned through a combination of adding up total raw scores and placing the raw score within the university range for letter grades (see above). The instructor will not 'curve' or adjust final grades according to any preset formula. Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students' grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) In-Class Midterm</td>
<td>30% (Thursday class of week 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Essay</td>
<td>35% (due November 17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Final Exam</td>
<td>35% (date TBA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Procedure for Submitting Assignments

Where in-class examinations take place, students must comply with university regulations. Unless specified by the professor, ALL electronic devices must be turned off and stored out of sight for the duration of the examination. All written materials must be out of sight for the duration of the examination. Please provide valid student ID when handing in
completed examinations.

Essays and other out-of-class written assignments will be submitted in word processed format to the Department of Political Science mailbox on the assignment due date. Assignments will not be accepted if slipped under the professor's office door or handed in during class.

Policy for 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 reason for being late does not also explain this lack of communication, then you should be prepared to be penalized 5% per day, including weekends.

Access To Past Or Representative Evaluative Course Material

Sample midterm and exam questions will be provided upon request.

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/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.

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 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/.

**Plagiarism and Cheating**

All students should consult the “Truth-In-Education” handbook or Website (http://www.tie.ualberta.ca/~media/tie/Documents/A1_Handbook.pdf) regarding the definitions of plagiarism and its consequences when detected. Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” Students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences. 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 the “Truth-In-Education” handbook or Website. Also discuss this matter with any tutor(s) and with your instructor.

**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 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.

**Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:**

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail 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 the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

**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.ssds.ualberta.ca/](http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca/)

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?)**

Student Peer Support is there to listen, offer support, supply information and provide services:

[http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/psc/](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/psc/)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Course Overview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Power and Politics</td>
<td>required reading: chapter 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>State and Nation</td>
<td>required readings: chapters 3 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>Constitutions</td>
<td>required reading: chapters 6 and 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>Ideologies: Conservatism and Liberalism</td>
<td>required reading: chapters 9, 10, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Ideologies: Socialism, Communism and Nationalism</td>
<td>required reading: chapters 12 and 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 18: Midterm review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>October 18</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 20: Midterm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>October 25</td>
<td>Environmentalism and Feminism</td>
<td>required readings: chapter 14 and 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>International politics and institutions</td>
<td>required reading: chapter 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Week 10 November 1

*Types of Government I*  
*required reading: chapters 16, 17, 18*

**********Reading Week, Nov 7-11 NO CLASS**********

Week 11 November 15

*Types of Government II*  
*required readings: chapters 19, 20, 21*

Week 12 November 22

*Parties and interest groups*  
*required reading: chapter 23*

**********Nov. 17: essay due**********

Week 13 November 28

*Elections and electoral systems*  
*required reading: chapter 25*

Week 14 December 6

Final Exam Review
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.

30.3.3.6(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.osia.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)c, which remains final and is not subject to appeal. In cases where a severe sanction has been recommended to 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.

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

* 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.

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

Updated: 27/08/2015

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