UNIVERSITY of ALBERTA

Introduction to Politics
POL S 101 A3

Fall 2014  Tuesdays/Thursdays  930-1050  Tory 1 93

Dr. Rob Aitken
HM Tory Bldg. 10-29
492-0539
raitken@ualberta.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the study of politics. The objective of this course is to introduce students to key debates, approaches, concepts and areas of inquiry common to the study of politics, broadly conceived. Although politics are often associated with the world of 'formal' political institutions—parliaments, elections, political parties—this course also pays serious attention to the broad realm of informal politics. This entails power relations across a wide range of 'public' and 'private' spaces ranging from intimate relationships to economic processes to issues of war and peace. The course will ask questions about what power is and where it lies, examining relations of power across a diverse range of settings. The course examines a diverse set of political debates and concepts: state sovereignty, imperialism, migration, citizenship, human rights, environment, race, trade, terrorism and gender.

CLASS FORMAT:

Classes will be organized as two weekly sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 0930 to 1050. The sessions will meet in Tory 1 93. The Tuesday sessions will almost always consist of 'interactive' or 'open' style lectures addressing the key themes of the week and provoking some initial discussion. Although the Thursday session will sometimes also feature lectures, it will also frequently feature discussion sessions. Students should come prepared for the Thursday sessions to discuss key themes raised in the readings and lectures for the week. The instructor will give some instructions in advance regarding the discussion sessions.

OFFICE HOURS:

Time: Thursdays 1100-1300, or by appointment.
Office: 10-29 Tory Building
Phone: 492-0539
Email: raitken@ualberta.ca

COURSE TEXTS:
The main text for the course is:

Janine Brodie, Sandra Rein and Malinda Smith (eds.), *Critical Concepts: An Introduction to Politics.* (Fifth Edition). Toronto: Pearson, 2014. This text is referred to throughout this course outline as Brodie/Rein/Smith.

It is available at the main campus bookstore.

In addition, some of the weeks may include supplementary readings for discussions sessions which are web resources or journal articles. All journal articles are available as electronic texts through the library website and can be accessed remotely using normal CCID login procedures. Any student having difficulty accessing readings or requiring additional assistance should contact the instructor as soon as possible.


**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.

Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students’ grades:

- **Class Participation:** 15% of course grade.

  Several of the Thursday sessions in the course will be devoted to discussion and debate. These sessions are mandatory and participation is essential to success in the course. Students are expected to prepare for these discussions by reading all required readings, to participate
actively in class discussions, to listen carefully to other students, and to engage in critical discussions relating to key themes and questions.

- **Reading Analysis Assignment** 25% of grade—due 16 October 2014.
  
  The First substantive assignment is a critical reading analysis. Students will be able to choose one reading from a list of options—including at least one fiction option. Students will be asked to write five pages (double spaced, regular margins) in reaction to the reading and, in particular, about where power lies, how power is exercised and how we recognize power when we see it. Details of the assignment, and one example, will be discussed in late September in class.

- **Research Assignment** 30% of final grade due 27 November 2014.
  
  The second major assignment for the course is a research assignment. Students will be given a list of questions from which to choose. In each case, students will be asked to answer the question by researching the topic using academic sources from the main University Library. Students must consult, use and cite at least four sources in their answer. Details of the assignment, instructions on how to access sources, guidance regarding research in the library and examples will be discussed in class in late October.

- **Final Exam:** 30% of course grade, during officially scheduled exam period.
  
  There will be a final exam scheduled during the official exam period at the end of the term. Please note the exam scheduling when making any end-of-term travel plans. The exam will focus both on specific issues raised in the class as well as overarching themes that connect questions raised in two or more weeks of the course.

**GRADING SCHEME:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<td>Failure</td>
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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 reason for being late does not also explain this lack of communication, then you should be prepared to be penalized 10% per day.

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.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm) 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. An important excerpt from the Code of Student Behaviour is appended at the end of this syllabus. Additional information and resources are available through the UofA’s Truth in Education project: http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE/.

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 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/

COURSE SCHEDULE:
Please note that occasional other readings will be added in advance of discussion groups.

Week 1—4 September 2014
Introduction and Organization

No required readings for this week.

Week 2—9/11 September 2014
Where Does Power Lie?

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapters 1 and 2.

Week 3—16/18 September 2014
Politics Beyond the State: Social Movements/Political Action

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapters 4 and 18.

Week 4—23/25 September 2014
Political Economy: ‘Governing Economic Life’

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapters 5 and 15.

Week 5—30 September/2 October 2014
Gender and Politics

Required Reading:


Week 6—7/9 October 2014
War and Peace: Sovereignty and 'World' Politics

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapter 12.

Week 7—14/16 October 2014
Empire

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapter 13.

Week 8—21/23 October 2014
Race, Difference

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapter 6.

Stuart Hall, “The West and the Rest.” Copies will be made available in advance via Rutherford Reserve.

Week 9—28/30 October 2014
Citizenship

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapters 3 and 7.

Week 10—4/6 November 2014
Cultural Politics

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapter 11.

**Note: There is no class scheduled for 11 November 2014 due to Remembrance Day Holiday.

Week 11—13 November 2014
Indigenous Perspectives

Required Reading:

Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapter 16.

Week 12—18/20 November 2014
Inequality: A Politics of the 99%?


Brodie/Rein/Smith, Chapter 17.
**Week 13—25/27 November 2014**  
*The Art of Not Being Governed?*

**Required Reading:**


**Week 14—2 December 2014**  
*Review/Exam Preparation*

No required readings for this session.

**EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR**  
(UPDATED EFFECTIVE MAY 12, 2006)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30.3.2(1) Plagiarism</th>
<th>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.</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>
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<th>30.3.2(2) Cheating</th>
<th>30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts</th>
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| 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 | 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. |

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<th>30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence</th>
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<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>
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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
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.

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
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 cooperation 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)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.

The Truth In Education (TIE) 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 behaviour. There are helpful tips for Instructors and Students. Please take the time to visit the website at: http://www.ualberta.ca/tie
EXCEBOOK 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 O 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.

PROFESSOR STEVEN PENNEY
CHAIR, CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

DR MARTIN FERGUSON-PELL
ACTING 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: 30/01/2013