Political Science 235 A1  
Fall 2016

University of Alberta  
T/R 9:30-10:50  
TORY BW1  
Instructor: Dr. J.M. Reynolds  
Office: 11-6 Tory: 492-5043  
Main Office 10-16 Tory: 492-3555  
Office Hours: T/R 8:30-9:30 OR BY APPT.  
Course email: polsci235@gmail.com

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
This course will introduce students to comparative themes and concepts and to theory construction in the social sciences, aimed specifically at governments in Latin America, Europe and the Middle East. The focus will be more specifically on “democratic transitions” and “consolidations,” and the literature and arguments defining such movements. These understandings will be presented historically, from earlier linear arguments to more sophisticated critical democratic theory arguments. The empirical (country specific) component of the course will introduce students to the task of measuring the various theories against actual political practices.

**COURSE GOALS**
Students successfully completing this course should have gained knowledge and understanding in theory construction within the context of nation-states, governments, and cultural and social movements. This includes an understanding of the historical forces that shape institutions and governments.

[All electronic correspondence with Instructor will take place via the above email address]  
*Students are responsible for all announcements made in class and/or eclass website*

Students without the course prerequisite should speak with the instructor before registering. At the request of an instructor, the Department may cancel your registration if you do not have the required course prerequisites (Pol S 101). Policy about course outlines, grading and related matters can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.

**Required Course Materials: eClass Articles:** not all are required readings. Announcements to be made on email above and eclass.

<table>
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<th>Important Dates and Course Values</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam: 20% October 4th</td>
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<td>Major essay: 30% Due November 15th</td>
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<td>Critical Analysis: 15% (Written) or 20% (Presented)</td>
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<td>Final Exam: 35% December 6th</td>
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Course Requirements and Evaluation
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.

***ALL WRITTEN WORK MUST BE SUBMITTED IN HARD COPY TO INSTRUCTOR

ESSAYS - Please read carefully – 2000-2500 words (not including footnotes and bibliography)

Research Essay: Due November 15th (no late essays accepted without penalties)
• A minimum of 3 monographs and 2 recent, peer reviewed journal articles are required.
• What is NOT an acceptable source? Dictionaries, encyclopedias, textbooks or websites (with the exception of peer-reviewed (pdf) articles or for numerical references

• What is acceptable online? Full-text, peer reviewed, scholarly journal articles. These can be accessed by completing the following steps:
  • - Go to University of Alberta Libraries Homepage
  • - Click on ‘databases’ at the top of the page
  • - Type in the database you wish to access (e.g., Project Muse, Ebsco, JSTOR).
  • - You will need your computing ID and password to access these.
  • - Type in a keyword search, using the limiters provided.
  • - Download the pdf file for bibliographic reference.
  • - Cite the article as you would any journal article, both in-text and in your bibliography.

• What is a monograph? A monograph is a scholarly book or a treatise on a single subject or a group of related subjects, usually written by one person. It is a one-time publication that is complete in itself. It may refer to a detailed, well-documented work on a limited subject or a person.
  Example:
• The topic may be chosen from the suggested topics list or may be one of your own choosing, in consultation with instructor.
• Citations must be social science “in-text” (see below for example).
• Late papers will draw a penalty of 10% per day.
• Length of essay: 2000-2500 words (not including title page or bibliography).

**General Guidelines**

• Your ‘Introduction’ should reflect a clear, concise ‘thesis statement,’ i.e., stating clearly what your paper is about to argue and offering a tentative conclusion(s). Typically, you would take 2 opposing views, and try to come up the critical middle.
• This is not a strictly descriptive essay; it is meant to be a critical analysis of a particular topic.
• Your essay should have headings, such as an Introduction, subheadings, and Concluding remarks.

**In-text Citations (example):** This is mandatory: the best format is Chicago Style 2. Endnote and footnote styles (with the exception of explanatory footnotes (below) will be penalized.

Benedict Anderson’s claim is that cultural artifacts- such as museums and collective memory – constitute what we tend to call “nations” but what he calls “imagined communities.” In other words, a nation is a socially constructed, mental image of a group’s affinity with one another (Anderson, [1983] 1991: 6-7).

**Explanatory Footnotes**

These are used for an extended discussion of the particular point you are making, but are only indirectly related to your topic. They will appear as a footnote at the bottom of a page.

**Example:**

1. Benedict Anderson’s claim is that cultural artifacts- such as museums and collective memory – constitute what we tend to call “nations” but what he calls “imagined communities.” In other words, a nation is a socially constructed, mental image of a group’s affinity with one another (Anderson, 1991: 6-7).

**Bibliography**

Must be on a separate page at the end of the essay.

**Abstract (maximum 100 words)**

Abstracts will appear single-spaced on your title page (you will come across these in regular journal articles). An abstract tells readers what your essay has argued: specifically, how we might think differently about the issue, and what (tentative) conclusions we might draw. It is different from an introduction/or conclusion.

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**Abstract (example)**

Drawing on ethnotheoretical models of identity, this paper explores the cognitive schemas that promote what is called here the "tactical essentialism" informing current practices among Mayan women in Guatemala. Through the revival of lost traditions and the creation of new ones, Mayan women have begun to rise from the ashes of the Guatemalan holocaust of the 1980s to redress cultural and gender imbalances through a strategy involving the reinscription of symbols and the revival of cultural rights groups. This paper argues that such forms of "creative resistance" in the face of the hegemonic political technologies of the ladino state are part of a transitional stage which has yet to cement itself as a consummate feminist movement in that it is still intricately tied to the newly self-forming activity of the Maya population in general. ©J. Reynolds

• **Students are strongly advised to retain backup copies of all submitted work.**
Use a clear introduction, subject headings and strong conclusion in your essay.

Presentations

These are in-class presentations based on the one of the required readings. Basic format:
Summarize the article (and author details) succinctly (5 minutes) and pose at least 3 critical questions for class discussion. Power Point is preferred which must be submitted to Instructor for posting on e-class. The entire presentation should take no more than 30 minutes. Sign up is on a first come, first served basis. Email instructor a.s.a.p.

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Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23. 4(2) of the University Calendar (GFC 29 September, 2003)

ACCESS TO PAST or REPRESENTATIVE EVALUATIVE COURSE MATERIAL
• Past final exams are available at the Students’ Union Exam Registry.

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 X% 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 http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/gfcpolicymanual/content.cfm?ID_page=37633) 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/. (Note: All but the last two sentences of this statement must appear in all syllabi.)

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/

USE OF AUDIO OR VISUAL RECORDING
Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with prior written consent of the instructor as 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 of the Instructor.

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CLASS
Laptops may be used for taking notes or for making presentations. The use of laptops for not taking is not recommended, both because research shows that this is less useful for you than hand-writing, and because laptops interfere with personal interaction in the classroom. Use of laptops is not permitted for other purposes. Use of cell phones and other electronic devices in class is not permitted.

Deferred Final Exam
You must petition the University in order to be granted a deferral on a Final Exam (consult Bear Tracks for details).

Grade Appeals
Grade appeals regarding term work must be initiated before the final exam is written, unless the work is handed back at the final exam.

Re-examination of Final
A re-examination is not permitted in a course in which a passing grade was achieved. The student’s overall GPA for the term must be 5.0 or greater, including the failed course, if the student is to be eligible for consideration for a re-examination. Please refer to the on-line (Bear Tracks) Calendar for other requirements. Also note that regulations regarding Applications for Re-examination require students to apply for re-examination within ten days of posting of final results.
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Percentage to Letter Grade Conversion (University of Alberta), 2012.
In accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, any violation of academic dishonesty is subject to severe penalties, including but not limited to, suspension or expulsion from the University. It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with the policies outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, which is available online and in student handbooks.

Upon discovering any instance of academic dishonesty, students are encouraged to report the incident to the appropriate authorities. Failure to report such incidents may result in the student being held responsible for any resulting consequences.

The University takes academic dishonesty very seriously and will take necessary actions to ensure academic integrity.

Notice to Institutions Regarding Plagiarism, Cheating, Misrepresentation of Facts

Amendments to the Code of Student Conduct occur throughout the year. For the most recent version of the Code, visit:

https://www.govservices.ub.edu/code
PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

DR. STEVEN DOW

Chair, Campus Law Review Committee

PROFESSOR STEVEN PENNEY

The Campus Law Review Committee is a standing committee of the Provost and Academic (AC) responsible for the review of the Code of Student Behaviour and of student discipline.

Possible Sanctions

- Expulsion
- Suspension
- Probation
- Exclusion from the campus for a fixed period

3.0.4.1 When an insitution has been found to have committed an offence under the Code of Student Behaviour in cases not listed above, or in cases in which the student has been found guilty of a violation of the Code, the student shall be:

- Excluded from participation in all classes and activities
- Excluded from the campus
- Excluded from participation in any student group
- Excluded from any student activity

3.0.4.2 If the institution believes that a student has committed an offence under the Code, the institution shall:

- Notify the student
- Provide a hearing
- Provide a written decision

3.0.4.3 If the institution disagrees with the decision of the appeals committee, it may appeal the decision to the Provost and Academic (AC) at any time prior to the effective date of the decision.

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Fees and Expenses

The following procedures are drawn from the Code of Student Behaviour as approved by OEC.