DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
https://www.ualberta.ca/political-science

September – December 2016
FALL SEMESTER
POLS 470
GOVERNING GAMBLING: SOVEREIGNTY, SUBJECTIVITY AND PLAY

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Time: Thursdays 9.30 -12 Office: 28/11 HM Tory
30Office Hours: Thursdays 12 30- 1 30
or by appointment
Personal Website: Website Address

Course Description and Objectives
This combined senior undergraduate and graduate course investigates legal gambling as a
form of governmental power in liberal democratic societies with a particular focus on
gambling in Alberta. You will learn how relations of sovereignty are negotiated through
gambling; how identities are formed in the process of gambling promotion and
consumption; and how play is linked to broader social relations of power and value. By the
end of the course you will be able to apply established theoretical frameworks and
methodologies for research on gambling; you will have developed professional skills in
social research and teamwork; you will be able to critically analyse and evaluate the
arguments presented by different stakeholders; and you will be equipped to respond
creatively to current challenges in the field.

Course Pre-requisite: eligibility determined by consent of instructor and departmental
approval
Format:

The course is divided into three connected modules linked to specific assessment tasks. The first three weeks provide a historical overview of legal gambling and explore the key terms of sovereignty, subjectivity and play. The second module introduces you to the charitable model of gambling in Alberta as well as to the political foundations and economic aspects of First Nation gambling enterprises. The third module familiarises you with three key aspects of gambling governance: spaces, moments and products. The final week of the course explores emerging political issues for gambling research and regulation. Practical components of the course include: presentations by professionals in the field of gambling delivery, research and regulation, a visit to the River Cree casino and fieldwork.

I will begin each class with a brief lecture of up to 40 minutes except where there is a guest speaker scheduled. These lectures will examine key concepts in the weekly readings and where relevant present findings of original social research from my forthcoming book titled Gambling in Everyday Life. In the second part of the class we will discuss theories, methods, arguments and concepts related to the week’s topic. The final hour of each class will be dedicated to applying your learning to accomplish a practical task, stage a debate or elaborate a hypothetical scenario.

Texts:

The Sociology of Risk and Gambling Reader (SRGR) is your prescribed course text. In addition to chapters from the course textbook, the syllabus contains recommended readings to deepen our class discussions and activities. These will be made available through eclass. The set readings, lectures, fieldwork and class activities will equip you with the understanding and skills to undertake original research on a current aspect of gambling in your final essay.
Assessment Overview

Every week you will be expected to do the required readings in preparation for class attendance. While you will not be required to read all of the recommended texts, at the beginning of semester I will allocate recommended readings to each student to lead discussions for a specific week/s. At the end of the second module you will undertake a short online test to demonstrate your understanding of gambling policy in Alberta. During the third module your fieldwork observations will be discussed in class and posted each week to an online diary for peer feedback. Your conclusions from this fieldwork will be written up and submitted for grading in the form of a brief report at the end of module three. After the final lecture you will draw on published research to address a question posed in one of a selection of essay topics about current issues in gambling policy. Alternatively, you can submit an original topic for approval.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Description and Marks</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>/10</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Leadership</td>
<td>Lead discussion on recommended readings in designated week/s /10</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>In your designated week/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Test</td>
<td>Gambling Policy in Alberta /10</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>To be completed between September 30-October 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Diary and Report</td>
<td>5 x weekly posts /15 5 x peer feedback /5 Final report /20</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Diary posts of 4-500 words due each Monday from week 6-10 Final Report of 1500 words Due November 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>Current issues in gambling studies /30</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Research Essay of 3000 words Due December 9</td>
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</table>
EXPLANATORY NOTES ON ASSESSMENT

PARTICIPATION:

To get full marks you need to actively participate in at least 10 classes.

Criteria

Active participation involves:

- coming to class on time and staying to the end;
- completing all of the required readings as well as recommended readings delegated by the instructor for class leadership in selected week/s.
- engaging in discussions, participate in set group activities and reflecting critically and constructively on your own and others’ work.

Note: Your participation not only contributes to the success of the course overall; it significantly improves your likelihood of high achievement in other assessment tasks. As U of A policy on attendance in the Academic Regulations states, all students are expected to attend classes, and if they do not, they "assume whatever risks are involved". See: http://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Attendance

CLASS LEADERSHIP:

At the end of week 2, I will circulate a google document allowing you to select two recommended readings on which you will lead discussion in one or two designated weeks (depending on enrolments). The objective of this assessment is to demonstrate comprehension and communication skills by engaging the class in your learning about the topic in your designated week/s. The leadership responsibility applies to the second segment of the seminar and will take between 30 -40 minutes of class time after the introductory lecture segment. Your presentation component should be no longer than 10 minutes and engage with one or two key questions, ideas or arguments rather than attempting to summarise the entire readings. When you are leading the discussion component, try to avoid conducting a monologue (speaking to rather than with your classmates) and to invite viewpoints from others in the room.

Criteria

You will be assessed on:

- Quality of your preparation
- Dynamism of your presentation (through engaging images, facts or exercises)
- Invitation to classmates to interact with key questions, ideas or arguments from the readings.

Note: if we have a very small class and you are asked to lead discussion more than once, you will only be assessed on your best performance. For example, if you received 6/10 for the first class and 8/10 for second class, only the second would be recorded as your result for the task.
ONLINE TEST:

At the end of the policy module you will complete a short online test. The objective of this assessment is to make you familiar with key aspects of the Alberta policy environment and ethical research practices before you begin field work in the next module.

All the material you will be tested on is publicly available on the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission website:

http://www.aglc.ca/

and the University of Alberta Human Research Ethics Policy.

https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Human-Research-Ethics-Policy.pdf

Criteria

You will be given a mark out of 10 based on the number of correct answers you give in response to multiple choice and true/false questions on aspects of Alberta gambling policy and or UA human research ethics.

INTERACTIVE ONLINE DIARY AND REPORT ON FIELDWORK:

This assignment provides first-hand knowledge of legal gambling spaces, moments and products. The objective of this assignment is to teach you social research skills, awareness of ethical protocols, teamwork and professional communication. It has two parts which are weighted equally: an interactive online diary and a final report.

1) Each Monday in weeks 5 through 10 you will post a diary entry on an assigned fieldwork task of between 4-500 words and provide constructive, critical feedback on the entry of another student;

2) At the end of the module you will submit a short report of no more than 1500 words (excluding references) on your findings.

Note: you must provide feedback on a different student’s diary each week.

Criteria for interactive online diary

1) Your weekly diary clearly describes and interprets a significant aspect of the fieldwork

   Eligible for mark /3

2) Your weekly peer feedback provides constructive, critical engagement.

   Eligible for mark /1

Note: providing constructively critical feedback is not about being nice or nasty to your classmates but about improving the work of your peers. As such, it prepares you for
effective professional communication in your chosen career. While you should feel free to praise one another on a job well done, you must also provide specific feedback about the clarity of explanation and on how persuasive you found the interpretation. Make sure to substantiate your feedback. For example, identify which part of the description needed clarification or the specific aspect of the interpretation you disagreed with. Or explain what you found especially interesting about the description and the aspect of interpretation you most agreed with and why.

Criteria for final report

Your report will be assessed according to how well you explain relevant details of the fieldwork and according to how convincing your interpretation of these details is. I will assign a grade out of 20 taking into account:

- Quality of evidence from your fieldwork
- Engagement with relevant concepts from the course reading in your interpretation
- Insights about gambling conveyed in your findings
- Written expression, referencing and presentation

RESEARCH ESSAY:

This assignment brings together knowledge and research skills acquired in the course to build an argument about a current issue in gambling research. The essay should be no longer than 3000 words and you can either choose from a selection of topics provided by the instructor or submit your own topic for approval. Library research is needed for a good result in this assignment; your essay must incorporate at least three original academic sources beyond the course syllabus.

Criteria

- Evidence – quality of sources and relevance to the topic
- Argument – persuasiveness and originality
- Analysis – clarity
- Expression – correct grammar, punctuation and academic style
- Presentation and Academic Integrity - complete reference list and consistent application of referencing style, clear presentation and attribution of figures and/or illustrations, formatting (12 pt. font 1.5 or double spaced)
Grading Scheme

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</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>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal Pass</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policies

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes

Community Service-Learning

N/A

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

N/A

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

No

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in the “Evaluation Procedures and Grading System” section of the University Calendar.”

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/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandard s/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 inappropiate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](http://www.ualberta.ca/Student_Ombuds/). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](http://www.ualberta.ca/Discrimination_Harassment/) is described in [UAPPOL](http://www.ualberta.ca/UAPPOL).

**Academic Honesty:**

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](http://www.ualberta.ca/Office_of_Judicial_Affairs/) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](http://www.ualberta.ca/Academic_Validity/Handbook/) and [Information for Students](http://www.ualberta.ca/Academic_Validity/)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

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. See the [Academic Discipline Process](http://www.ualberta.ca/Academic_Validity/).

**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 content author(s) 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 the Calendar regarding 
Attendance and Examinations sections 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.

In this course to receive full marks for participation you must attend at least 10 out of 12 
classes. The only exception to this rule is when documentary evidence is supplied within 
two days to verify claims of illness or misadventure.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Sufficient notice will be given for all assignments. Late assignments without explanatory 
documentation will be penalized at a rate of 5% per day, including weekends, for a 
maximum of one week. After one week, the assignment will not be accepted. If students 
foresee a problem in meeting an upcoming deadline, it is their responsibility to discuss 
alternative arrangements with the professor in advance of the deadline.

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 Student Accessibility Services, contact their office 
immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).
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 as 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.osia.ualberta.ca/en.aspx
EXEMPLARY LETTERS 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 Recission 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 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

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