UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLS 101 (X01) – INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

FALL 2017

Instructor: Clark Banack
Email Address: csbanack@ualberta.ca
Lectures: Wednesdays, 18:00 – 21:00
Class Location: Tory Building 1 90
Office Location: TBA
Office Hours: Wednesdays 17:15-17:45 and 21:00 – 21:30, or by appointment.

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the systematic study of the primary institutions and processes of modern government and the discipline of political science. Students will explore the significant concepts, methods, approaches and issues of the discipline considered necessary for the study of politics. Topics include political power and authority, sovereignty and the state, constitutionalism and elections, ideologies, political philosophy, international relations, and an in-depth consideration of the notion of democracy. Note: This course is a prerequisite for most second year political science courses.

Course Prerequisite: N/A

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By completing this course students will:
- Learn about a broad range of key concepts, issues, methodologies, and theoretical approaches pertinent to the study of Politics
- Learn about and be able to critically interpret current political events
- Develop the practice of critical and analytical thinking
- Develop research and writing skills appropriate to the discipline.

FORMAT: The class will meet for one 3-hour bloc each week. The foundation of this class will be weekly lectures delivered by the instructor that both build from the required readings and present new material. For this reason, active attendance during lectures is essential for a successful completion of the course. Beyond the lectures, ample time will be devoted to analyzing current political events and participating in group discussions.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OFFICE HOURS: I am happy to meet you during my office hours (before and after each class) to chat about any questions or concerns you may have. You may also wish to contact me via email. I will strive to respond to all emails within 48 hours (except on weekends). If you ask a question that I feel is worth discussing in class, I may reserve the right to provide an answer in the next class.

EVALUATION:

In-Class Attendance and Participation .......... 10%
Midterm .............................................. 25% (In-class on October 18)
Research Essay .................................. 30% (Due November 22)
Final Exam ......................................... 35% (In-Class on December 6)
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>74-76</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>64-66</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-56</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49</td>
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**Grade Definition:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Strong evidence of original thinking; clear capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter with sound critical evaluations; evidence of extensive knowledge base; superb writing and organizational skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Evidence of strong grasp of subject matter; indication of critical capacity and analytic ability; understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with literature; strong writing and organizational skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Good to Very Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Illustrates partial understanding of the subject matter; demonstrates an ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material; writing and organization skills need improvement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>Marginal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Limited familiarity with the subject matter; insufficiently developed critical and analytic skills; writing and organizational skills are weak.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>Little evidence of even superficial understanding of subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature; poor writing and organization skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
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**REQUIRED TEXTS:**


Both books are available for purchase in the University Bookstore

Additional readings will be made available online.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS:**

**In-Class Participation:** Attendance and participation in group discussions are a required expectation of successful performance in the course. Your instructor will assess your participation grade.

**Mid-term Quiz:** A 75-minute quiz will be held in-class on October 18. This quiz will assess your understanding of key terms covered to date and require you to answer one short essay question. More details to follow in class.

**Research Paper (Due November 22):** Each student is required to complete a research paper of approximately 2500 words. More details to follow in class.
Final Exam: The exam will be held in-class on December 6. It will be 2 hours long and will test the students' knowledge and understanding of key concepts, institutions, processes, movements and individuals from the entire course. More details to follow in class.

Lecture/Readings Schedule

September 6 – Introduction to the Course

No Readings

September 13 – What is politics and how do we study it?


Jason Blakey, "Is Political Science This Year's Election Casualty?" The Atlantic, November 14, 2016. Available at: https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/11/is-political-science-another-election-casualty/507515/

September 20 – Political Philosophy


September 27 – Ideologies


October 4 – Democracy and Democratic Theory


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 1 “Democracy as an Open Question.”

October 11 – The State and its Institutions - 1


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 2 “Political, Social and Economic Democracy.”
October 18 – Midterm (In-class) and Term Paper Help


October 25 - The State and its Institutions - 2


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 3 “Citizenship and Inequality.”

November 1 - Representation


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 4 “There and not There: Representation and Participation.”

November 8 – The Media


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 6 “The Power of Knowing.”

November 15 – NO CLASS – FALL BREAK

November 22 – International Relations and International Organizations


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 7 “Democracy and Body Politics.”

November 29 – Transnational Social Movements and Course Review


The Democratic Imagination – Chp 8 “The Struggle Continues.”

December 6 – Final Exam in Class (2 Hours)

Recording of Lectures: Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, 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. Student or
instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course 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 content author(s).

- Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.

**Absences and late penalties:** 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.

There will be a late penalty of 2% per day on all late papers (including weekends). All late papers must be handed directly to the instructor or placed in the assignment drop box located in the Department of Political Science’s main office (10-16 Henry Marshall Tory Building). Under no circumstances should papers ever be slid under office doors.

If a student falls ill, they MUST contact the professor as soon as possible to avoid incurring late penalties. Papers simply submitted after the due date with a medical certificate attached are NOT acceptable. Consideration for late submission must be obtained from the professor.

A) **What if I need an extension?**
NO extensions will be granted UNLESS there are extenuating and important medical grounds that exist and are substantiated with the provision of a medical certificate. Please see the professor PRIOR to the due date for this kind of consideration.

B) **What if I am unhappy about the grade I receive on a paper?**
If you feel that the mark you received does not reflect the quality of your work you must arrange to meet with the professor to discuss your concerns. Students that wish a reread and/or remark must submit a 1-page letter explaining the student’s concerns and addressing the comments provided on the paper.

C) **What if my computer loses my essay or doesn’t print?**
It is your responsibility to safeguard yourself against computer or printer failures. Computer failures, hard disk crashes, and printer breakdowns will not be accepted as valid excused for late essays.

**Learning 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 Ombuds Office: [http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/](http://www.ombudsservice.ualberta.ca/). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described
in UAPPOL at

**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 www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behavior 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."

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

**NOTICE TO INSTRUCTORS REGARDING PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS AND PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>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.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cheating (Continued)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence</td>
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<tr>
<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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**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).

**More information can be found at:** [http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx](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.

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