Political Science 433-A1

CITY POLITICS

Dr. James Lightbody

Fall, 2017

1. Objective:

To study the political dynamics (both opportunities and limitations to them) that sustain the broad governing decisions made within Canada’s major city-regions. In a comparative context we will explore the policy possibilities and political processes of urban regions.

Policy about course outlines, grading and related matters can be found in Section 23.4 (2) of the University Calendar.

2. Some Basic Questions:

1. In what ways do urban political institutions, and the political activities surrounding them, reflect the underlying political culture of cities? What is the precise nature of that culture? How may political structures represent, to use E.E. Schattschneider’s phrase, ‘a mobilization of bias’?

2. In what ways may political party-like behaviour bring order to the civic agendas of nominally autonomous municipal politicians? How is the open face of power mobilized, expressed? What established theories of collective behaviour are helpful to us?

3. How does the existence of a maze of intergovernmental structures, horizontally as well as central-local, affect the determination among alternate policy choices? Whose issues, when, become important?

4. In what effective fashions may bureaucratic filtering and structuring among legitimate alternatives play an active role in the assignment of values and priorities (and whose) both before and after ‘decisions’ are taken?

5. To what extent do alternative explanations of political choice, for instance political economy, feminist theory, environmentalism, help to clarify our appreciation of the urban process?

3. Course Text:


4. Reference Texts:


5. Evaluations:

Mid-term marks are an indicator of concrete success on those tasks. The final grades will be adjusted in alignment with expectations in the Faculty of Arts to reflect students' relative performance in the course.

- Presentation of Reading 20 per cent*
- Major Essay (written) 40 per cent
- Critique of Essay 10 per cent*
- Book Review (written) 10 per cent
- Course Participation 20 per cent

* For your mark on these assignments, please consult instructor after presentation.

NOTES ON ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Some oral comments on assigned readings, up to ten minutes in presentation, will be heard at sessions on October 16th, October 23rd and October 30th. Students will be expected to summarize, critically, what they have read, emphasizing thesis, research methods employed, the validity of the major findings, and the utility of the approach for exploring our course objective. It is to be noted that a 'critical' assessment is an evaluation, and appraisal of the strengths as well as any deficiencies in the material you have read. Students are expected to take the initiative in selecting an appropriate article or chapter to review.

2. The major research essay, of approximately 3,500 words, or up to 15 double-spaced typewritten pages, will be assigned through negotiation with the instructor and is intended to explore a subject related to the course objective.

* The completed paper must be submitted by email to the instructor for assessment at an agreed time on the Friday before the Monday seminar.
* The instructor will undertake to circulate the completed paper to all seminar participants the Friday prior to the Monday class discussion.

* Students are advised to arrange to meet with the instructor early in term concerning this major assignment.

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3. Each student will be expected to critique, formally, one major student essay. The object of this exercise is to initiate seminar discussion of the major paper concerned. This critique will be presented verbally.

4. The book review of some 750 to 1,000 words in length may be submitted to the instructor at any time prior to 6th December, 2017. Some possible titles are appended to this course outline, but the list is only suggestive, indicative of the range of materials you may find appropriate. It is not exhaustive. I look forward to seeing your choices.

5. Both written presentations are expected to conform consistently to a recognized style guide for the social sciences.

6. No ‘incomplete’ grades will be assigned in Political Science 433. All work submitted will be evaluated as of 6th December, 2017.

Late penalties:

It is your responsibility to inform the instructor should it become clear that you will miss an assignment. If you do not explain your absence in advance, and if your subsequent reasons for being absent prove not to be satisfactory and why you did not advise the instructor, the penalty is a grade of zero for the work missed.

Plagiarism and 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.

Legal notice:

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).

Courtesy note:
Students are expected to treat their classmates with appropriate respect. As appropriate, all handheld electronic devices are to be both turned off and stowed away while you are in the classroom. Distracting offenders will be required to exit the seminar.

### 6. Course Outline:

**September 11**  
Course Outline: Canadian Metropolitics in 2010

**September 18**  
A. Lecture: *An Introduction to Canadian City Politics*


**September 25**  
B. Lecture: *Partisanship and the Definition of Priorities*  
**OR:** *Conducting Actual Campaigns: Some thoughts about electoral systems*

- Tim Thomas, "When 'They' is 'We': Movements, Municipal Parties and Participatory Politics," in *Canadian Metropolitics*, pp. 115-136.

**October 2**  
C. Lecture: *The Maze of Intergovernmental Relations*

- James Lightbody, *City Politics, Canada*, chapter 9, "Relations among governments," pp. 341-76.

**October 9**  
Thanksgiving break

**October 16**  
Discussion of Readings A: Canadian City Politics

**October 23**  
Discussion of Readings B: Definition of Priorities
October 30  Discussion of Readings C: The Intergovernmental Maze
November 6  Seminar guest(s)  TBD
November 13  Remembrance Day, Fall Break
November 20  Major Student Essays: Topics to be determined
November 27  Major Student Essays: Topics to be determined
December 4  Major Student Essays: Topics to be determined; Course summary

7. Readings for Student Critique, by Topic Areas

A. Canadian City Politics


B. Definition of Priorities


C. The Intergovernmental Maze


4. Andrew Sancton, Merger Mania: The Assault on Local Government (Westmount: Price-Patterson, 2000), chapter 3, "The Decline of the Consolidationist Movement in the United States, the Emergence of 'Public Choice,' or the 'New Regionalism,'" pp. 69-82.


8. Some Possible Titles for Book Reviews:
Please note: This listing is not inclusive but indicative; please feel free to discuss an unreasonable alternative with the instructor.


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.

30.3.6(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.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx
**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.i.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 DREW**

**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