



**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
POLI 321 L01  
POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT IN CANADA  
WINTER 2022**

<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Dr. Anthony Sayers
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	403.220.2703 – messages
<b>EMAIL/SKYPE/ZOOM</b>	<a href="mailto:asayers@ucalgary.ca">asayers@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>	Friday, 14:00-17:00 Hrs via Zoom
<b>DELIVERY METHOD</b>	Asynchronous Web-based & synchronous Friday 16:00-16:50 Hrs
<b>PREREQUISITE</b>	None
<b>TEACHING ASSISTANT</b>	Dawn Moffat McMaster; <a href="mailto:dawn.moffatmcmaster@ucalgary.ca">dawn.moffatmcmaster@ucalgary.ca</a>

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This is a lecture-based course that introduces students to the formal study of Canadian politics. It explores political processes and institutions such as the constitution, federalism, regionalism, elections, political parties, parliament, the bureaucracy, and interest groups.

Where possible, we will cover and discuss contemporary issues and debates in Canadian politics. Students are encouraged to stay abreast of Canadian politics via reliable news outlets as a means of giving substance to information covered in class.

The course schedule outlining weekly topics is below. While departures may occasionally occur, such as guest lectures and video presentations, the course will generally follow that schedule. The assigned reading is from the text available at the University of Calgary Bookstore. Supplementary materials are listed at the end of each chapter of the text and are available via the University of Calgary Library.

After completing the course, students will:

- Have developed a sophisticated understanding of important institutional and procedural elements of the Canadian politics
- Understand key concepts such as democracy, representation, and accountability
- Have honed their research and essay writing skills.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Alex Marland and Jared J. Wesley 2020. *Inside Canadian Politics* (Don Mills Ont.: Oxford University Press) 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN-13: 978-0199032624

The textbooks are available via multiple channels.

## REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

To complete the course successfully, you will need access to a reliable internet connection, an adequately equipped and secure computer, including audio and visual devices allowing online conferencing along with the software required to access the course, meetings, and to complete assignments. This includes, but is not limited to, programs required to make a computer fully functional such as a web browser, word processor, audio-visual conferencing software, and other software such as statistical packages (either free ware or provided through the University) that may be required to complete course projects.

## OTHER RESOURCES

### Course Website

D2L will be used for announcements and to facilitate communication among students and between students and the instructor/s. Additional information about the course and answers to common questions will be available from the News section. Please check there first before sending a question to the instructor or teaching assistant.

### University of Calgary Library

The University of Calgary Library offers many resources that can help you in your work. A critical research skill, along with general web searches, is the capacity to use the academic search engines in the library. The Political Science Librarian, Mr. John Wright ([jpwright@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jpwright@ucalgary.ca); Telephone: 403.220.5955), can assist you in finding your way around the various resources available the library offers.

### Academic Journals and Databases for Essays

Relevant journal articles are a most impressive addition to any research paper. The electronic database – such as Web of Science or International Political Science Abstracts – found on the University of Calgary Library website should furnish a range of valuable articles, Political Science databases at <https://library.ucalgary.ca/az.php?s=52647>

The following journals may be particularly useful and are easily accessible via a library search:

Canadian Journal of Political Science	Publius (Journal of Federalism)
Canadian Political Science Review	The Journal of Canadian Studies
Canadian Public Policy	The American Review of Canadian Studies
Canadian Public Administration	Policy Options

### Web Sites

Most books and journal articles available through the University of Calgary library have passed many rigorous tests of their scholarship and veracity. This is not the case for websites, which can be published with little or no checking of their content. While many websites offer useful and trustworthy information, you should not accept at face value everything you read or see on the web.

## ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS, WEIGHTS, AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATE
2 of 3 quizzes	30%	16:00-16:18 Hrs February 4, March 11, April 1.
Research Essay	35%	Due March 21 <sup>st</sup> , 21:00 Hrs
Final Exam	35%	Available April 11 <sup>th</sup> , due April 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21:00 Hrs
Total	100%	

## LECTURE SCHEDULE

Weekly topics and readings are listed below. Please review the assigned readings, as they will be referenced in the lectures. Lectures, the text and assigned readings will inform the questions asked in the quizzes and final exam. The list of weekly readings will be available on D2L.

WEEK OF	TOPIC
January 10	Canada: A Political Construct
January 17	The Constitution
January 24	Federalism & Regionalism
January 31	The Executive <b>Quiz One, Friday, February 4, 16:00 -16:18 Hrs</b>
February 7	The Legislature
February 14	The Justice System
<b>Term Break, No Classes Sunday-Saturday, February 20-26</b>	
February 28	Public Policy and Administration
March 7	Political Parties <b>Quiz Two, Friday, March 11, 16:00 -16:18 Hrs</b>
March 14	Democracy and Elections
March 21	The Media and Political Communication <b>Research Essay due on Monday, March 21st, 2022, 21:00 Hrs</b>
March 28	Political Activism: Interest Groups & Social Movements <b>Quiz Three, Friday, April 1, 16:00 -16:18 Hrs</b>
April 4	Diversity and Representation
April 11	Canada's Place in the World
April 12	<b>Last day of classes. Take home exam available at 17:00 Hrs, Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and due on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 21:00 Hrs</b>

## ASSIGNMENTS

Note that all times and dates are Mountain Standard Time. If you miss a required course component, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

### 1. Best Two of Three Short Quizzes (30% of final grade)

There will be 3 synchronous online quizzes each consisting of 15 multiple choice questions

**Quiz One, Friday, February 4, 16:00 -16:18 Hrs**

**Quiz Two, Friday, March 11, 16:00 – 16:18 Hrs**

**Quiz Three Friday, April 1, 16:00 – 16:18 Hrs**

Your best two grades will constitute your final quiz grade. The first missed quiz will be automatically graded 0. Please confirm a score has been recorded for each quiz.

If a student is unable to attend or complete a subsequent scheduled quiz for reasons such as those outlined in the University Calendar (see bullet points 3 and 4 under [TIMED ASSESSMENTS FOR ONLINE AND BLENDED COURSES](#)), they should provide these reasons to the instructor who will arrange an alternative time at which the student may take the test.

The quizzes test students' knowledge of the course material covered in the assigned readings as well as the lectures and any class discussions we may hold. The first quiz covers material from the beginning of class until the end of the topic covered in the week of February 4. Subsequent quizzes cover material from the week after the last quiz until that covered in the week of the quiz.

The best two (2 x 15%) quiz scores will contribute to your final grade (30%).

### 2. Research Essay (35% of final grade)

A 10 page 2,500-word research essay is due in the course Dropbox in D2L by **21:00 Hrs, Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022**. *Essays submitted after this time will not receive detailed grading comments.* Essays received after **21:00 Hrs, Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022**, will incur a grade penalty of 3% for each day they are late, beginning at **21:01 Hrs on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

*Essay topics and instructions will be available on the course website under 'Assignments.'*

The research essay allows students to extend their understanding of the ideas and frameworks introduced in the lectures. They must consistently follow scholarly conventions for footnoting, referencing and bibliography. The essay should contain a thesis statement that responds to the question asked, a body that presents a logical argument, and a conclusion consistent with these other features. Remember that a well-chosen journal article is likely to indicate you have worked hard to explain your answer.

Please use the American Psychology Association (APA) format of in-text, parenthetical citations for documenting sources. Information on this is available from many sources, including the Student Success Centre (<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/studentsuccess/writing-support>) which offers a range of tools to assist you in writing a superior essay. A grading scheme will be provided on the course website.

Requests for extensions due to illness or the like *must be made to the instructor before the due date and accompanied by suitable documentation. See Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration* below.

### 3. Take-Home, Open Book Final Examination (35% of final grade)

There will be a 2-hour take-home exam consisting of short answers and essays at the end of the term made available electronically at **17:00 Hrs on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**, and due on **Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 21:00 Hrs** at which time the portal will close. As such, late exams cannot be accepted. All students must adhere to a common timeline for receiving and submitting the final exam. Please do not make any travel or other arrangements that compromise your capacity to meet this demand

### Grading Scheme

A+= 90-100 = 4.00	B+ = 77-79 = 3.30	C+ = 67-69 = 2.30	D+ = 55-59 = 1.30
A = 85-89 = 4.00	B = 74-76 = 3.00	C = 64-66 = 2.00	D = 50-54 = 1.00
A- = 80-84 = 3.70	B- = 70-73 = 2.70	C- = 60-63 = 1.70	F = 0- 49 = 0.00

### LATE PENALTIES

A penalty of 3% per day beginning the moment after the time at which an assignment is due will be applied to any late assignment.

Requests for extensions to any deadlines due to illness or similar reasons *must be made to the instructor before the due date and must be supported by suitable documentation (see Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration below). Please keep an electronic backup of all your work to insure against loss or other difficulties.*

### Writing

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses. The quality of writing, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, and organization, will all be considered in assigning a grade to submitted work. Students are encouraged to make use of Writing Support Services available through the Student Success Centre at located on the third floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library, [https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing\\_support/overview](https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/overview).

### Recording of Lectures

Any use of recorded lectures beyond that required by your participation in this course constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.

## **INSTRUCTORS GUIDELINES**

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments. **All meetings will be held virtually.**

Email is a common but not always the most effective means of communicating with instructors. Attending office hours is often more effective. If you cannot make office hours you may request a one-on-one Zoom meeting outside of these hours.

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### **Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration**

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at [ucalgary.ca/registrar](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar)). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioners for Oaths, visit [ucalgary.ca/registrar](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

### **Absence From a Mid-term Examination**

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative

arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

### **Deferral of a Final Examination**

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### **Reappraisals**

The University Calendar states that for reappraisals of graded term work:

“A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work reappraised as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor **within ten business days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall take the matter to the head of the department offering the course **within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor**, who will arrange for a reappraisal of the work **within the next ten business days**. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

The University Calendar states that for reappraisal of academic assessments (final grades):

“A student may request a reappraisal of a final grade. The only element that will be considered is the final assessment(s) that makes up the final mark (e.g., final examination, final project, and final paper). The exception is when a grade for a piece of graded term work is made available to students after the last day of classes for the term in which the course is scheduled; that grade may also be considered in a reappraisal of the final grade.”

“A student seeking a reappraisal of a final grade should first attempt to review the final assessment with the department or faculty offering the course. After which the student shall obtain a Reappraisal of Final Grade form from [ucalgary.ca/registrar](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar) (under Student Forms). The student must indicate exactly what error was made in marking the final assessment and/or in computing the final grade. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” More information is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **University Regulations**

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at

[www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html).

### **Student Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

### **Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

### **Required Access to Technology**

Please see the University's resource page at

[https://ucalgary.service-ow.com/it?id=kb\\_article&sys\\_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031](https://ucalgary.service-ow.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031)

### **Copyright Legislation**

As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, "students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy."

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>

and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of



extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP)**

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

### **Evacuation Assembly Points**

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints) and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising) for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Tower, MT 116..

### **Important Contact Information**

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)  
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives  
Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)

URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

### **Campus Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

*Student Wellness Services:*

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website:* <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.