



2019–2020 Academic Year

Fall Session



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

FACULTY OF ARTS

Political Science 431

CANADIAN POLITICAL PARTIES

INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Doreen Barrie
TELEPHONE:	403-220-3624
OFFICE:	SS721
EMAIL:	dpbarrie@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	W 3.00-5.00 p.m. or by appointment
COURSE DAY/TIME:	W 5.00-7.45 p.m.
COURSE LOCATION:	ST128
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES:	Political Science 321

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Political parties are the primary form of political organization in democratic countries and a cornerstone of representative democracy. They play a pivotal role on the political stage. In addition to recruiting political leaders to compete in elections, they articulate interests, formulate policy and play a role in national unity. The course will analyse Canadian political parties and the systems in which they must compete for political power. It will deal with different aspects of political parties including how they are organized and financed as well as their representative function.

Like other institutions, parties are coping with a changing political landscape which has been impacted by new communications technologies and growing cynicism about politics in general and political parties in particular. By the end of the term students

should have a thorough understanding of the evolution and operation of Canada's party system, the challenges parties face and their future prospects.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & READING

Alain-G. Gagnon and A. Brian Tanguay, **Canadian Parties in Transition**, 4th Edition. North York, Ontario, University of Toronto Press; 2017.

“Elections,” Chapter 9, in **Canadian Politics Today: Democracy, Diversity and Good Government**, 1st Ed. Livianna Tossutti, Eric Mintz, Kathy Brock and Doreen Barrie. Don Mills, Ontario, Pearson Canada. Forthcoming, 2020. Will be posted on D2L

ASSESSMENT

You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade in this course.

Grading

Mid Term Exam	20%	October 9
Group Project	15%	October 16
Term Paper	30%	Due in Class November 27
Final Exam	35%	Scheduled by Registrar

Bonus Marks Students can earn bonus marks by doing something that goes beyond the course requirements. The possibilities will be discussed in class.

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS:

The schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises:

Apart from the first reading, the rest of the Chapters are from the required text,

Canadian Parties in Transition.

DATE	TOPIC
September 11	Ch.9, Elections, Tossutti, et al. available on D2L Ch.17 - Campaigning
September 18	Ch. 18 Digital Politics & Ch.19 The Internet Generation
September 25	Ch. 7 The Liberals & Ch. 8 The Conservatives
October 2	Ch. 9 The NDP & Ch.1 Party Evolution
October 9	Mid-Term Exam, 50 Mins Ch. 2 Money & Politics

October 16	Group Project
October 23	Ch. 6 Ideological Competition & Ch. 10 Third Parties
October 30	Ch.3 Parties & Regions & Ch. 4 Polarized Politics
November 6	Ch. 11 Politics & Voting Systems & Ch.12 Interest Representation
November 10-17	Reading Week – No class
November 20	Ch. 13 Party Politics in Quebec & Ch.14 Women in Parties
November 27	Ch. 15 Direct Democracy & Ch.16 Political Marketing Term Paper Due in Class
December 4	Ch. 20 Municipal Parties & Ch. 5 Waning of Parties?

ASSIGNMENTS

Writing Statement

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

RESEARCH PAPER

The paper should be 12-15 double-spaced pages including notes and bibliography, in **Arial 12 point font**, using the APA reference style (see https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/files/ssc/wss_apa_2014.pdf).

The subject of the paper may be drawn from any of the themes covered in the course, but a proposal must be approved by the Instructor. A hard copy of the paper must be submitted in class, November 27, 2019.

Requests for extensions due to illness or similar reasons *must be made to the Instructor before the due date and must be supported by suitable documentation. Always keep an electronic backup copy of your paper to ensure against loss or other difficulties.*

Papers submitted late will be penalized by five percentage points (5%) per day (including weekends).

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

The Mid-term exam will be an in-class, closed-book exam in essay format with a multiple choice component. In addition to content, exams will be marked on the basis of grammatical clarity and coherence of arguments.

See **Absence From a Mid-term Examination** below.

FINAL EXAMINATION

The Final will be a closed book, registrar scheduled exam. The exam will be based on material covered in class including readings, lectures and in-class discussions, over the entire term. It will be in essay format and the duration will be 90 minutes.

GRADE SCALE

The following Grade Scale will be used:

A+ = 98-100	B+ = 82-86	C+ = 64-71	D+ = 52-55
A = 92-97	B = 77-81	C = 61-63	D = 50-51
A- = 87-91	B- = 72-76	C- = 56-60	F = 0-49

RESOURCES

Whereas most books and journal articles available through the University of Calgary library will have passed several 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 net.

The University of Calgary Library offers many resources that can help you understand the politics of industrialized states and complete superior essays. The Political Science Librarian, Mr. John Wright (jpwright@ucalgary.ca; Telephone: 403.220.5955), can assist you in finding your way around the various resources available in the library. Conducting a simple subject search using key words like “political parties”, “party financing”, “elections”, and so forth should produce a list of resources for essay writing.

INSTRUCTOR 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 e-mail to make an appointment. It is to the student’s advantage to keep such appointments.

E-mail is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions. If you cannot make office hours, please request a one-on-one meeting outside of these hours.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

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>

Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.

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>.

Appeals

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

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.

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/.

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.

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>

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 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. You can also visit 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 Library Block.

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, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources:

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

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