

Department: Political Science
Year: Fall 2023
Course Title: POLI 101 (001)
Course Schedule: MWF 10:00 - 11:00 am PST- plus discussion sections
Mode of Delivery: In Person
Location:
Instructor: Dr. Gerald Baier
Office location: Buchanan 414
Office phone: (604) 827 5560
Office hours: by Zoom - MW 11:10 am -12:00 pm or by appt. (link on CANVAS)
E-mail address: baier@mail.ubc.ca

Acknowledgement

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. What we currently call the UBC campus has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions at this place. As we contemplate the role of Canada's political institutions and capacity for democratic governance, it is critical to acknowledge the self-governing communities that pre-date colonization on this very site and across the country. We must seek to do justice to this fact of history in our present and future actions.

Course Information

This is an in-person course. All lectures and tutorials will be delivered in-person at the UBC Vancouver campus.

In the event of new public health requirements or guidance from the University, streamed or recorded lectures may become available. Students who need to isolate to follow public health guide lines should alert me by email and we'll make temporary arrangements for you to have access to lecture slides.

In exceptional cases, students who are prevented from being present on campus for the final exam will be given an opportunity during the term to apply for an alternate format final exam.

The CANVAS website for the course is the central hub for all of the course activities. All assignments will be submitted and graded electronically through CANVAS. Assignment prompts and discussion section readings will be posted on CANVAS.

Last day to withdraw without a W standing : September 18, 2023

Last day to withdraw with a W standing (course cannot be dropped after): October 27, 2023

Course Description:

This course examines the basic structure and operation of Canada's political system. Understanding the logic and layout of Canada's institutions will help students to assume their roles as engaged democratic citizens. Class lectures will focus on the principles underlying Canada's political system and a detailed explication of its rules and institutions. Current events and controversies will frequently be employed as examples and used as a basis for class and tutorial discussions. The proper recognition of Indigenous

peoples and the challenges of reconciliation with the Canadian state will also be highlighted throughout the term. Student performance in this course is evaluated primarily on the basis of original written work (two short assignments and a term paper), on-line class participation, tutorial participation, and exams.

Learning Objectives:

Students should **gain an understanding** of the structure of Canadian government and salient issues in contemporary Canadian politics.

By the end of the term, you should have a better understanding of:

1. Canada's **parliamentary** system
2. The structure and operation of Canada's **constitution** and **federalism**
3. Canada's **political parties, electoral system** and **political culture**
4. The evolving relationship of **Indigenous** peoples to the Canadian state

Students will also **learn skills** in argumentation, research and analysis of Canadian politics and government, including communicating ideas through a variety of forms. Assignments and evaluations (described below) are designed to help further these learning objectives.

In class and tutorial participation is meant to help solidify understanding of key facts and concepts throughout the term.

Format of the course:

Lectures (3 per week) plus tutorial discussions.

Tutorial discussions are led by the Teaching Assistants and provide you with the opportunity to not only review classroom material in a smaller group, but to engage with other perspectives and examples relevant to classroom discussions. Given the size of the class there are multiple tutorial sections. Each tutorial session will have a small amount of required reading.

Lectures will include discussion questions and activities. Most will be facilitated by the use of the **iClicker** app. You must create an iClicker account and either download the app for your mobile device or be able to access the website during class. A portion of your grade is dependent on your participation in these activities. UBC students have free access to the iClicker app, you should not have to pay anything to use it.

Go to <https://> to join the course.

If you sign up using this join code you should not have to pay for a subscription. Do not pay for a subscription before signing up this way – I cannot help facilitate refunds if you sign up incorrectly. Once you are registered you can access individual quizzes and prompts as I release them in class.

Technological Requirements

Students must have the ability to access the CANVAS site and iClicker on a regular basis through a computer or other suitable device, including during lectures. There will be some grace time for classroom participation to accommodate for lost or poor internet connections. Please let me know **right away** if these requirements present a barrier to your success in the course.

Required Reading

P. Malcolmson, R. Myers, G. Baier, and, T.M.J. Bateman *The Canadian Regime* 7th edition (Toronto: University of Toronto Higher Education, 2020) (**available at the UBC Bookstore for around \$50**) *The Canadian Regime* is also available as an ebook from University of Toronto Press or as a Kindle ebook from

Tutorial readings will be exclusively electronic (and free!) and available through the CANVAS site and/or from links provided by your TAs.

Course Assignments, Due Dates and Grading:

| Assignment | Due Date | % of Final Grade |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Short writing assignments (2 X 5%) | SA1 due Sept 28 | |
| | SA2 due Oct 19 | 10% |
| Tutorial participation | Assigned by TA | 10% |
| iClicker participation | See rubric below | 10% |
| Mid-term test | October 28 | 20% |
| Term Paper | November 25 | 20% |
| Final Exam | TBC | 30% |

Term paper topics will be assigned by the instructor after the mid-term test. Papers will require you to do some research and will be in the range of 2000 words. More details on the paper will accompany the list of topics. Short writing assignments require different forms of writing and argument and will all be 500 words or less.

Course Schedule:

Lectures will roughly correspond to the following schedule.

| Date | Reading from <i>The Canadian Regime</i> 7 th ed |
|--|--|
| Weeks 1 & 2 Course Introduction The Context of Canadian Politics Discussion Sections begin September 12 | Chapter 1 "Canada's Regime Principles" |
| Week 3 The Constitution: Master Document | Chapter 2 "The Constitution" |
| Week 4 Responsible Government Short Assignment #1 Due September 28 | Chapter 3 "Responsible Government" |
| Week 5 The Executive Power: PM and Cabinet | Chapter 6 "The Crown and its Servants" |
| Week 6 The Executive Power: Bureaucracy No Class October 10 | Chapter 6 "The Crown and Its Servants" |
| Week 7 The Legislative Power: Parliament Short Assignment #2 Due October 19 | Chapter 7 "Parliament" |
| Week 8 The Judicial Power: The Courts MIDTERM TEST October 28 | Chapter 8 "The Judiciary" |
| Week 9 Federalism: The Division of Powers | Chapter 4 "Federalism" and pgs 229-234 |
| Week 10 and 11 The Charter of Rights No Class November 9th and 11th | Chapter 5 "The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms" and pgs 245-253 |
| Week 12 Elections and the Electoral System | Chapter 9 "Elections" |
| Week 13 Political Parties and Interest Groups | Chapter 10 "Political Parties" |
| FINAL EXAM | TBC |

E-mail:

You are welcome to communicate with the instructor about accommodations or logistical questions by email. Your TA is your primary contact for the course, but you should feel no hesitation in contacting the instructor. However, substantive questions about course material are best addressed during office hours or before and after class. Please appreciate that the very large number of students in this course makes it difficult for the instructor to be prompt and detailed in answering email questions. Please be patient. **Questions by email the day before the midterm or the final exam are strongly discouraged.**

Attendance:

Regular attendance in lectures and discussion sections is strongly encouraged. iClicker participation essentially records your attendance. Your participation is graded as just that, participation - you can give right or wrong answers – often there isn't a correct one- the goal is to engage with the material. iClicker mini-quizzes or questions are not graded tests.

You will receive 10 points toward your final grade if you participate in 90% or more of iClicker activities. 9 points for 80-90%, 8 points for 70-80%, 7 points for 60-70%, 6 points for 50-60%, 4 points for 40-50%, and zero for less than 40%. The ten percent margin (3 lectures) allows for illness, unexpected absence, work conflicts, or other obligations that require your attendance elsewhere (family vacations, religious holidays and political activity included) – accommodation beyond that 10% will require an extra assignment at the end of the term, but only if you have extraordinary circumstances that oblige you to be away for an extended period of time and merit accommodation on the advice of Arts Advising.

Material on the midterm and final exam may be drawn exclusively from classroom and discussion section material (ie the textbook won't get you through the exams!). If you are struggling with this course **let someone know** before the drop date. Your TA or the instructor can help you identify your options before it is too late to avoid an F in the course.

Accommodation:

UBC is committed to the academic success of students with disabilities. UBC's policy on Academic Accommodations for students with disabilities aims to remove barriers and provide equal access to University services, ensure fair and consistent treatment of all students, and to create a welcoming environment. Students with a disability should first meet with an Access and Diversity advisor to determine what accommodations/services you are eligible for.

Religious holidays – UBC permits students who are scheduled to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religions to notify their instructor in advance of these days and their wish to observe them by absenting themselves from class or examination. Instructors provide opportunity for students to make up work or examinations missed without penalty. (Policy # 65.)

COVID-19 continues to present considerable challenges for students and instructors. My attitude is to be as compassionate as possible under the circumstances but to seek to get us back to some semblance of 'normal' in terms of workload and deadline expectations. I will be patient, tolerant and sympathetic, but please try to plan your workload and be prepared for the unpredictable throughout the term.

Late assignments:

Assignments are due on the date indicated. Late assignments are subject to a 3% reduction in the total grade per weekday late (to a limit of 15% per week). All assignments are due on CANVAS before midnight on the day listed in the syllabus.

Under NO circumstances should you email assignments directly to the instructor or TA – even to establish your completion of the assignment. If you have trouble submitting to CANVAS let us know and we'll advise you on the next steps to follow.

Academic Integrity and Responsibility

As a member of this class, you are responsible for contributing to the course objectives through your participation in class activities and your work on essays, exams, and other projects. In the process of coming into your own as an independent, responsible participant in the academic community, you are encouraged to seek advice, clarification, and guidance in your learning from your instructor and/or Teaching Assistant. If you decide to seek help beyond the resources of this course, you are responsible for ensuring that this help does not lead you to submit others' work as your own. If an outside tutor or other person helps you, show this policy to your tutor or helper: make sure you both understand the limits of this person's permissible contribution. If you are uncertain, consult your instructor or TA.

Academic communities depend on their members' honesty and integrity in representing the sources of reasoning, claims, and wordings that appear in their work. Like any other member of the academic community, you will be held responsible for the accurate representation of your sources: the means by which you produced the work you are submitting. If you are found to have misrepresented your sources and to have submitted others' work as your own, penalties may follow. Your case may be forwarded to the Head of the department, who may decide that you should receive zero for the assignment. The Head will report your case to the Dean's Office, where the report will remain on file. The Head may decide, in consultation with your instructor, that a greater penalty is called for, and will forward your case to the Dean's Office. After an interview in the Dean's Office, your case may be forwarded to the President's Advisory Committee on Academic Misconduct. Following a hearing in which you will be asked to account for your actions, the President may apply penalties including zero for the assignment; zero for the course; suspension from the university for a period ranging from 4 to 24 months; a notation on your permanent record. The penalty may be a combination of these.

Academic communities also depend on their members' living up to the commitments they make. By enrolling in this course, you make commitments to an academic community: you are responsible for meeting deadlines, and attending class and engaging in class activities. If you find that you cannot meet a deadline or cannot participate in a course activity, discuss your situation with your instructor or TA before the deadline or before your absence.

Like any academic author submitting work for review and evaluation, you are guaranteeing that the work you submit for this course has not already been submitted for credit in another course. Your submitting work from another course, without your instructor's prior agreement, may result in penalties such as those applied to the misrepresentation of sources.

The use of AI tools such as ChatGPT or other applications to complete coursework is strongly discouraged. Assignments and exams are set to discourage the use of such tools, but evidence that they were used will be treated as academic misconduct and penalties pursued like above.

The Department of Political Science requires written work in all undergraduate classes to be submitted to turnitin.com – an attachment to this outline describes the rationale for this requirement and the procedures for submitting your work.

Appeals

Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss) and should also retain all their marked assignments in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standing. Your primary contact for disputes about grades is your assigned Teaching Assistant. They will be in touch with the instructor if material needs to be considered for re-grading.

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

Respectful University Environment

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes

crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious and cultural observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available here (<https://senate.ubc.ca/policiesresources-support-student-success>)

UBC recognizes that “the best possible environment for working, learning and living is one in which respect, civility, diversity, opportunity and inclusion are valued.” The full *UBC Statement on Respectful Environment for Students, Faculty and Staff* can be found at <http://www.hr.ubc.ca/respectful-environment/files/UBC-Statement-on-Respectful-Environment-2014.pdf>. Students should read this statement carefully and take note of both the protections and the responsibilities that it outlines for all members of the UBC community. Students should also review the Student Code of Conduct, at: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,750,0>

This course values frank discussion, healthy debate, and the free and respectful exchange of ideas. Students are welcome to voice and defend their views, which may differ from those of other students or of the instructor. However, disrespectful behavior, including bullying and harassment, will not be tolerated. The instructor will be professional and respectful in all exchanges with students, and students should exercise similar professionalism and respect in their interactions with each other and with the instructor.

If you have any concerns about the class environment, please raise them with the instructor. You also have the options of contacting the Head of the Political Science Department, UBC's Equity and Inclusion Office (<http://equity.ubc.ca>), or the UBC Ombudsperson for Students: <https://ombudsoffice.ubc.ca>

UBC is committed to equity and fostering a safe learning environment for everyone. All peoples should be able to study, work, and learn in a supportive environment that is free from sexual violence, harassment, and discrimination. UBC's Policy #3 on Discrimination and Harassment defines harassment as: “unwanted and unwelcome attention from a person who knows, or ought to know, that the behaviour is unwelcome. Harassment can range from written or spoken comments to unwanted jokes, gifts, and physical assault, and may be accompanied by threats or promises regarding work or study opportunities and conditions. Harassment can be either a single incident or a series of related incidents.” Such behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated at UBC. If you or someone you know has encountered sexual violence or harassment, you can find confidential support and resources at the AMS Sexual Assault Support Centre, (SASC), and the Equity and Inclusion Office. The SASC is an all-genders service that serves the UBC-Vancouver campus community and is committed to creating a safer campus community, free from sexualized violence. Their work is informed by feminism, anti-oppression and recognition of intersectionality. The Equity and Inclusion Office is committed to fostering a community in which human rights are respected and equity and diversity are integral to university life.

Resources are available at:

Sexual Assault Support Centre, (SASC)
AMS Offices
3130 – 6133 University Blvd. (the Nest)
Phone: 604 827 5180
Hours: M-F 9:00am – 9:00pm S/Su 11:00am to 7:00 pm
sasc@ams.ubc.ca
<http://amssasc.ca>

Equity and Inclusion Office
2306 – 1874 East Mall (Brock Hall)
Phone: 604 827 1773
Hours: M-F 8:30AM to 4:30PM
equity@equity.ubc.ca
<http://equity.ubc.ca>

Turnitin.com

In this course you will be required to electronically submit all written assignments to a service to which UBC subscribes, called TurnItIn. This is a service that checks textual material for originality. It is increasingly used in North American universities. **It is Department of Political Science policy that written assignments in all undergraduate courses be submitted to TurnItIn.**

Direct Online Submission to TurnItIn:

To submit your paper on www.turnitin.com, you will need to create a unique "user profile", consisting of a username (e-mail address) and password.

Please note: Information submitted to Turnitin is stored in the United States. You may use your own regular email address, or in order to protect your privacy, please follow these instructions:

- Create an anonymous email address using one of the available free services.
- Go to www.turnitin.com. Select **Create Account** on the top right.
- Under **Create Account** select **Student**.
- You must join the section of the course that corresponds to your tutorial section. The instructor will go over procedures for adding yourself (including the relevant passwords) early in the term. **The section IDs and passwords will be posted on CANVAS.** They will correspond to your discussion section. Once added to a section, you will be able to submit assignments for that course to the service.
- Create an alias or pseudonym. Please remember to let your TA know your alias.

Now you will be able to submit assignments for your course to the service.

Please ensure that there is **no identifying information** (this includes your name and student number) included in the text of any assignment that you submit to Turnitin.

You can submit a paper in two ways:

- by file upload (used to submit a paper as a computer file; Turnitin currently accepts submissions in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, RTF, PDF, PostScript, plain text, and HTML formats)
 - Please remember to **delete any identifying information** from the original document prior to uploading it. This includes your name and student number in the document, as well as any metadata or hidden data that might be stored in the document itself. To remove the metadata from Microsoft Word:
 - In Microsoft Word (Windows), you can remove the hidden data by using Microsoft Word's [Document Inspector](#)
 - In Microsoft Word (Mac), you can remove the hidden data by clicking on **Word > Preferences > Security**, then selecting **Remove personal information from this file on save**
- by cut and paste (used to submit a paper by cutting and pasting the text into a text box)

Your TA can help you with the TurnItIn process should you have any trouble. Do not wait until the last minute to create your User ID or to add POLI 101 to your account. Administrative difficulties will not be accepted as justification for not submitting your work to turnitin.

For more info: http://wiki.ubc.ca/Documentation:Turnitin_Basics/Elearning

Please note that it will still be necessary to submit your assignment to CANVAS for grading. Students who neglect to "turnitin" their assignments by the due date will be assessed late penalties.

Assignments are not accessible to the public once submitted to TurnItIn, and you, as the author, retain ownership of your original material. Your work will be added to TurnItIn's archive for comparison against subsequently submitted material, thus ensuring that your work is not plagiarised. Should a match be found between subsequently submitted material and your earlier submitted material, TurnItIn will inform the instructor that a match has been found with an

archived document, and provide contact information for your instructor. Your material will not be released to other TurnItIn subscribers even if such a match is found. The two instructors will have the option of collaborating to ascertain whether your work has been plagiarised.

What is TurnItIn?

This is a web-site that checks for the originality of material. It works as follows:

Students upload the text of their paper to the TurnItIn website or electronically submit papers to instructors. Software scans the paper and reports on originality (on a scale from 1 to 5). Using a variety of algorithms, the program compares the paper to material on the Web and in its databases. (It will detect copying even if a student replaces up to 50% of the words in a paragraph). Instances of copying are flagged in a report. Faculty sign-on to the website and review the reports for their students (which literally means scanning down a screen where a thumbnail report for each paper appears in 2-3 lines, with a colour-coded graph). More extensive reports for papers with low originality scores can then be studied in more detail, including the sources of any text that is matched in the student's paper. Faculty members decide, with help from the report, whether this is or is not a case of plagiarism. Privacy and security are high at this password-protected site.

What does it check?

This service, created by a University of California, Berkeley Professor and former graduate student, scans papers submitted by students for:

- Material copied from public web sites
- Papers purchased from paper mills
- Essays/assignments previously or concurrently submitted to TurnItIn
- Some (and rapidly increasing) published works (e.g., journals)

Why does UBC subscribe to this service?

1. It helps in reinforcing academic integrity as a core value of the university.
2. It responds to a growing concern about a "level playing field" for all students.
3. It reinforces the need to provide instruction in writing across the disciplines.

Care is taken in POLI 101 to create assignments that lessen the likelihood of plagiarism and encourage academic integrity. However, it is Department policy to screen written assignments in all undergraduate courses with TurnItIn.