

Political Science 1020E Section 550
Huron University College
Introduction to Political Science
Course Outline

Antirequisites:

The former Politics 021F - 026G series

Lectures:

Mondays, 9:30-11:30am, Room W12, with Dr. Bradford and Dr. Scorgie-Porter

Seminars:

Seminar 552: Mondays, 4:30-5:30pm, Room V207, with Dr. Scorgie-Porter (fall term) and Dr. Bradford (winter term)

Seminar 554: Mondays, 12:30-1:30pm, Room, W103, with Dr. Scorgie-Porter (fall term) and Dr. Bradford (winter term)

Instructor: Dr. Neil Bradford

Office: A300

Phone: 519-438-7224 ext. 333

Email: bradford@huron.uwo.ca

Office hours: Mondays 3:00-4:00pm and Thursdays 10:30-11:30am

Instructor: Dr. Lindsay Scorgie-Porter

Office: A15

E-mail address: lscorgi@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Mondays 3:15-4:15pm and Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm (fall term only)

Course Description:

An introduction to the study of politics. The course focuses on ideas (including politics, power, democracy, justice, freedom), ideologies (including liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism), institutions (including the nation-state, constitutions, legislatures, executives, the judiciary), political mobilization (participation, elections, parties, interest groups), and research skills, emphasizing Canadian, comparative, and international examples.

Learning Objectives:

Students will have definitional knowledge and understanding of political science, a rudimentary knowledge and understanding of the principal theories of political analysis, a preliminary knowledge and understanding of the principal fields of political analysis, a preliminary knowledge and appreciation of political science in the context of other disciplines, and an ability to search for, gather, review, and evaluate materials relevant to the core substantive learning objectives of Political Science 1020E.

Required Textbooks (available at Western bookstore):

Eric Mintz, David Close and Osvaldo Croci (2018). *Politics, Power and the Common Good*. Toronto: Pearson Canada. This is the 5th edition. Please do not use earlier editions.

Tepperman, Jonathan (2016). *The Fix: How Countries Use Crises to Solve the World's Worst Problems*. New York: Tim Duggan Books.

Structure:

Political Science 1020E is an introductory course in the field of politics. The course will cover a wide variety of topics, including Canadian politics, international politics, political theory, comparative politics, and public administration.

There are two seminar/tutorial groups to which students are assigned. Students are expected to attend seminars in their proper groups throughout the year. Do not arrive for a seminar in which you are not registered. The seminars generally follow themes in the lectures and will involve much participation on the part of students. Do not bring laptops or other electronic devices to seminars.

Lecture classes will begin promptly at 9:30am, and so students must not be late. If you arrive more than five minutes late, the instructor will not permit you to be in the room until the break at approx. 10:20am. Respecting the rights of the instructors and other students is paramount to successful lectures and seminars.

Each week, the second hour of the lecture period will feature a 'Critical Political Issues Workshop'. Students will be organized into small teams (8-10 students) and work collaboratively to address major challenges arising from the weekly readings and lecture presentations. Professors will identify key problems for the weekly workshop, providing brief context or background for the issues and offering direction for team discussions. The task for each workshop team is to produce strategies and solutions that respond creatively to the challenges facing governments and political communities. At the conclusion of each workshop, a different member from each team will present the major findings and recommendations to the class.

Topics:

Readings below are from the text. It may prove difficult at times to keep to the schedule, but every effort will be made to follow it. The course outline, essay instructions, essay questions, seminar participation hints, information on responsive notes, personal statements, lecture workshops, and selected notes/readings will be posted to OWL. It is your responsibility to check OWL on a weekly basis to obtain readings/materials for seminars and lectures. Most seminars will have readings you must download, read, and bring to seminar (again, these will be on OWL).

Assessment

1. Seminar Participation: Seminar participation will be graded on the basis of regular attendance and active participation in the tutorials. **(5 percent)**

2. Book Review: Students will write a book review on *The Fix: How Countries Use Crises to Solve the World's Worst Problems*. The book review is to be 5 double-spaced pages. More information about the specifics of this assignment will be given in early September. **(15 percent)**

3. Literature Review: In preparation for the Second Term Research Essay, students will conduct a literature review with regards to their chosen essay topic. The literature review is to be 4 double-spaced pages. More instructions on this assignment will be provided in the fall. **(10 percent)**

4. December Examination: This two-hour examination will be scheduled in the December examination period. **(15 percent)**

5. Personal Statement: Each student will develop a short (2 – 3 minute) presentation on a topic of personal interest and/or conviction that is related to the course material. They will then have the opportunity, in three seminars, to make a personal statement. Students will be graded on both the oral presentation and the text of their presentation, which will be handed in at the time of their presentation. The three broad foci that they might select are: ideological perspective, policy wonk, or public intellectual/popular philosopher or theorist. More information will be given later about the statements and will be available on OWL. **(5 percent)**

6. Second Term Research Essay: Students will have developed their topics for the essay in the first term. They will then conduct comprehensive research on their chosen topic throughout the second term. The essay is to be approximately 8 double-spaced pages, including bibliography. **(20 percent)**

7. Final Examination: This two-hour examination will be scheduled in the final examination period. **(30 percent)**

Due Dates:

- **Book Review:** Monday October 16th
- **Literature Review:** Monday November 27th
- **December Examination:** During December exam period
- **Annotated Bibliography:** Monday January 29th
- **Personal Statement Seminars:** Seminars in weeks beginning Jan. 22nd, Jan. 29th, and Feb. 12th
- **Second Term Research Essay:** Monday March 19th
- **Final Examination:** During April exam period

Class and Seminar Schedule

**Dates show Monday lectures; every week will have a seminar unless otherwise indicated*

Introduction – Mapping the Field

September 11 **Introduction – No reading (with Dr. Bradford & Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

September 18 **Politics and Political Science – Ch.1 (with Dr. Bradford)**

September 25 **Politics, Nation-States, and Globalization – Ch.2 (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

October 2 **Democracy in Question? – Ch.10 (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

October 9 **Reading Week – No classes or reading**

October 16 **Politics and Society – Ch.5 (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

October 23 **Politics and the Economy – Lecture Reading: 1st Edition Mintz et al., “Government, the Economy, and Political Conflict.” (on OWL) (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

October 30 **The Politics of Indigeneity – Reading TBC (with Dr. Bradford & Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

Global Perspectives on Politics

November 6 **Research & Writing Workshop with Colleen Burgess, Associate Librarian – No Reading**

November 13 **Development or Dependency? – Ch.17 (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

November 20 **International Relations in Theory – Ch.18 (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

November 27 **International Relations in Practice – Readings TBC (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

December 4 **Conflict and Peacebuilding in the Global South – Readings TBC (with Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

Political Ideas and their Consequences

January 8 **The Classical Ideologies – Ch.3 (with Dr. Bradford)**

January 15 **The Postmodern Challenge – Ch.4 (with Dr. Bradford)**

Government Institutions

January 22 **Federalism and Multi-Level Governance – Ch. 13 (with Dr. Bradford)**

January 29 **The Basic Law – Ch.12 (with Dr. Bradford)**

February 5 **Parliamentary Government – Ch.14 (with Dr. Bradford)**

February 12 **Presidential Government – Ch.15 (with Dr. Bradford)**

February 19 **Reading Week – No classes or reading**

Politics in Action

February 26 **Putting Ideas to Work: Public Policy – Ch.16 (with Dr. Bradford)**

March 5 **Political Parties – Ch.6 (with Dr. Bradford)**

March 12 **Political Influence – Ch.8 (with Dr. Bradford)**

March 19 **Cities in a Global Age – Readings TBC (with Dr. Bradford)**

March 26 **Taking it to the Streets – Ch.9 (with Dr. Bradford)**

April 2 **Elections and Voting – Ch.7 (with Dr. Bradford)**

April 9 **Exam Review – No reading (with Dr. Bradford and Dr. Scorgie-Porter)**

Appendix to Course Outlines

Prerequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Provost and Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/StudentLifeandSupportServices/StudentDiscipline>

Technology

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

(a) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf, requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform_15JUN.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

(b) Accommodation on Medical Grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly

When seeking accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

(c) Non-medical Grounds: Consult Instructor Directly

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical, the student should contact the instructor directly. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor. Apart from the exception noted below, academic advisors will not be involved in the process of accommodation for non-medical reasons.

Where a student seeks accommodation on non-medical grounds where confidentiality is a concern, the student should approach an academic advisor with any documentation available. The advisors will contact the instructor after the student’s request is received, and will outline the

severity and duration of the challenge without breaching confidence. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified that significant circumstances are affecting or have affected the student's ability to complete work, and the student will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. Before denying a request for accommodation where documentation has been submitted to an academic advisor, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Statement on Academic Integrity

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration;
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars and an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Provost and Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Provost and Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Policy on Special Needs

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Provost and Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, <http://www.huronuc.ca/AccessibilityInfo> (“Class Cancellations”).

Mental Health @ Western

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Academic Advising

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation [see above], students should contact an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services (huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/AcademicAdvisorsandServices>

Department Chairs and Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about their individual programs. Their contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/Academics/FacultyofArtsandSocialScience>