COLLEGE OF
THE ROCKIES

Introduction to Politics and Government - POLI 100
University Studies Program

Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2003
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE: September 2023
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE: April 2028

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course assists students gain a foundational understanding of political science's key concepts and practicalities. Among those considered are the fundamental nature of politics; power in all its guises; government systems; political beliefs, attitudes, and values; and various ideologies. From these bases, consideration is then given to constitution(s), executive(s), bureaucracy(ies), party(ies), interest group(s), election(s), and international relations. From their study and by working up case studies, students should become better informed politically and able to proceed to other political science courses.

Program Information: This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several University Studies Programs. Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

Delivery: This course is delivered face to face.

COTR Credits: 3

Hours for this course: 45 hours

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	45
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	
Other Contact Hours	
Total	45

Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	N/A
Formal Work Experience	N/A
Other	N/A
Total	

Course Outline Author or Contact:

Marcel Dirk, BA, MA, PDPP

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Signature

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Department Head	Dean of Business and University Studies
Erin Aasland Hall	Stephanie Wells
E-mail: aaslandhall@cotr.bc.ca	E-mail: SWells2@cotr.bc.ca

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Department Head Signature   Dean Signature

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Valid from: September 2023 – April 2028

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Education Council Approval Date

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:

Prerequisites: None

Co-requisites: N/A

Flexible Assessment (FA):

Credit can be awarded for this course through FA   ☑ Yes   ☐ No

Learners may request formal recognition for flexible assessment at the College of the Rockies through one or more of the following processes: External Evaluation, Worksite Assessment, Demonstration, Standardized Test, Self-assessment, Interview, Products/Portfolio, Challenge Exam. Contact an Education Advisor for more information.

Transfer Credit: For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

Prior Course Number: N/A

Textbooks and Required Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

> *Studying Politics, An Introduction to Political Science.* Fifth Edition Christopher G. Anderson and Rand Dyck, eds. Toronto: Nelson Education 2016.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/ for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to

- identify and explain the significance of key terms, core concepts, and practical fundamentals of political science;
- formulate a critical analysis of the forces/processes leading to political developments and government actions in Canada and other countries;
- locate the significance of political forces and government processes by application to current day context;
- critique the themes and nature of political science; and
- construct an academic argument by assessing research sources to build a multifaceted understanding of a chosen political science term.

COURSE TOPICS:

- Politics
- Political Science
- Power
- State
- Forms of Government
- Political Culture
- Political Socialization
- Political Ideologies
- Constitutions
- Executive
- Legislatures
- Public Administration and Bureaucracy
- Political Parties
- Political Interest Groups
- Elections
- Voting Systems
- International Relations

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities, and assignments.

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT (Face to Face Delivery):

Assignments	% Of Total Grade
Class Participation	5%
Quizzes	5%
Midterm	15%
Final Exam	15%
'Case Studies of the Day' Presentations/Discussions	25%
Research Findings Essay	35%
Total	100%

Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.

EXAM POLICY:

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

COURSE GRADE:

Course grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Mark (Percent)	≥ 90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	< 50

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

ACADEMIC POLICIES:

See www.cotr.bc.ca/policies for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

COURSE CHANGES:

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment, and marketing needs. The instructor will endeavour to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.