

Centre for Canadian, US & Latin American Studies
School of International Studies

Course	:	PhD
Course No.	:	AW649
Course Title	:	Government and Politics in Canada
Course Type (Core / Optional)	:	Core
Course Teacher	:	Dr. Sneha Bhagat
Credits	:	3 (Three)
Semester	:	Monsoon Semester
Contact Hours	:	3 hours per Week

Course Objectives

The course objective is to understand the Canadian Political system, its environment and the institutions. The course examines the governing structure of Canada including parliamentary democracy, federalism, the Charter of Rights and Freedom and the electoral process. The course also highlights various aspects related to the societal setting of the political system and various organisations of the Canadian Government.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students would be able to explain the core institutions of the Canadian government and are able to link the interconnections between them. They would be able to explain the societal impact on the institutions of government. This course would also help in enhancing the learning about Political participation in Canadian Politics.

Evaluation Methods

Class Participation (10%); Sessional Work (Term Paper and Mid-term Examination (40%)
End-term Examination (50%)

Course Content

1. Canadian Politics: approaches, perspectives & ideas

- a. Societal factors and economic forces
- b. Political culture
- c. Canadian political thought
- d. Charter of Rights & Freedom

2. Political Institutions

- a. Constitutional foundations
- b. Legislative politics
- c. Role of Executive
- d. Judiciary: structure & process

3. Federal Structures and Policy Process

- a. Reasons for adoption of federalism, policy-making process
- b. Inter-governmental relations
- c. Fiscal federalism
- d. Quebec in the federal setup

4. Party System

- a. Origin and evolution of party system
- b. Major political parties, Brokerage politics
- c. Electoral system and its consequences

- d. Party finance and interests groups
- 5. Non-party activity and expression**
 - a. Pressure groups and political movements
 - b. Language politics
 - c. Movements of ‘first nations’
 - d. Civil Society in Canada

Readings

- Archer, K. et al. (1995), *Parameter of Power: Canada's Political Institutions*, Toronto: Nelson Press.
- Bell, David V.J. (2008), “Political Culture in Canada”, in Michael Whittington and Glen Williams (eds.) *Canadian Politics in the 21st Century*, Toronto: Thomson Nelson.
- Bickerton, James and Alain-G. Gagnon (eds.) (2004), *Canadian Politics*, Peterborough, Ontario: Broadview Press.
- Blair, R.S. and Jack MacLeod (1989), *The Canadian Political Tradition: Basic Readings*, Scarborough: Nelson Press.
- Bothwell, Robert (2001), *Canada since 1945: Power, Politics and Provincialism*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Brooks, Stephens (1996), *Canadian Democracy: An Introduction*, Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- Brooks, Stephen (eds.) (1984), *Political Thought in Canada*, Toronto: Irwin.
- Charlton, Mark and Paul Barker (eds.) (2002), *Crosscurrents : Contemporary Political Issues*, Scarborough, Ontario: Nelson Press.
- Creighton, Donald (1964), *The Road to Confederation*, Toronto: Macmillan.
- Christian, William, Colin Campbell (1990), *Political Parties and Ideologies in Canada*, Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson.
- Christopher P. Manfredi (1993), *Judicial Power and the Charter: Canada and the Paradox of Liberal Constitutionalism*, Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- Easton, David (1965), *A System Analysis of Political Life*, New York: Wiley & Sons.
- Herman, Bakvis, ed. (1991), *Voter Turnout in Canada*, Toronto: Dundurn Press.
- Holmes, Helen and David Taras (eds.) (1996), *Seeing Ourselves: Media Power and Policy in Canada*, Toronto: Harcourt Brace and Company.
- Jackson, Robert J. (1998), *Politics in Canada : Culture, Institutions, Behaviour and Public Policy*, Ontario: Prentice-Hall.
- Johnston, J. Paul and Harvey E. Pasis (eds.) (1990), *Representation and Electoral Systems: Canadian Perspective*, Scarborough: Prentice-Hall.
- Johnston, Richard (2017), *The Canadian Party System: An Analytic History*, Ontario: UBC Press.
- Maclure, Jocelyn (2003), *Quebec Identity: The Challenge of Pluralism*, Montreal: McGill-Queen's University.
- McRoberts, Kenneth (1993), *Quebec: Social Change and Political Crisis*, Toronto: Macmillan.
- Megyery, Kathy. (ed.) (1991), *Ethno-Cultural Groups and Visible Minorities in Canadian Politics- The Question of Access*, Ottawa: Dundurn Press.
- Mishler, William (1979), *Political Participation in Canada: Prospects for Democratic Citizenship*, Toronto: Macmillan of Canada.
- Pocklington, T.C. (1994), *Representative Democracy: An Introduction to Politics and Government*, Toronto: Harcourt Brace Canada.
- Reesor, Bayard (1992), *The Canadian Constitution in Historical Perspective*, Scarborough: Parentice Hall Canada.

Roberts, John, Darion Boyington and Shahe Kazarian (2012), *Diversity and First Nations Issues in Canada*, Canada: Emond Montgomery Publications.

Smith, Miriam (2005), *A Civil Society?: Collective Actors in Canadian Political Life*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Wardhaugh, R. (1983), *Language and Nationhood: The Canadian Experience*, Vancouver: New Star Books.

Whittington, Michael S. and Richard J. Van Loon (1996), *Canadian Government & Politics: Institutions and Processes*, Toronto: McGraw Hill Ryerson.