

Brescia University College
Political Science 1020E
Introduction to Political Science

Term: Fall/Winter 2016

Class Time: Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Class Location: BR-UH30

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Chater

Office: TBA

Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 pm

E-mail: achater@uwo.ca

Course Description and Objectives

The course analyzes ideas, ideologies and institutions in politics as well as the relationship between them. Topics include liberty, the state, rights, ideologies, regimes, democracy, constitutions, executives, legislatures, participation, global governance and security.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Critically understand different ways of thinking about politics and apply this learning using examples from contemporary issues (critical thinking, problem solving)
- Analyze various political ideologies by evaluating their relative merits in both debate and writing (critical thinking, problem solving)
- Evaluate the structures of major political institutions and demonstrate a thorough understanding in class activities (inquiry and analysis, critical thinking)
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of different ways of participating in politics to assess career options and develop active citizenship (self-awareness and development, social awareness and engagement)
- Create high-quality research that draws on a variety of scholarly sources and demonstrates a variety of communication skills to aid in further university study and career goals (communication)

Note: Please consult the “Academic Policies and Regulations” document attached to this outline for information on course prerequisites and anti-requisites. If you are unsure if you are eligible to register for this course, see the course instructor as soon as possible.

Class Organization

Most classes will consist of a two-hour lecture that will include opportunities for class participation. Some lectures may include video clips or guest lecturers. In the third hour, there will be a tutorial discussion/debate based on that week’s assigned readings. The class slides will be uploaded to the class OWL website at least 24 hours before class.

Required Readings

Required readings are found below in the weekly outline section. These required textbooks are available for purchase at the Western bookstore:

Andrew Heywood, *Politics* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).

Nigel Warburton, *Free Speech: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

In addition, copies of each will be placed on two-hour reserve at Brescia's library. Additional required readings are available and downloadable on the class OWL website. Please read each week's assigned readings before coming to class.

OWL sign-in: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

Recommended Readings:

Under the "recommended readings" section of the class OWL site, the instructor will occasionally post recommended readings, reports and news articles that you may read for general interest. These readings also may help you participate in class discussions.

You should regularly consult news sources to find out what is happening in national and world politics, such as:

CBC News: <http://www.cbc.ca/news>

The Globe and Mail: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com>

The National Post: <http://www.nationalpost.com/index.html>

The New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com>

BBC World News: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world>

Assignments and Evaluations

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Term 1 Class Participation	5%	Ongoing
Term 2 Class Participation	5%	Ongoing
Letter To The Editor	5%	October 4, 2016
Critical Response	15%	November 8, 2016
Mid-year exam	20%	December exam period
Term 2 Essay	20%	March 7, 2017
Final Exam	30%	April exam period

Class Participation (5% each term)

Throughout the term, you will be evaluated based on the quality and quantity of your in-class participation. If you feel that you are too shy to participate, please see the course instructor as soon as possible to discuss strategies to overcome your shyness. You also earn participation marks by 1) bringing a news article to discuss during class, 2) e-mailing the course instructor questions and comments based on the lecture, or 3) visiting the course instructor during office hours to discuss lecture material. You will receive your participation mark-to-date at the mid-way point of each term (October 25 and February 21).

Below is the rubric used to evaluate participation:

Mark	Comments
90%+	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequent comments• Comments make specific reference to assigned readings, when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture• Comments demonstrate analytical thought• Comments are delivered articulately
80% - 90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequent comments• Comments usually make specific reference to assigned readings, when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture• Comments usually demonstrate analytical thought• Comments are usually delivered articulately
70% - 80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited comments• Comments usually make specific reference to assigned readings, when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture• Comments usually demonstrate analytical thought• Comments are usually delivered articulately OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequent comments• Comments rarely make specific reference to assigned readings, even when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture• Comments usually demonstrate analytical thought• Comments are usually delivered articulately
50% - 70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited comments• Comments rarely make specific reference to assigned readings, even when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture• Comments demonstrate limited analytical thought• Comments are not delivered articulately
< 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Few or no comments• Comments rarely make specific reference to assigned readings, even when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture• Comments demonstrate limited analytical thought• Comments are not delivered articulately

Letter to the Editor (5%)

Students will write a brief, one-page “letter to the editor” that will critically respond to one of several topical questions assigned by the instructor. A list of questions will be posted on OWL during the first week of class.

You should not use secondary sources to answer the question. The purpose of the assignment is to provide a well-written expression of a well-reasoned opinion.

A good-quality letter will provide a thoughtful and well-reasoned opinion on the assigned topic. It will be well written, with almost no typos or grammatical errors (for example, only one typo). It will be written in a concise and to-the-point manner.

*****OPTIONAL BONUS MARKS*****

The instructor will mark your letter and return it as soon as possible. If you re-submit your assignment during the following two weeks, the instructor will re-mark your assignment. The higher of the two marks will be your mark on the assignment! Re-submitting your assignment is optional.

Critical Response (15%)

Students will write a brief, four-page critical response that will critique one of several assigned academic articles. The instructor will post a list of articles on OWL during September, as well as further details on the format of this assignment.

You must use 2 to 4 secondary sources to analyze the article. The purpose of the assignment is to read an academic article and develop your own thoughts, analysis and criticisms that also draw on scholarly research.

A good quality response will accurately summarize the article and provide a pertinent criticism or area for improvement. It will be well written with very few typos or grammatical errors (only two or three). It will be written in a concise manner.

*****OPTIONAL BONUS MARKS*****

If you visit the instructor during office hours between October 18 and November 1, and show some evidence that you have begun serious work on the assignment, you will receive a 3% bonus on the assignment. This 3% could be the difference between a “B+” and an “A-”. This visit is optional. Examples of evidence of “serious work” would include an outline, a rough draft, or even several pages of notes on the chosen article.

Essay (20%)

In the second term, you will write an argumentative essay in response to one of several essay topics, or a topic mutually agreed upon with the instructor. Essays must be 8-10 pages, not including your bibliography or cover page.

A list of essay topics will be posted on OWL during the first week of the second term. You may write an essay on a political topic of your choice, relating to the course material. Your research question must be approved by the course instructor at least two weeks before the essay due date. Essays that are not written about an assigned essay topic or on a topic approved by the course instructor will receive a mark of 0.

Your essay must include a minimum of 8 scholarly sources.

The instructor will provide a rubric before the essay due date. A good-quality essay will deliver a persuasive argument in response to the essay topic. It will provide good-quality research from a wide variety of scholarly sources. It will demonstrate analytical and critical thinking about sources and will contribute unique insight and analysis. It will consider and debunk counter-arguments to your view. It will be logically organized into sub-arguments. Each sub-argument will be equally strong. The grammar and spelling will be correct and professional (i.e. less than five spelling and major grammatical errors).

***** OPTIONAL BONUS MARK – ESSAY PROPOSAL *****

If you hand in an essay outline at least three weeks before the essay due date (i.e., by February 14), you will receive a 5% bonus mark on your essay. This 5% could be the difference between a “B+” and an “A-”. This assignment is optional. You do not have to hand in an essay outline; if you do not, you will not receive bonus marks. Further, if you visit me during office hours, I will give you feedback on your outline. A document detailing the format of the essay outline will be available on the class OWL website.

Exams (20% first term, 30% second term)

The mid-year and final exam for the course will be held during the December and April exam periods, respectively. The exact date will be released during each term. The mid-year exam will be two hours, while the final exam will be three hours. They will consist of a mix of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. A breakdown of the exam format will be given during the term.

On the last day of class, or two weeks before the exam, a two-page exam guide and practice questions will be uploaded to the class OWL site. Practice questions will be very similar, though not necessarily identical, to the questions that will be on the final exam.

A good-quality answer should include material from lectures and the week’s assigned readings.

Support Services

Emotional and mental distress: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/mental-health-and-wellness/>

Students with disabilities: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/about/accessibility/>

Learning services and help: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/learning-enhancement/>

Weekly Outline and Readings

PART ONE: Ideas

1) September 13 - Politics

- Read: course outline

2) September 20 – Liberty, Power and Freedom

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 1, pages 1-26
- Tutorial reading: John Locke, *Second Treaties of Government* and Thomas Hobbes, *The Leviathan*, excerpts (OWL)

3) September 27 – Power and the State

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 3, pages 56-79
- Tutorial reading: Charles King, “Battling the Six Evil Geniuses of Essay Writing,” *Political Science and Politics* 31, no. 1 (1998): 59-63. (OWL)

4) October 4 – Freedom and Justice **LETTER TO THE EDITOR DUE**

- Lecture reading: Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand and Stephanie Lawson, *Introduction to Politics*, Chapter 4, pages 91-112 (OWL)
- Tutorial reading: Stanford University, “Top Twenty Errors in Undergraduate Writing” (OWL) (Read this article before you hand in the “letter to the editor.” It is a list of common grammar errors to help you edit your assignment.)

PART TWO: Ideology

5) October 11 – Liberalism (and Conservatism)

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 2, pages 27-34
- Tutorial reading: Warburton, Chapter 1

6) October 18 – Conservatism

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 2, pages 34-38
- Tutorial reading: Warburton, Chapter 2

7) October 25 – Socialism

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 2, pages 38-46
- Tutorial reading: Warburton, Chapter 3

8) November 1 – Fascism

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 2, pages 46-48
- Tutorial reading: 1) Robert Kagan, "This is How Fascism Comes to America," *Washington Post*, May 18, 2016. 2) Ross Douthat, "Is Donald Trump a Fascist?" *New York Times*, December 3, 2015. (OWL)

9) November 8 – Feminism **CRITICAL RESPONSE DUE**

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 2, pages 49-50
- Tutorial reading: Warburton, Chapter 4

10) November 15 – Environmentalism

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 2, pages 50-55
- Tutorial reading: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*, Summary for Policymakers (OWL)

11) November 22 – Nation-states and regimes

- Lecture reading: Heywood Chapter 5, pages 108-127 and Chapter 12, pages 265-270
- Tutorial reading: Warburton, Chapter 5 and conclusion

12) November 29 – Democracy

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 4, page 80-107
- Tutorial reading: 1) Mark Kennedy, "Canadian Democracy Rates a Mediocre 'C' In New Report," *Ottawa Citizen*, March 25, 2015. 2) Bob Hepburn, "Why Canada's Democracy Rates a Sad 'C' Grade," *Toronto Star*, March 25, 2015. 3) Alex Sangha, "10 Reasons Why Canada Is Not A Democracy," *The Georgia Straight*, April 7, 2015. (OWL)

13) December 6 – Exam review

- Read: exam study guide
- Tutorial: begin to study and bring your questions to class

PART THREE: Institutions

14) January 10 – Constitutions

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 15, pages 331-342 and Chapter 17, page 378-390
- Tutorial reading: Ian Binnie, "Interpreting the Constitution: The Living Tree versus Original Meaning," *Policy Options*, October 2007. (OWL)

15) January 17 – Executives

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 13, pages 284-308
- Tutorial reading: Paul Wells, “The Longer I’m Prime Minister,” excerpt (OWL)

16) January 24 – Legislatures

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 14, pages 309-330 and Chapter 20, pages 443-459
- Tutorial reading: 1) Canadian Press, “The Pros and Cons of Canada’s First-Past-The-Post Electoral System,” June 17, 2015. 2) Jeffrey Simpson, “Everyone Loves PR Except Canada,” *Globe and Mail*, March 18, 2015.

17) January 31– The Judiciary

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 15, pages 342-350
- Tutorial reading: Martha Jackman, “Canadian Charter Equality at 20: Reflections of a Card-Carrying Member of the Court Party,” *Policy Options*, December 2005. (OWL)

18) February 7 – Model parliament

- Read: OWL information about model parliament

19) February 14 – International Law **LAST DAY TO HAND IN ESSAY OUTLINE**

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 19, pages 421-442 and Chapter 17, pages 390-398
- Tutorial reading: 1) Western University Writing Support Centre, “Essays: General Structure.” 2) Western University Writing Support Centre, “Essays: Thesis Statements.” (OWL)

February 21 (no class, reading week)

PART FOUR: Participation

20) February 28 – Political parties and elections

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 9, pages 196- 220 and Heywood, Chapter 10, pages 221-243
- Tutorial reading: “The Canadian Election, 2015” handout (OWL)

21) March 7 – Bureaucracies **ESSAY DUE**

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 16, pages 351-377
- Tutorial reading: James C. Simeon, *Case Studies in Public Management and Administration*, excerpt (OWL)

22) March 14 – Civil Society, non-governmental organizations and interest groups

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 11, pages 244-264 and Chapter 7, pages 160-170
- Tutorial reading: View the interactive voting turnout diagrams, available here: <http://tinyurl.com/Elect2015>

23) March 21 – Globalization

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 6, pages 128-150
- Tutorial: Chrystia Freeland, "The Disintegration of the World," *The Atlantic*, May 2015. (OWL)

24) March 28 – Security

- Lecture reading: Heywood, Chapter 18, pages 399-420
- Tutorial reading: Stephen Walt, "How to Get a BA in International Relations In 5 Minutes," *Foreign Policy*, May 19, 2014.

25) April 4 – Exam Review

- Read: exam study guide
- Tutorial: begin to study and bring your questions to class

Policy on Late Assignments

Each assignment is due at the beginning of class on the due date. If you do not hand in your assignment by the beginning of class (i.e. before the day's lecture begins), your assignment will be counted as late. Your assignment will be deducted 2% per day it is late, including weekends.

You must submit each assignment to Turnitin through the link on the class OWL website. If you do not submit your assignments to Turnitin by the beginning of class on the various due dates, your assignment will be counted as late. Your assignment will not be marked until it is uploaded to Turnitin.

If you cannot complete an essay on time or require a makeup exam for medical or other valid reasons, you must inform the instructor and visit Brescia Academic Advising to submit the required documents. Only Brescia Academic Advising can grant essay extensions and schedule makeup exams. Information on documentation can be found here: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/academic-advising/>

If you cannot complete the "letter to the editor" assignment on time, please contact the course instructor as soon as possible. The instructor has discretion granting extensions for this assignment.

If you cannot attend several lectures for medical or other valid reasons and thus cannot participate in class discussion, you must visit Brescia Academic Advising and submit the required documents. Missing a small number of lectures will not impact your mark; if you must miss a significant number of lectures for a valid reason, you can submit an additional written assignment.

If a conflict emerges because of a religious observance, please inform the instructor two weeks in advance to make a reasonable accommodation.

2016-17 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html> The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg130.html>)

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

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.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

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 Tests/exams:

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. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision

from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html>)

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the 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 prerequisite(s).

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for information including a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.