

POLS*2300 Canadian Government and Politics

Credit Weighting: 0.5**Pre-/Co-Requisites:** None**Restrictions:** None**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION****Name:** Tamara A. Small**Email:** t.small@uoguelph.ca**Office Location:** 533 MacKinnon**GENERAL DETAILS**

This course explores the core institutions of Canadian government, including parliamentary government, federalism, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and electoral systems. How these institutions shape and are shaped by political parties and social forces, as well as current issues like Quebec nationalism, identity politics and Indigenous governance, are covered.

The delivery mode for POLS 2300: in-person. Students are expected to attend lecture regularly. Lectures will not be live-streamed nor recorded.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- 1) Compare and contrast the strengths and weaknesses of major Canadian political institutions including: the constitution, federalism, the legislature and executive, political parties and elections, the bureaucracy and the courts.
- 2) Understand the origins and historical development of the major Canadian political institutions in relation to changes in Canadian society and culture and the evolving British and American influence on these institutions.
- 3) Evaluate the impact of groups of key political significance including Indigenous people, women, Francophones, immigrants and ethnic minorities.
- 4) Critically analyze political and social institutions
- 5) Critically analyze Canadian political history and the various group and individual actors involved in government.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

May include:

- Online discussions
- Graded in class activities
- Quizzes or mid-term examination
- Written assignments
- Final examination

REQUIRED READING

Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches, 9th Edition by Rand Dyck, Christopher Cochrane and Kelly Blidook (TopHat version)