DEPARTMENT OF
POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLS4900/6950:DigitalDemocracy

Credit Weighting: 1.0 **Pre-/Co-Requisites:** **Restrictions:**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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GENERAL DETAILS

Thiscourseprovidesananalysisoftheuseofdigitaltechnologies,especiallytheInternet,inpolitics.Itexploresthewaysinwhichdigitaltechnologiesare changingpolitics,boththeoreticallyandincurrentpoliticalpractice,andexamineshowindividualsandinstitutionsinCanadaandinternationallyemplo ydigitaltechnologiesaspartofpoliticalpractice.

Teachingmethod:seminar(largeandsmallgroupdiscussionsandgroupwork)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Thiscourseconsidersthefollowingquestions:

" Howaredigitaltechnologiescurrentlybeingemployedindemocraticpolitics?
" Willdigitaltechnologiesimprovethequalityofdemocracy,hinderitorhavenoeffect?
" Towhatextentareelectoral,advocacy,governanceandnewspracticeschanginginrelationtotheuseofthedigitaltechnologies?
" Inwhatwaysdoesthedigitaltechnologiesexpandordiminishthepower/roleofthecitizen?

Topicsmayinclude:

" internetvoting
" e-government
" e-campaigning
" digitalcitizenship

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Assessmentmayinclude:

" Bookreview
" Participation
" In-classpresentation
" Take-homefinalexamination

REQUIRED READING

Thereisnotextbook;individualreadingsareavailableonlinethroughtheARESCourseReservesystem.

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