



POLS*6900 Communications

Credit Weighting: 0.25

Pre-/Co-Requisites:

Restrictions: Incoming MA and PhD students in POLS only

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

NAME: Professor Adam Sneyd <https://adamsneyd.com>

EMAIL: asneyd@uoguelph.ca

OFFICE: 536 MCKN

GENERAL DETAILS

This course focuses primarily on developing student capacities to communicate effectively, as well as on graduate student/professional development. Students will develop their competencies to mobilize knowledge and present original research findings. The course consequently advances learning outcomes related to effective communication, positionality, critical analysis, and the effective organization and delivery of arguments in political science.

This mandatory professional development course assists master's and PhD students in the Department of Political Science. It covers topics including working with your supervisor, teaching and research assistantship fundamentals, graduate funding applications, publishing strategies, career opportunities, and communication development. Some course elements may be taught through workshops in conjunction with other units, such as the Learning Commons. The only requirements include attendance and participation in the meetings, one presentation, and a reflection journal.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

POLS*6900 is a **0.25 credit course** that will meet bi-weekly over the Fall and Winter semesters. Students can achieve either satisfactory (SAT) or unsatisfactory (UNS) performance – no numeric grades will be assigned. To achieve a grade of satisfactory, students must: (i) attend and participate in ten of the twelve meetings in this course; (ii) give a presentation on a paper or research project to enhance their communication skills; and (iii) submit a reflection journal at the conclusion of the course.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

- seminar participation
- presentation
- reflection journal

REQUIRED READING

- very small number of readings related to specific topics in communicating research