

**University of Guelph**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**POLS\*3050 Canadian Campaigns & Elections (F19)**

**Instructor:** Professor Tamara A. Small

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**Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to the electoral process in Canada. It will explore factors that explain citizens' vote choices and the strategies used by candidates and their campaigns to win these votes. The course integrates literature on the electoral system, campaign financing, political parties, political communication, and voting behaviour.

The course will mainly focus on parties and elections at the federal level. The objectives of this course are to provide students:

- with an understanding of the Canadian electoral system from a historical and contemporary perspective.
- with an understanding of the key political actors (political parties, candidates, interest groups).
- with an opportunity to connect real life electoral events with the scholarly literature on elections.

**Course topics include:**

- Elections & Democracy
- The Administration of Elections in Canada
- Electoral Systems & Reform
- Political Parties & Candidates
- Mass & Digital Media
- Campaigning
- The Vote & Voters
- Key elections

**Special Attention will be paid to the upcoming federal election that will be held on October 21, 2019.**

**Teaching Method**

This course includes lectures, readings and class discussion.

**Assignments** may include:

- Online quizzes
- Research assignments
- Final examination

**Required Readings:**

- Pammett, Jon H, and Christopher Dornan. 2016. *The Canadian Federal Election of 2015*. Toronto: Dundurn.