



<b>Course ID:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Winter 2017</b>
<b>POLI 215</b>	<b>Introduction to Canadian Politics</b>	<b>Prerequisite: none</b>
		<b>Credits: 3</b>

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
<b>Days:</b>	W/F	<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Geoff Jackson	<b>First day of classes:</b>	Wed., Jan 4, 2017
<b>Time:</b>	9:45-11	<b>Email:</b>	gjackson@ambrose.edu	<b>Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:</b>	Sun, Jan. 15, 2017
<b>Room:</b>	A1085	<b>Phone:</b>	403-410-2000 (3969)	<b>Last day to request revised exam:</b>	Mon, Mar. 6, 2017
<b>Lab/ Tutorial:</b>		<b>Office:</b>	L2086	<b>Last day to withdraw from course:</b>	Fri, Mar. 17, 2017
		<b>Office Hours:</b>	12-12:50 T/TH	<b>Last day to apply for coursework extension:</b>	Mon, Mar. 29, 2017
<b>Final Exam:</b>	Apr 1 21, 9:00 A1085			<b>Last day of classes:</b>	Tue, April 11, 2017

### Course Description

An introduction to the Canadian political system from the perspectives of political science and history. Topics will include the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the federal government, the constitution, federal-provincial relations, the electoral process, and the role of ordinary citizens in the political process.

### Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the theory, structure, and historical development of the Canadian political system.
2. Understand the distribution and operation of power and authority in the Canadian democracy, at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels of government.
3. Understand the relationships among individuals, communities, and the institutions of government in Canada.
4. Develop the skills of political scientific and historical research, through the preparation of a major research paper.
5. Develop the skills of communication, through written coursework, classroom discussion, and a class presentation.
6. Interact with the moral and ethical dimensions of Canadian politics.
7. By combining these course outcomes, to develop increased capacity for active citizenship.

### Textbooks

P.E. Bryden *Canada: A Political Biography* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017)

## Course Schedule

**Outline:** This is intended as a general guide - the lectures may not correspond exactly

### Week one:

Jan 4- Introduction to the course

### Week two:

#### Readings: Chapter 1

Jan 11- Canada and citizenship

Jan 13 – Political Parties, Origins and development of political parties

### Weekthree:

#### Readings: Chapter 2

Jan 18- Levels of Governments Part 1

Jan 20 – Levels of Governments Part 2

### Week Four:

Jan 25- How to write a paper effectively

Jan 27 – The Emegence of Canada (Part 1)

### Week Five:

#### Readings: Chapter 3

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> - The Emergence of Canada (Part 2)

Feb 3<sup>nd</sup> – The Formative Years

### Week Six:

#### Readings: Chapter 5 and 7

Feb 8<sup>th</sup>- The Great Reorganization – 1935-1946

Feb 10<sup>th</sup>- The Great Reorganization- 1957-1968

### Week Seven:

#### Readings: Chapter 6

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Public Policy and Administration Part 1

Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – Canadian Charter for Human Rights and Freedoms

### Week Eight

#### Reading week

### Week Nine

March 1<sup>st</sup> -Review

March 3<sup>rd</sup> - Midterm

### Week Ten

#### Readings: Chapter 8

March 8<sup>th</sup> Canada on a Global Stage Part 1  
March 10<sup>th</sup> Canada on a Global Stage Part 2

**Week Eleven**

**Readings: Chapter 9**

March 15<sup>th</sup> – Guest Speaker  
March 17<sup>th</sup> – Crisis

**Week Twelve**

**Research Paper March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Readings: Chapters 11**

March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Constitutional Politics  
March 24<sup>th</sup> – Modern Canada 1982- 1998

**Week Thirteen**

March 29<sup>th</sup> Group Project  
April 1<sup>st</sup> – Group Project

**Week Fourteen**

April 5<sup>th</sup>- Guest speaker  
April 7<sup>th</sup> – Guest speaker

**Week Fifteen**

April 12 – Transformation 2001-2015  
April 14- final comments

**Requirements:**

**Class Participation**

**Worth: 20%**

This class will have an expectation that the students will show up to class, carry out readings beforehand, and actively participate in class discussion. There will also be a class presentation section that will be discussed in class. 50% of the class participation mark will come from the class presentation.

**Midterm exam: March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Worth: 25%**

The midterm will be 75 minutes and made up of a series of short and long essay style questions. The questions will be drawn from both the lectures and required reading covered to that point.

**Research Paper: March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Worth: 30%**

The essay will be 3000 words; students are strongly encouraged to approach the instructor about their topic and the research sources that they will be using. On January 24<sup>th</sup> we will go over what is expected for a 300 level paper and how to write a superior one.

## Late Assignments

Late assignments will be penalized one whole grade per class unless a written medical excuse signed by a medical professional is submitted.

### Final Exam:      Worth: 25%

The final exam will consist of a series of short and long essay style questions. The questions will be drawn from both the lectures and required reading covered in the whole course. The length of the exam will be 120 minutes. Students MUST be present for the exam. Vacations, employment, etc. are not valid reasons for a student to receive a deferred examination

### Submission of Assignments:

The article analysis will be handed in at the beginning of class. Late assignments will be penalized one whole grade per class unless a written medical excuse signed by a medical professional is submitted.

### Attendance:

This class will have an expectation that the students will show up to class on time, carry out readings beforehand, and actively participate in class discussion.

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

## Ambrose University Academic Policies:

### Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

### Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

### Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during

class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

### Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

### Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic

dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

**Note:** Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.