

Political Science 1021F: People, Power and the State

School of Humanities



General Information

Course #: Political Science 1021F
Section #: 530
Term: Fall
Year: 2022
Format: In Person
Course Day and Time: Monday, 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Location: BR-2001B
Course Dates: September 8, 2022 to December 22, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Andrew Chater
E-mail: achater@uwo.ca
Office hours: Monday, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm, in person
Wednesday; 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm, via Zoom

Course Description

This introduction to politics emphasizes how people and the state use power to achieve political aims. Students will learn essential concepts (power, authority, democracy, freedom) and influential ideologies (liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism, nationalism), explore our institutional landscape (legislatures, executives, the judiciary) and agents of change (parties, media, interest groups)

Required Course Materials

The following books are required, available for purchase from the Western bookstore:

Nigel Warburton. *Free Speech: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Bob Joseph. *21 Things You May Not Know About The Indian Act*. Indigenous Relations Press, 2018.

The following book is required, available for free download from our class OWL website:

House Intelligence Committee, *The Impeachment Report: The House Intelligence Committee's Report On Its Investigation into Donald Trump and Ukraine*. Broadway Books, 2019.

Textbook readings are found in this textbook, available via the link from Western Libraries (subject to availability):

Leonardo Morlino, Dirk Berg-Schlosser and Bertrand Badie. *Political Science: A Global Perspective*. Sage Publications, 2017. <https://sk-sagepub-com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/books/political-science>

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Critically understand different ways of thinking about politics and apply this learning to current events (critical thinking, problem solving)
2. Analyze various political ideologies by evaluating their relative merits in both debate and writing (critical thinking, problem solving)
3. Evaluate the structures of major political institutions and demonstrate a thorough understanding in class activities (inquiry and analysis, critical thinking)
4. Demonstrate a critical awareness of different ways of participating in politics to assess career options and develop active citizenship (self-awareness and development, social awareness and engagement)
5. Create high-quality research that draws on a variety of scholarly sources and demonstrates a variety of communication skills to aid in further university study and career goals (communication)

Brescia Competencies

Competency	Goal for the Term
1. Communication	Recognize the requirement that clear communication should be supported by meaningful evidence (level 1)
2. Critical Thinking	Identify key concepts, statements and premises of arguments and the connections between premises and conclusions (level 1)
3. Inquiry and Analysis	Identify or develop a focused subject of inquiry, find appropriate evidence from various points of view and/or methods and develop a general conclusion based on inquiry findings (level 2)
4. Problem Solving	Recognize when a problem exists and apply an appropriate problem-solving framework to develop multiple solutions; implement a solution that addresses a problem statement and reflects on results and outcomes (level 2)
5. Self-Awareness and Development	Identify different patterns of thinking and comment on own performance (level 1)
6. Social Awareness and Engagement	Demonstrate understanding of the complexity of culture by asking questions and expressing openness to differences in cultures and social issues; begin to reflect on the impact of one's own actions on others (level 2)
7. Valuing	Apply ethical issues to various concepts and contexts, start to identify assumptions and objections to those values; recognize internal conflicts to one's own values and the external forces that help shape them (level 2)

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

This class will take place in-person, during our scheduled class time. Each week, students will:

- Read a text reading before coming to class;
- Download the weekly materials from our class OWL;
- Take part in a lecture with participation, and;
- Work on class assignments.

Students should come to class ready to participate, having read the assigned reading for the week. Class may take place on Zoom if necessary (for example, the instructor is ill).

Evaluation

Policy Brief (20%)	Students will write a 1,500-word policy brief that will analyze a current topic in political science. The purposes of the assignment are to collect evidence and then develop personal thoughts, analyses and criticisms.
Policy Brief Re-Submission (30%)	Students will re-submit their policy brief with the corrections and updates suggested by the professor after the first submission. The goal is to practice improving work.
Exam (30%)	Students will complete a final exam during the exam period. The goal is to demonstrate mastery of course material.
Class Participation (20%)	Students will be evaluated on the quality and quantity of their participation. The goal is to create a lively classroom environment.

Evaluation Breakdown

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Learning Outcome	Brescia Competencies
Policy Brief	20%	Oct. 18		1, 2, 3, 4, 6
Policy Brief Re-Sub	30%	Nov. 29	1, 2, 3, 5	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
Final Exam	30%	December exam period	1, 2, 3, 4	2, 4, 5
Class Participation	20%	Ongoing	1, 2, 3, 4	All

Assignment Submission

Policy briefs are due by 4:00 pm on the due date via the class OWL website. The late penalty for the written assignments is 3% per day. Assignments will no longer be accepted one week after the due date.

Academic Accommodation and Extensions

To receive an extension or accommodation for all assignments, documentation from an academic advisor is required. Make an appointment with your academic advisor. For more information, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

Weekly Organizer:

Class	Date	Topic	Assignments and/or Readings Due	Textbook Readings
<i>Part 1: Ideas</i>				
1	Sept. 12	Introduction What Is Politics?	Course outline	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 1-3
2	Sept. 19	Freedom, Liberty, Power, Justice and the State	<i>A Very Short Introduction to Free Speech</i> , chapter 1	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, introduction
3	Sept. 26	Information and the Media	<i>A Very Short Introduction to Free Speech</i> , chapter 2	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 11
4	Oct. 3	Ideologies I	<i>A Very Short Introduction to Free Speech</i> , chapter 3	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapters 4 and 13
No class Oct. 10 due to Thanksgiving				
5	Oct. 17	Ideologies II	<i>A Very Short Introduction to Free Speech</i> , chapter 4, 5 and conclusion Policy Brief Due	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapters 4 and 13
<i>Part 2: Institutions</i>				
6	Oct. 24	Democracy and Participation	<i>Impeachment Report</i> , pages 1-36	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 5-7
No class October 31 due to Reading Week				
7	Nov. 7	Constitutions and Executives	<i>Impeachment Report</i> , pages 37-202 (skim for one hour)	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 8

8	Nov. 14	Legislatures and The Judiciary	<i>Impeachment Report</i> , pages 203-300 (skim for one hour)	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 14
<i>Part 3: Issues</i>				
9	Nov. 21	Issues: Public Service and Police Reform	<i>21 Things</i> , chapters 1-7	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 10
10	Nov. 28	Issues: Indigenous Reconciliation	<i>21 Things</i> , chapters 8-14 Policy Brief Due	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 12
11	Dec. 5	Issues: Current Events	<i>21 Things</i> , chapters 15-21	Morlino, Berg-Schlosser & Bertrand Badie, chapter 9

Statement on Course Changes

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course moving away from in-person delivery, course content may be delivered online either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). There may also be changes to any remaining assessments at the discretion of the course instructor. Detailed information about the impact on this course will be communicated by the Office of the Provost and by the course instructor.

Statement on Audio/Video Recording or Streaming of Classes

If necessary, some or all of the classes for this course may be recorded and streamed. The data captured may include your image, voice recordings, and for online participants chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings or streaming. Participants in this course are not permitted to privately record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the student has the prior written permission of the instructor.

Statement on Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

2022-23 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_135

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
2. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;

5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor (https://brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/book_an_appointment.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please contact your Academic Advisor or see the list of sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements may be different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_64).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at: https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere.

Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Development & Success at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>).

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia**, https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy, and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.
