

Lakehead University
Winter 2025
Political Science POLI4215WDE:
Canadian Political Thought

Instructor name: Dr. Douglas A. West	Time and date: 2025/01/06/ to 2025/04/06 Monday 2:30-5:30PM EST
Office location: Zoom	Classroom location: Zoom
Email: dwest@lakeheadu.ca	Office hours: By Zoom Appointment

D2L link: <https://mycourselink.lakeheadu.ca/d2l/home/157093>

Course Description and Learner Outcomes:

This course is a seminar on the history of Political Ideas and Ideologies as they have been formulated within the historical context of the colonial and post-colonial Canadian experience. We will read and comment on a wide variety of ideas and we will attempt to connect them as much as possible to contemporary actions. Through attending and participating in every seminar, students will:

- Gain a comprehensive understanding of the expression of ideology in Canada.
- Participate in discussions that link ideas to action in the Canadian context.
- Experience an individual and collective appreciation for the podcast as a viable means of conveying political ideas.
- Enhance speaking and conversational skills.
- Gain confidence in meeting preparation, speaking and document creation.

COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXT

(2024) Campbell, Colin J. and Colin Campbell. *Political Ideologies in Canada* Toronto: Canadian Scholars Press. <https://canadianscholars.ca/book/political-ideologies-in-canada/>

Price \$79.95 (PRINT) \$74.95 (eBook – Fixed Layout) \$74.95 (eBook – Reflowable)

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation	20%
Research Paper Outline	20%
Podcast Delivery	30%
Final Paper	30%

Attendance and Participation

- Students will be evaluated by the instructor for consistent attendance and thoughtful participation – **students who “appear” in person on Zoom classes achieve higher than average grades for participation.**

Research Paper Outline Due – February 10th to dwest@lakeheadu.ca

A 5 page Outline of a research paper that includes

- 10 source annotated bibliography (paragraph annotations) (2 pages)
- Chapter by Chapter Outline and Synopsis (2 Pages)
- Preliminary Conclusions (1 page)

Final Paper Due April 6th to dwest@lakeheadu.ca

- 12-15 pages in length based on Research Paper Outline
- Chapter headings and Introductions and Conclusions for each chapter
- Recommendations for future research

Course Format

Monday (3 hour Seminar)

Part 1 Lecture and Discussion – Instructor Lecture 1 hour - Discussion 20 minutes

Break – 20 minutes

Part 2 Podcast In teams of 2-3, Students will be responsible for the class presentation of their own opinions/responses to the reading in a conversational format with pre-arranged questions.

Podcast Delivery

Each team of students will produce a draft of the timed script one week before their assigned presentation date to be used the following week for their podcast. The Instructor will work with the group to edit the final script that will be used.

Draft script – 10 marks – **Due Friday before Podcast is Scheduled** - Include Current Application Material for uploading to D2L – e.g. Relevant examples from news sources, academic posts, etc.

Podcast – 20 marks

Students will be graded as a team

Rules for Class Presentations/Conversations

Please consult - How to prepare Podcast Scripts

<https://creators.spotify.com/resources/create/how-to-write-podcast-scripts>

- 1- The Moderator will Introduce themselves, identify each participant , the name of the course and Module topic, identify the chapter, and explain the rules and timing. (6m)
- 2- Each participant will have 15 minutes to summarize their opinions of the chapter. (30m)
- 3- Each participant will provide a 5 minute commentary on the other's opinions. (10m)
- 4- Each participant will make a 3 minute closing statement. (6m)
- 5- The Moderator will then engage the rest of the class in that includes current events Q&A. (20m)
- 6- The Moderator will thank the participants and close the session. (3m)
- 7- The Instructor will make comments and end the class. (10m)

Reading and Class Schedule

Week 1: Classical Liberalism: From Locke to Laurier

Week 2: The Rise of Welfare Liberalism

Week 3: Conservatism: The Tory Tradition

Week 4: Democratic Conservatism

Week 5: Socialism, Communism, and Anarchism

Week 6: Social Democracy

Week 7: Feminism and Feminisms

Week 8: Nationalism

Week 9: Populism

Week 10: The Far Right: White Supremacism, Antisemitism, and Fascism

Week 11: The Environmentalist Ethos: From Conservation to Ecological Thinking in Canadian Politics

Week 12: Through an Indigenous Lens: Ideological Preconceptions of Health and Health Care in Canada

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The Instructor expects all students to be respectful in their interactions with any person involved with the course.

Tests, Exams and Term Work

If you are going to miss a test, it is very important that you email me as soon as you know that you will be missing the test. Missed tests will be accommodated only in extraordinary circumstances that are supported by written documentation from a healthcare practitioner using the official Student Health Certificate, available at

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/examination/medical-notes/node/10641>

Students are strongly urged NOT to make any commitments (i.e., vacation, job related, or other travel plans) during either the term as a whole or the final examination period. Students are required to be available for all examinations during the periods for which they are scheduled (as published in course syllabus). It is your responsibility to check the final exam schedule and be prepared to write the examination on the scheduled date/time/location to avoid a grade of zero. There will be no rescheduling of examinations to accommodate holiday travel or extracurricular activities. No one will be allowed to write examinations prior to the scheduled date.

Extensions of deadlines for completion of assignments or writing of midterms/final examinations may be granted to students on the basis of illness, accident, or other extreme and legitimate circumstances beyond their control. Consideration for deferrals will not normally be granted on the basis of vacation/travel plans or job-related obligations.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism, cheating and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Being caught engaging in any such activities will result in disciplinary action either within the course or at the university level. A listing of University Regulations can be found at:

<http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=21&chapterid=3506&loadusercredits=False>. The code of student behaviour and disciplinary procedures can be found at: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/policies/student-related/code-of-student-behaviour-and-disciplinary-procedures>.

The following rules shall govern the treatment of students who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly:

- (a) The minimum penalty for a student found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.
- (b) A student found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

Students disciplined under the Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures may appeal their case through the Judicial Panel.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

Lakehead University Grading Scale	
A+	90-100%
A	80-89%
B	70-79%
C	60-69%
D	50-59%
E Fail	40-49%
F Fail	1-39%
F Academic Dishonesty	0%

LAKEHEAD RESOURCES

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, do not hesitate to ask for help! Come to me, or if it is about an issue beyond this class, please contact your academic advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus, including:

The Student Success Centre has many programs and support services in place to help you achieve your academic and personal goals while studying at Lakehead University. They provide academic support through tutoring services, career exploration, co-operative opportunities and leadership development. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-success-centre>.

The Lakehead Library provides access to resources, study rooms, and research support both online via chat and in person with more details available here <https://library.lakeheadu.ca/>.

Public Computer Labs are available on campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For more details go to <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/helpdesk/computer-labs>.

Student Life and Services offers health and wellness resources both on and off campus, as well as opportunities for involvement in health and wellness activities. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/or>.

Office of Human Rights and Equity. You have the right to an education that is free from any form of discrimination. A wide variety of resources are available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/human-rights-and-equity/resources>.