



POLI-1100 YB: Introduction to Political Science

Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Time: Monday & Wednesday: 4:00-5:30pm
Place: AT1001

Instructor: Zubairu Wai

Office: RB 2041

Hours: Wednesdays: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (or by appointment)

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Course Description:

This course provides a broad and critical introduction to politics and political science by providing an overview of the scope, concepts and methods of political studies. It focuses on the processes and practices of politics, the institutional and social framework of political activity and behaviour, and the role of ideas, institutions, cultures and political system in politics. Moreover, it focuses on the relationship between power and politics, and addresses not only the essentials of political science as an academic field of study but also analyses the institutional contexts within which governments operate and the challenges and uncertainties they face within the context of an ever-intensifying globalization. What is power and politics? How do they impact social relations? How is the 'political' conceived, understood and organized, and what is its impact on social behaviour, institutional practices and the wider society? How are governments organised, and which political ideas influence the particular regime types adopted by different states and societies? Why do people obey governmental authority? This course is designed to provide students with critical conceptual and analytical tools that enable them to engage with broader questions about the nature, practice and exercise of power and politics. It is also intended to help them develop critical skills for not only understanding the mechanics and dynamics of political life, but also engaging with the issues of power and politics they confront on a day to day basis.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

The method of instruction will mainly be lectures. Attendance and student participation are crucial for the success of the course. Students are required to regularly attend classes, do the assigned readings before coming to class and take part in class discussions. They are also required to complete two essays and take two exams.

The final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

Attendance & Participation:	10%
Mid-term Exam:	15%
Short (first-term) paper:	15%
Final (longer) Essay:	30%
Final (end of year) Exam:	30%

Attendance & Participation: (worth 10% of final grade)

Attendance and student participation are crucial for the success of the course. All students are required to regularly attend classes, do the assigned readings before coming to class and take part in class discussions. A register of attendance will be kept throughout the duration of the course.

Fall:

- (a) **A mid-term exam (worth 15% of final grade)** will be conducted **in class on October 24**. It is a 90 minutes test intended to test students on the material covered in the course up to the time of the exam. It will be a closed book exam consisting of short answer and essay questions.
- (b) **A shorter paper (worth 15% of final grade)** should be handed in class on **Wednesday, December 1**. The essay is a review essay intended to test students' understanding of some of the basic concepts in political science. The essay can be on any of the concepts covered in the course up to the end of term. The essay should competently demonstrate a familiarity with the concept chosen and its relevance for political science. It should be 5 (double-spaced) pages long, Times New Roman 12 point fonts, 1 inch margin.

Winter:

- (a) The longer essay (worth **25% of final grade**) should be handed in class on **Wednesday April 1**, that is, the last day of lectures for the course. It can be on any topic in political science and should be between 10 and 12 double-spaced pages (not including the title page and bibliography of works cited). The format should be Times New Roman 12 point fonts, 1 inch margin and.
- (b) The **final exam (worth 25% of final grade)** will be a three hour test conducted at the end of the term. It will test students on the topics covered in the course. It will consist of two parts: Section one will consist of short answer questions which require students to define specific terms and discuss their relevance for world politics, and section two will consist of essay type questions that require students to provide long and detailed essay type answers to questions about world politics.
[Note: The examination period is between April 10 and 23. It is the responsibility of students to check with the Registrar's office for the exact examination date for this course]

Note: All essays must include a title page indicating the title of the paper, the name of the author, student number, course number, the name of the course instructor, the department and the university, the date the essay is handed in and. It should also include a reference of cited sources. Barring any extenuating circumstances, and except where the instructor's permission is sought and given, all written work must be submitted on time; otherwise, a penalty of 2 per cent per day for lateness will be applied.

Required Texts

1. Janine Brodie, Sandra Rein & Malinda Smith (eds.) *Critical Concepts: An Introduction to Politics* 5e (Toronto: Pearson, 2014)
2. George A. MacLean and Duncan R. Wood, *Politics: An Introduction* 2e (Don Mills: Oxford University Press 2014)
3. *Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics* 3e, edited by Iain McLean and Alistair McMillan (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)

Students with Special Needs

Students with special needs may request accommodations in accordance with the Senate Policy on Students with Disabilities. Such students should at the earliest opportunity advise the Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Learning Assistance Centre) and the course instructor of such needs so that appropriate arrangements can be made to accommodate their needs. Those who encounter extenuating circumstances which may interfere with the successful completion of the course should, as soon as possible, discuss these circumstances with the course instructor and the Student Accessibility Services.

Lakehead Policy on Academic Dishonesty

As academic integrity is crucial to the pursuit of university education, students are expected to uphold the academic honour code at all times and are advised to familiarise themselves with the university's policy on academic dishonesty, especially in relation, but not limited, to plagiarism, cheating, impersonation etc. In order to make sure that a degree awarded by Lakehead University is a reflection of the honest efforts and individual academic achievement of each student, Lakehead University treats cases of academic dishonesty very seriously and severely penalises those caught in violation of the university's policy on academic dishonesty.

COURSE SCHEDULE (FALL 2014)

I. STUDYING POWER & POLITICS

Week 1 (Sept 8 & 10): Introduction to the Course

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 1: 'Studying Politics'

Week 2: (Sept. 15 & 17): Power and Politics

Required Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 1: Janine Brodie, 'Power and Politics'

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 1: ‘Studying Politics’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘power’, ‘authority’, ‘politics’, ‘political science’,

[Note: September 19 is the final day of registration]

Week 3 (Sept. 22& 24): Approaches to the Study of Politics

Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 1: Janine Brodie, ‘Power and Politics’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 1: ‘Studying Politics’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘institutionalism’, ‘pluralism’, ‘elitism,’ ‘Marxism,’ ‘feminism,’ ‘rational choice’, ‘public choice’, ‘class’

Marsh and Gerry Stoker, ‘Introduction’ and Gerry Stoker ‘Introduction to Part 1’ in *Theory and Methods in Political Science*, 3e, edited by Marsh and Gerry Stoker (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), pp. 1-22

Week 4: (Sept. 29 & Oct. 1): Approaches to the Study of Politics Cont.

Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith: Chapter 1: Janine Brodie, ‘Power and Politics’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 1: ‘Studying Politics’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘institutionalism’, ‘pluralism’, ‘elitism,’ ‘Marxism,’ ‘feminism,’ ‘rational choice’, ‘public choice’, ‘class’

Marsh and Gerry Stoker, ‘Introduction’ and Gerry Stoker ‘Introduction to Part 1’ in *Theory and Methods in Political Science*, 3e, edited by Marsh and Gerry Stoker (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), pp. 1-22

II. THINKING POWER & POLITICS

Week 5: (Oct. 6 & 8): Traditions of Political Thought

Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 2: Roger Epp, ‘Big Ideas’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 3: ‘Political Thought, Philosophy, and Ideology’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘political philosophy’, ‘political theory’, ‘Confucius’, ‘Socrates’, ‘Plato,’ ‘Aristotle’; ‘Augustine, St.’ ‘Aquinas, St. Thomas’

**Week 6: (Oct. 13 & 15): Thanksgiving (Oct. 13): No Class;
Oct. 15: Traditions of Political Thought Cont.**

Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 2: Roger Epp, 'Big Ideas'

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 3: 'Political Thought, Philosophy, and Ideology'

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: 'Machiavelli, Niccolo', 'Hobbes, Thomas,' 'Locke, John,' 'Rousseau, Jean-Jacques,' 'state of nature', 'social contract', 'Mill, John Stuart', 'Marx, Karl,' 'Nietzsche, Friedrich', 'de Beauvoir, Simone' 'Fanon, Frantz', 'Foucault, Michel' 'Derrida, Jacques', 'post-modernism'

Week 7: (Oct. 20 & 22): Modern Political Ideologies

Required Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 3: Catherine Kellogg, 'Democratic Ideas' & Chapter 5:
Janine Brodie & Alexa DeGagne, 'Neo-liberalism'

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 3: 'Political Thought, Philosophy, and Ideology'

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: 'ideology,' 'liberalism,' 'conservatism,' 'democracy,' 'social democracy', 'neoliberalism', 'capitalism', 'nationalism', 'fascism', 'anti-Semitism', 'fundamentalism: Christian and Islamic', 'libertarianism', 'apartheid' 'Marxism', 'socialism', 'communism', 'feminism', 'anarchism', 'propaganda', 'totalitarianism', 'anarcho-syndicalism', 'Stalinism', 'Leninism', 'pan-Africanism'

Week 8: (Oct. 27 & 29): Revision and Midterm Exam

[The mid-term exam will be on October 29 in class]

III. FORMATIONS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS

Week 9: (Nov. 3 & 5): The Modern State

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 7: Lois Harder, 'The State'

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: 'state', 'nation-state', 'sovereignty', 'Westphalian State System,' Weber' 'legitimacy', 'authority', 'welfare state', 'market', 'society', 'industrial society', 'capitalism', 'class', 'social contract,' 'bourgeoisie', 'proletariat', 'working class', 'middle class', 'peasantry', 'feudalism', 'post-colonial state',

Week 10: (Nov. 10 & 12): Constitutions

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 8: Ian Urquhart, 'Constitutions and Institutions'

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘Constitution,’ ‘constitutional law’, ‘federalism’, ‘confederation’, ‘bill of rights’, ‘rule of law’,

Week 11: (Nov. 17 & 19): Government & Political Systems

Readings

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 4: ‘The Role of Government’, & Chapter 6, ‘Political Systems’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘governance,’ ‘government,’ ‘regime,’ ‘liberalism’, ‘pluralism’, ‘democracy’, ‘authoritarianism’, ‘totalitarianism’, ‘despotism’, ‘tyranny’, ‘dictatorship’, ‘revolution’, ‘one-party states’, ‘competitive party systems’ ‘corporatism’, ‘State’, market’, ‘society’,

Week 12: (Nov. 24 & 26): Government & Political Systems Cont.

Readings

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 4: ‘The Role of Government’, & Chapter 6, ‘Political Systems’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘governance,’ ‘government,’ ‘regime,’ ‘liberalism’, ‘pluralism’, ‘democracy’, ‘authoritarianism’, ‘totalitarianism’, ‘despotism’, ‘tyranny’, ‘dictatorship’, ‘revolution’, ‘one-party states’, ‘competitive party systems’ ‘corporatism’, ‘State’, market’, ‘society’

Week 13: (Dec 1) Wrap-up: Taking Stock of what have we learned so far

[Note: Short paper due at the end of class on December 1. There will be no exam at the end of the fall semester for this course]

COURSE SCHEDULE: WINTER (2015)

Week 1 (Jan. 5 & 7): Branches of Government: The Legislature

Readings

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 5, ‘Branches of Government’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘legislature’, ‘parliament’, ‘House of Commons’, ‘House of Lords’, Congress,’ , ‘House of Representatives’, ‘senate’, ‘parliamentary privilege’, ‘parliamentary question’, parliamentary sovereignty’, ‘separation of powers’, ‘federalism’, ‘central-local relations’, unicameralism’, ‘bill’, ‘private member’s bill’, ‘law’, ‘statute law’, ‘bicameralism’ ‘speaker’; ‘devolution’, ‘statutory instrument’, ‘delegated legislation’

Week 2 (Jan. 12 & 14): Branches of Government: The Executive

Readings

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 5: ‘Branches of Government’

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 10, Allan Tupper, ‘Public Administration’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘executive’, ‘executive privilege’, ‘cabinet’, ‘minister’, ‘public goods’, ‘public administration’, ‘public good’, ‘head of government’, ‘head of state’, ‘president’, ‘prime minister’, ‘collective responsibility’, ‘ministerial responsibility’, ‘minority government’, ‘cohabitation’, ‘privy council’, ‘bureaucracy’, ‘civil service’

Week 3 (Jan. 19 & 21): Branches of government: The Judiciary

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 8: Ian Urquhart, ‘Constitutions and Institutions’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 5: ‘Branches of Government’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘judiciary’, ‘law’, ‘common law’, ‘statute law’, ‘natural law’, ‘constitutional law’, ‘Roman law’, ‘norm’, ‘constitution’, ‘judiciary’, ‘jurisprudence’, ‘rights’, ‘human rights’, ‘punishment’, ‘rule of law’, ‘due process’, ‘equal protection’, ‘judicial activism/judicial restraint’, ‘judicial review’, ‘supreme court’

IV. PRODUCTION OF POLITICS: SITES, PROCESSES & AGENTS

Week 4 (Jan. 26 & 28): Political Culture and Socialisation

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 11: Shaunna Wilton, ‘Media’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 8: Political Socialisation and Culture

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘political culture’, civic culture, ‘political socialization’, ‘mass media’, ‘class consciousness’, ‘consensus’, ‘race and politics’, ‘cleavage’, ‘citizenship’, ‘civic culture’, ‘mass media’, ‘community’, ‘religion and politics’

Week 5 (Feb. 2 & 4): Citizenship and Political Participation

Reading

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 9: Steven Patten, ‘Representation’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘citizenship’, ‘civic culture’, ‘political participation,’ OCDP: ‘representation’, ‘voting’, ‘participation, political’, ‘electoral system’, ‘proportional representation’, ‘party organization’, ‘party system’, ‘party identification’, ‘mass media’, ‘majoritarianism’, ‘majority rule’, ‘minority government’, ‘opinion polls’, ‘referendum’

Week 6 (Feb. 9 & 11): Political Parties and Electoral Politics

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 11: Shaunna Wilton, ‘Media’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 7: ‘Political Participation: Elections and Parties’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘representation’, ‘voting’, ‘electoral system’, ‘constituency’, ‘single transferable vote’, ‘first past the post’, ‘proportional representation’, ‘party organization’, ‘party system’, ‘party identification’, ‘mass media’, ‘majoritarianism’, ‘majority rule’, ‘minority government’, ‘opinion polls’, ‘referendum’, ‘plebiscite’, ‘gerrymandering’, ‘voting’, ‘tactical voting’, ‘Electoral College’,

Week 7 (Feb 16 & 18): [STUDY BREAK: FEBRUARY 16 – 20; NO CLASS]

Week 8 (Feb. 23 & 25): Identity and the Politics of Diversity

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 6: Falguni A. Sheth, ‘What’s Left Out? Dissent, Race and the Social Contract’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘social exclusion,’ ‘social justice,’ ‘social movements,’ ‘social mobility,’ ‘solidarity,’ ‘equity’, ‘ethnicity’,

Week 9 (March 2 & 4): Gender and Politics

Readings

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘gender and politics’, ‘personal as political’, ‘patriarchy’, ‘race and politics’, ‘women’s movement’, ‘suffragette,’ ‘suffragist,’ ‘matriarchy’, ‘sexism’

[Note: March 6 is the final date for withdrawal without academic penalty]

Week 10 (March 9 & 11): Indigenous Peoples and the Modern State

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 16: Isabel Altamirano-Jimenez, ‘Indigeneity and Self-Governance’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘paternalism’, ‘colonialism’, ‘internal colonisation’, ‘self-determination’, ‘self-government’, ‘social exclusion,’ ‘social justice,’ ‘social mobility,’ ‘solidarity,’ ‘equity’,

V. THE GLOBAL SYSTEM

Week 11 (March 16 & 18): Global Politics and the Modern World System

Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 13: Siobhan Byrne, ‘International Relations and the Global’ & Chapter 14: Tom Keating, ‘International Organisation’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 11, ‘International Politics and Foreign Policy’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘international relations’, ‘realism’, ‘real politik’, ‘sphere of influence’, ‘strategy’, ‘diplomacy’, ‘war’, ‘empire’, ‘sovereignty’, Westphalian state system’, ‘balance of power’, ‘empire’, ‘imperialism’, ‘secession’, ‘international law’, ‘international society’, ‘realism’, ‘geopolitics’, ‘globalization’, ‘migration’, ‘United Nations’, ‘Security Council’,

Week 12 (March 23 & 25): Global Political Economy in the Era of Globalisation
Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 15: Rob Aitken, ‘Global Political Economy’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 13, ‘International Political Economy’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘international political economy’, ‘North’, ‘West’, ‘South’, ‘Third World’, IMF’, ‘World Bank’, ‘world system analysis’, ‘centre-periphery politics’, ‘colonialism’, ‘decolonization’, ‘post-colonial state’, ‘dependency’, ‘development’, ‘multinational corporations’, ‘World Trade Organisation (WTO)’

Week 13 (March 30 & April 1): Violence, Security & World (Dis)Order
Readings

Brodie, Rein & Smith, Chapter 12: Sean F. McMahon, ‘What’s Left Out? Power, Violence, and War’

MacLean and Wood, Chapter 12, ‘International Security’

Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics: ‘violence’, ‘terrorism’, ‘ethnic cleansing’, ‘genocide’, ‘coup d’état’, ‘revolution’, ‘non-violence’, ‘war’, ‘war crimes’

CONCLUSION

[Note: Final paper due in class on April 1]

[Note: April 10–23 is examination Period. Check with the Registrar’s office for the exact date for this course]