

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Political Science 1100 YAO**

**Introduction to Political Science**

**Dr. S. Islam**  
**Office: OA3024**  
**Phone: / 2699**

**2014-2015**  
**Tuesday & Thursday: 1:00-2:30 p.m.**  
**Room: OA1025**

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday and Thursday 11.30-12.30 or --or by appointment

**CONTENT**

This course introduces students to the basic concepts and notions of Political Science in the areas of political theory, comparative politics, public administration and international relations. As such, the course offers a survey of the basic concepts which animate discussion about the nature of society, government and politics. Examples will be drawn from Canada as well as from other countries of the world.

**OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the course are as follows:

- a) to serve as a preparatory study for students majoring in Political Science and as a general overview for students of other concentration;
- b) to understand the nature and scope of Political Science and how it affects people's life directly and indirectly
- c) to understand the reasons why Political Science should be studied by the Canadians in particular; and
- d) to build the foundation of students in Political Science for future courses in the subject.

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

Lectures and Class Discussion.

**EVALUATION**

Fall Assignment .....	15%
Mid-Term Examination.....	25%
Winter Assignment.....	15%
Final Examination.....	40%
Attendance and Participation.....	5%

### **ASSIGNMENT**

Each student is required to submit one precise and commentary assignment in EACH TERM. For the FALL term students are expected to choose any *lecture topic* and for the WINTER term any *newspaper article* written by someone or editorial (not more than two months old)

And to submit in 5 typed, double-spaced pages:

- a) A concise summary of the topic and
- b) Your comment with additional references.
- c) Original copy (No photocopy or internet copy) of the article must be attached.
- d) The essay should have a title page that indicates your name, student number, and course number and my name. All materials must be cited and footnoted, and a bibliography should be provided.

**FALL assignment is due on October 16, 2014 and the WINTER assignment is due on February 24, 2015. Students are strongly urged to be in touch and benefit from consultation with the instructor.**

**Students are reminded to consult the University's Policy on cheating and plagiarism.**

### **REQUIRED TEXT**

Moten, A. R. and Islam, S. S., *Introduction to Political Science* (Cengage:-Nelson)  
[available at the University Bookstore or online].

### **RECOMMENDED TEXT**

James J. Guy. *People, Politics and Government*

### **ADDITIONAL BOOKS**

Dickerson, M and Flanagan, T. *An Introduction to Government and Politics*

Jackson, R and Jackson. *Contemporary Government and Politics*

Ranny, A. *Governing: A Brief Introduction to Political*

**LECTURE OUTLINE**

- Week 1: Introduction: An Overview of the Course  
What is Politics? Manifestation of Politics  
Readings: 3-10
- Week 2: Transmission of Politics  
Readings: 10-13  
Political Science: Nature and Scope  
Readings: 19-30
- Week 3: Political Science: Development of the Discipline - Ancient  
Readings: 50-54
- Week 4: Political Science: Development of the Discipline – Medieval, and Modern  
Readings: 59-61
- Week 5: State and Government: Origins:  
Readings: 69-84
- Week 6: Government: Classifications: Traditional and Modern, Democracy vs. Dictatorship. Readings: 89-100
- Week 7: Federal vs. Unitary Systems  
Readings: 105-116
- Week 8: Parliamentary vs. Presidential Systems  
Readings: 121-142
- Week 9: Organs of Government: Executive and the Bureaucracy  
Readings: 187-198, 203-216
- Week 10: Legislature:  
Readings: 163-178
- Week 11: Law and the Judiciary  
Readings: 221-237
- Week 12: Constitution and Constitutionalism  
Readings: 147-157

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION – Date will be announced.**

**WINTER SEMESTER**

- Week 1    Power, Influence, Authority, and Sovereignty  
            Readings: 33-43
- Week 2:    Political Ideologies: Liberalism  
            Readings: 257-266
- Week 3:    Conservatism  
            Readings: 266-270
- Week 4:    Socialism and Communism  
            Readings: 270-276
- Week 5:    Totalitarianism and Authoritarianism - Fascism and Nazism, Anarchism  
            Readings: 280-281
- Week 6:    Nation, Nation State and Nationalism  
            Readings: 2287-294, 297
- Week 7:    Political Parties and Party Systems  
            Readings: 327-341
- Week 8:    Pressure /Interest Groups  
            Readings: 347-356
- Week 9:    Elections and Electoral Systems  
            Readings: 359-370
- Week 10:   Municipal Government: Lecture
- Week 11:   Public Opinion, Media and Politics  
            Readings: 375-384
- Week 12:   Political Gladiators and Political Leadership: Lecture
- Week: 13:   Politics of Terrorism, Revolution and Political Violence  
            Readings: 389-400
- Week: 14:   The International System  
            Readings: Chapter 26.
- Week 15:   CONCLUSIONS: Provocative Scenarios: 485-495

**FINAL EXAMINATION – Date will be announced.**