

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
PS 3338

Comparative Federalism

Seminar: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.
BB 2006

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Course Description

This course explores both theoretical underpinnings and empirical challenges of federalism from a comparative perspective. Throughout the course we will examine the major historical and current issues surrounding federalism and intergovernmental relations. The cases we will look at include Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, the United States, India, Nigeria, and South Africa, Italy and the Iroquois Confederacy. By the end of the course, the student will have a better understanding of the major historical and contemporary debates surrounding federalism. This will enable you to better analyze and understand the contemporary relevance of the federal idea.

Course Requirements

Presentation	Dates vary	10%
Critical Review	February 6 th , 2014	20%
Proposal	March 6 th , 2014	10%
Research paper	March 25 th , 2014	30%
Take home exam	April 10 th , 2014	30%

Required Texts

Thomas O. Hueglin and Alan Fenna, *Comparative Federalism: A Systematic Inquiry*. Peterborough, On: Broadview Press, 2006

Additional readings are available online, course webpage or on reserve in the Library

Format

The course will be taught as a lecture and seminar, emphasizing reading a common body of material. Beginning February 4th, 2014 three or four students (depending on size of class) will serve as seminar lead presenting the salient issues of the readings and lead (with the guidance of the professor) class discussions. All students are expected to do all the readings each week and be prepared to present arguments and general findings, as well as provide constructive comments and criticism. Class participation is very important since each student will be responsible for the presentation of at least one theme.

All term work should be handed in to the instructor at the beginning of class. Papers submitted via email or facsimile will not be accepted.

Late papers will be penalized by 5 per cent for each day that they are late. Weekends count as one day. Extensions will not normally be granted. The only exceptions will be in the case of documented medical excuse or death in the family.

Late papers must be date stamped. Do not slip papers under my door.

All term work must be submitted by April 3, 2014 unless special arrangements have been made.

For the Short Papers and Research Essay:

The essays will respect all the rules of good essay composition: a central question the essay will address; an introduction with the plan for development of the argument; appropriate choice of method for topic development; respect for argument and evidence; clear and economical exposition; good quality and quantity of appropriate research; appropriately formatted footnotes and bibliography.

If in doubt, consult a style guide on the proper format for bibliography and footnotes. The first person ("I") may be used.

Quotations longer than four lines should be indented without quotation marks. Do not overuse quotations.

Do not use Wikipedia, mapleleafweb.com, Dictionary.com or any non academic web source for definitions and historical/political facts/arguments. You must include a bibliography.

Tentative Presentation Schedule

February 6: Federal Thought: Great Law of Peace

February 13: Forming Federal States: Kingdom of Belgium

February 25 & 27: Dividing Powers: Federal Republic of Nigeria

March 4 & 6: Dual Representation: Russia

March 11 & 13: Intergovernmental Relations:

(1) South Africa

(2) India

March 18 & 20: Constitutional Amendment: Italy

March 25 & 27: Judicial Review: Australia

Please note, the schedule and required readings are subject to change.