

## **CANADIAN POLITICS**

### **Fall/Winter 2018-19**

**Instructor:** Dr. Geoffrey Cameron  
**Email:** [camerg3@mcmaster.ca](mailto:camerg3@mcmaster.ca)  
**Seminar:** Friday, 8:30am – 11:20am  
**Room:** KTH 105

**Office:** KTH 505  
**Office Hours:** Friday, 12pm – 2pm

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## **Course Description**

This course covers a range of topics related to the study of Canadian politics, government, and public policy. It begins with an introduction to political questions in the pre-Confederation and post-Confederation periods of Canadian history. The second part of the course examines Canadian institutions and actors related to the operation of the Canadian federal system, parliamentary government, and national political dynamics. The third part focuses on the public policy process in Canada, with particular attention to a number of policy fields.

## **Course Objectives**

By completion of this course, students are expected to have significantly advanced in their understanding of the historical context, institutions, actors, and policy processes shaping Canadian politics at the national level.

## **Required Materials and Texts**

- Peter H. Russell, Canada's Odyssey: A Country Based on Incomplete Conquests, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017.
- James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2014.
- Herman Bakvis and Grace Skogstad, eds., Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness and Legitimacy, 2nd ed., Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2008.
- John Borrows, Freedom and Indigenous Constitutionalism, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2016.

## **Course Evaluation – Overview**

1. Attendance – 10%
2. Participation – 10%
3. Class Presentation – 5%
4. In-Class Test – 10%, September 28
5. Research Proposal – 15%, due February 8
6. Research Proposal Presentation – 5%
7. Research Paper – 40%, due March 22
8. Research Paper Presentation – 5%

## **Course Evaluation – Details**

### **Attendance (10%)**

Attendance is mandatory. Each unexcused absence will result in a deduction of 2 marks (out of 10). Regular attendance will result in full marks.

### **Participation (10%)**

This quality of this seminar depends in significant part on the participation of every student. I will not be grading the quantity of your contributions to seminar discussion, as it is an expected part of the course that every student will actively contribute. However, each student will be graded at the end of the year according to the quality of contributions over the entire course. I regard high quality contributions to be regular, timely, concise, on topic, and oriented towards promoting collective understanding of the course content.

You will also prepare at least two **discussion questions** for each of four assigned seminars (Weeks 4-13, 18-23). A good discussion question is open-ended, engages with the substance of that week's readings, and promotes a rolling seminar discussion. A poor discussion question is badly worded, obscure, difficult to understand, or answered yes/no.

Your participation mark will reflect the quality of your contributions to class discussion, as well as the quality of your discussion questions over the course of the year.

### **Class Presentation (5%)**

You will present a **10-minute oral summary and discussion** of the week's assigned readings at the beginning of an assigned seminar (Weeks 4-13, 18-23). A good presentation will summarize the salient arguments and supporting evidence of that seminar's required readings, evaluate those arguments, and discuss their broader implications.

### **In-Class Test (10%), September 28**

We will have an in-class test at the beginning of Seminar 4, which will be primarily focused on significant concepts, institutions, events, and actors discussed in Seminars 1-3. You will be provided with a list of these items in advance, and a sub-section of them will be the subject of a written test comprised of short answers.

### **Research Proposal (15%), due February 8**

The major writing requirement of this course is a major research paper on an issue in Canadian public policy. I am open to considering topics that are more philosophical or theoretical, but I would recommend visiting me to during office hours to discuss your proposal if it will depart in any significant way from a social scientific research design.

The first part of this assignment is the drafting of a research proposal. The proposal should be about five double-spaced-pages and include:

- A title that describes the research project
- An outline of the project which:
  - describes your topic
  - provides a review of the relevant literature you have consulted to date

- provides a tentative thesis statement and a description of how you plan to defend your argument
- discusses any problems you are having or foresee having with the research
- A working bibliography

### **Research Proposal Presentation (5%)**

Several seminars will be devoted to student presentations of your draft research proposals. Your presentation should be 5-10 minutes long, and it should include the following elements: a justification for your project (why it is important or interesting), your research question, a brief summary of your review of the literature, and a discussion of how you plan to carry out your research. You will be marked on the clarity of your presentation, and the quality of your discussion in response to questions and comments.

### **Research Paper (40%), due March 22**

As noted above, the major writing requirement of this course is a 4000-word research paper (5000 for graduate students). You are expected to choose a public policy issue related to the themes of the seminar, formulate a research question, carry out the research to answer this question, and present your findings in an academic paper. You will be marked on the clarity of your writing, the originality of your argument, the soundness of your methodology, and the rigour of your research and argumentation.

### **Research Paper Presentation (5%)**

Several seminars will be devoted to student presentations of your research findings. Your presentation should be 5-10 minutes long, and it should include the following elements: your research question, your methodology and approach, a summary of your findings, a discussion of their significance, and directions for further inquiry. You will be marked on the clarity of your presentation, and the quality of your discussion in response to questions and comments

## **Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings**

\* = Required for graduate students; Recommended for undergraduate students

\*\* = Recommended

### **Part 1: History and Context**

#### **Week 1 (September 7, 2018)**

##### **Studying Canadian Politics**

Readings:

- Alan C. Cairns, “The Embedded State: State-Society Relations in Canada,” Reconfigurations: Canadian Citizenship and Constitutional Change, Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1997, ch.3, pp.31-61.

## **Week 2 (September 14, 2018)**

### **History: Pre-Confederation**

#### Readings:

- Peter H. Russell, Canada’s Odyssey: A Country Based on Incomplete Conquests, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017, Chapter 1-6.
- \*John Borrows, “Wampum at Niagara: The Royal Proclamation, Canadian Legal History, and Self-Government,” in Michael Asch, ed., Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Canada: Essays on Law, Equality, and Respect for Difference, Vancouver: UBC Press, 1997, pp. 155-172.

## **Week 3 (September 21, 2018)**

### **History: Post-Confederation**

#### Readings:

- Peter H. Russell, Canada’s Odyssey: A Country Based on Incomplete Conquests, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017, chs. 7-10, pp.125-272.
- \*Samuel V. Laselva, “Understanding Canada: Federalism, Multiculturalism, and the Will to Live Together,” in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 1, pp. 3-20.
- \*Alan C. Cairns, “The Constitutional World We Have Lost,” Reconfigurations: Canadian Citizenship and Constitutional Change, Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1997, ch.1, pp.97-118.

## **Part 2: Political Institutions and Actors**

## **Week 4 (September 28, 2018)**

### **Political Parties**

#### Readings:

- James Bickerton, “Competing for Power: Parties and Elections in Canada,” in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 12, pp. 249-279.
- R. Kenneth Carty, “Has Brokerage Politics Ended?” in Amanda Bittner and Royce Kopp, eds., Parties, Elections, and the Future of Canadian Politics (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2013), ch.1, pp. 10-23.

- Herman Bakvis and A. Brian Tanguay, “Federalism, Political Parties, and the Burden of National Unity: Still Making Federalism Do the Heavy Lifting?” in Herman Bakvis and Grace Skogstad, eds., Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness and Legitimacy, 2nd ed. (Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2008), ch.6, pp.112-133.
- \*Richard Johnson, “The Party System, Elections and Social Policy”, in Banting and Myles (eds.) Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics (Toronto: UTP, 2014), ch.8.
- \*\*William Cross, *Political Parties*, Vancouver: UBC Press, 2004.

Notes: In-Class Test

## **Week 5 (October 5, 2018)**

### **Elections**

Readings:

- John C. Courtney, Elections, Vancouver: UBC Press, chs.1-2, 6. pp. 3-44, 127-159.
- A. Brian Tanguay, “The Limits of Democratic Reform in Canada,” in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 13, pp. 281-308.
- Andrew Potter, Daniel Weinstock, and Peter Loewen, eds.m Should We Change How We Vote?: Evaluating Canada's electoral system. Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, Intro, ch. 1-3, pp.xii-32.
- \*Mebs Kanji and Keith Archer, “The Theories of Voting and Their Applicability in Canada,” in Joanna Everitt and Brenda O’Neill (eds.), Citizen Politics: Research and Theory in Canadian Political Behaviour (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 160-183.
- \*\*Elisabeth Gidengil, et.al., Dominance and Decline: Making Sense of Recent Canadian Elections, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012)

## **Week 6 (October 12, 2018)**

### **MID-TERM RECESS**

## **Week 7 (October 19, 2018) \*\*\*\***

### **Parliament**

Readings:

- David C. Docherty, “Parliament: Making the Case for Relevance,” in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 8, pp. 153-175.

- Peter H. Russell, Two Cheers for Minority Government: The Evolution of Canadian Parliamentary Democracy, Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications, 2008, chs. 1-3.
- \*Donald J. Savoie, Breaking the Bargain: Public Servants, Ministers and Parliament (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2003), ch.1, 8-10, pp.3-22, 171-284.
- \*David C. Docherty, "Imperfect Legislatures," in Patti Tamara Lenard and Richard Simeon, eds., Imperfect Democracies: The Democratic Deficit in Canada and the United States, Vancouver: UBC Press, ch. 8, pp.181-203

## **Week 8 (October 26, 2018)**

### **Federalism**

#### Readings:

- Richard Simeon, Ian Robinson, and Jennifer Wallner, "The Dynamics of Canadian Federalism," in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 4, pp. 65-91.
- Herman Bakvis and Grace Skogstad (eds.), Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness and Legitimacy, 3rd ed. (Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2012) chs. 1, 5
- \*Peter Graefe, Julie M. Simmons and Linda A. White, (eds.), Overpromising and Underperforming? Understanding and Evaluating New Intergovernmental Accountability Regimes (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012) chs. 1, 9, 12.
- \*Francois Rocher, "The Quebec-Canada Dynamic or the Negation of the Ideal of Federalism", in Alain-G. Gagnon, ed., Contemporary Canadian Federalism: Foundations, Traditions, Institutions (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009), pp. 81-131.
- \*\*Jennifer Wallner, "Beyond National Standards: Reconciling Tension between Federalism and the Welfare State," *Publius* Vol. 40:4 (2010) pp. 646-671.

## **Week 9 (November 2, 2018)**

### **Political Executive**

#### Readings:

- Graham White, "The 'Centre' of the Democratic Deficit: Power and Influence in Canadian Political Executives," in Patti Tamara Lenard and Richard Simeon, eds., Imperfect Democracies (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2012), pp. 226-247.



- Donald J. Savoie, "Power at the Apex: Executive Dominance," in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 7, pp. 135-151.
- Ian Brodie, At the Centre of Government: The Prime Minister and the Limits of Political Power, Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2018, chs. 1-3.
- \*Donald J. Savoie, "The Federal Government: Revisiting Court Government in Canada," in Luc Bernier, Keith Brownsey and Michael Howlett, eds., Executive Styles in Canada: Cabinet Structures and Leadership Practices in Canadian Government (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2005) Chapter 2, pp.17-43.
- \*Graham White, Cabinets and First Ministers, Vancouver: UBC Press, 2005, chs. 2-3, pp. 29-100.
- \*\*Donald J. Savoie, Governing from the Centre: The Concentration of Power in Canadian Politics, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1999.

## **Week 10 (November 9, 2018)**

### **The Constitution and the Courts**

#### Readings:

- James B. Kelly, Governing with the Charter: Legislative and Judicial Activism and Framers' Intent (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2005), intro, chs.1-2, pp.3-79.
- Emmett Macfarlane, Governing from the Bench: The Supreme Court of Canada and the Judicial Role (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2013), Intro, chs.1-2, pp.1-69.
- \*Peter Aucoin, Mark D. Jarvis and Lori Turnbull, Democratizing the Constitution: Reforming Responsible Government (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2011), ch.2.
- \*Lori Hausegger, Troy Riddell, Matthew Hennigar and Emmanuelle Richez. 2010. "Exploring the Links between Party and Appointment: Canadian Federal Judicial Appointments from 1989 to 2003" Canadian Journal of Political Science 43:3 (2010), pp. 633-659.
- \*Peter W. Hogg and Allison A. Bushell, "The Charter Dialogue between Courts and Legislatures (Or Perhaps the Charter of Rights Isn't Such a Bad Thing after All)" Osgoode Hall Law Journal, 35:1 (1997), pp. 75-124.
- \*Peter Hogg, Allison A. Bushell Thornton, and Wade K. Wright, "Charter Dialogue Revisited: Or "Much Ado About Metaphors" Osgoode Hall Law Journal, 45:1 (2007), pp. 1-65.
- \*\*Ran Hirschl, "The Judicialization of Mega-Politics and the Rise of the Courts," Annual Review of Political Science, 11 (2008), pp. 93-118.

## **Week 11 (November 16, 2018)**

### **Interest Groups**

#### Readings:

- A. Paul Pross, Group Politics and Public Policy, 2nd ed. (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1992), chs.1-3, 9, pp.1-83, 218-243.
- F. Leslie Seidle, "Interest Advocacy through Parliamentary Channels: Representation and Accommodation," in F.L. Seidle, (ed.), Equality and Community: The Charter, Interest Advocacy and Representation (Montreal: IRPP) pp. 189-216.
- \*Éric Montpetit, "Are Interest Groups Useful or Harmful? Take Two," in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 15, pp. 329-348.
- \*Leslie A. Pal, "Advocacy Organization and Legislative Politics: The Effect of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms on Interest Lobbying of Federal Legislation, 1989-91," in F.L. Seidle, (ed.), Equality and Community: The Charter, Interest Advocacy and Representation, Montreal: IRPP, pp. 119-153.
- \*\*Andrew Stritch, "Business Associations and Policy Analysis in Canada", in Laurent Dobuzinskis, Michael Howlett and David Laycock (eds.) Policy Analysis in Canada: The State of the Art, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007, pp. 443-472.

## **Week 12 (November 23, 2018)**

### **Indigenous Peoples**

#### Readings:

- Martin Papillon, "The Rise (And Fall?) of Aboriginal Self-Government," in James Bickerton and Alain-G. Gagnon, eds., Canadian Politics, 6th ed., Toronto: University of Toronto Press, ch. 6, pp. 113-131.
- John Borrows, Freedom and Indigenous Constitutionalism (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2016), ch. 2, 4-5, pp. 50-102, 128-180.
- \*Emilie Cameron and Tyler Levitan, Impact and Benefit Agreements and the Neoliberalization of Resource Governance and Indigenous-State Relations in Northern Canada. *Studies in Political Economy*, Vol.93 (2014) pp. 25-52.
- \*Fiona MacDonald, "Indigenous Peoples and Neoliberal 'Privatization' in Canada: Opportunities, Cautions and Constraints", Canadian Journal of Political Science, Vol. 44:2 (2011), pp. 257-273.
- \*\*Christopher Alcanata, "To Treaty or Not to Treaty: Aboriginal People and Comprehensive Land Claims Negotiations in Canada," Publius Vol. 38:2 (2008), pp. 343-369.

## **Week 13 (November 30, 2018)**

### **Diversity and Representation**

#### Readings:

- Erin Tolley, Framed: Media and the Coverage of Race in Canadian Politics, Vancouver: UBC Press, 2016, ch.1-2, pp.25-96.
- Sylvia Bashevkin, Women, Power, Politics: The hidden story of Canada's unfinished democracy (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2009), ch.1-2, 6, pp,1-56, 143-180.
- \*Will Kymlicka, "Group Representation in Canadian Politics" in F.L. Seidle, ed., Equality and Community: The Charter, Interest Advocacy and Representation, Montreal: IRPP, pp.61-90.
- \*David C. Docherty, "Citizens and Legislators: Different Views on Representation" in Neil Nevitte, ed., Value Change and Governance in Canada (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002), Ch 6, pp. 165-206.
- \*Inder Marwah, Phil Triadafilopoulos and Stephen White, "Immigration, Citizenship, and Canada's New Conservative Party," in James Farney and David Rayside (eds.) Conservatism in Canada (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013) pp.165-183.

## **Part 3: Canadian Public Policy**

### **Week 14 (January 11, 2019)**

#### **The Policy Process in Canada**

#### Readings:

- Leslie A. Pal, Beyond Policy Analysis: Public Issue Management in Turbulent Times, Toronto: ITP Nelson, 1997, ch. 1.
- Michael Howlett and M. Ramesh, Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems, 2nd ed., Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2001, chs. 1-2.
- Michael Atkinson, "Introduction: Governing Canada," in Governing Canada: Institutions and Public Policy, ed. Michael Atkinson (Toronto: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1993): pp. 1-16.
- \*\*Stuart Soroka, Agenda-Setting Dynamics in Canada (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2002).
- \*\*Michael A. Atkinson, et.al., Governance and Public Policy in Canada, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013).

**Week 15 (January 18, 2019)**

**Research Proposal Presentations**

**Week 16 (January 25, 2019) \*\*\*\***

**Research Proposal Presentations**

**Week 17 (February 1, 2019)**

**Research Proposal Presentations**

**Week 18 (February 8, 2019)**

**Macroeconomic Policy**

Readings:

- W.A. Mackintosh, "Government Economic Policy: Scope and Principles," *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science*, VOL. 16, No. 3 (1950), pp. 314-326.
- Neil Bradford, "Governing the Canadian Economy: Ideas and Politics," in Canadian Politics in the 21st Century, 6th ed., ed. Michael Whittington and Glen Williams (Toronto: Thompson- Nelson, 2004), pp. 231-254.
- Herman Bakvis, Gerald Baier and Douglas Brown, "The Economic Union and Economic Policy," in Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation, Toronto; Oxford University Press, 2009, pp. 185-204.

**Notes: Research Proposal Due**

**Week 19 (February 15, 2019)**

**Social Policy**

Readings:

- Keith Banting, "The Three Federalisms: Social Policy and Intergovernmental Decision-Making," in Herman Bakvis and Grace Skogstad, eds., Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness and Legitimacy 2nd ed., Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2008, ch.8.
- James J. Rice and Michael J. Prince, Changing Politics of Canadian Social Policy, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2000, chs. 2-3, 5, pp. 34-82, 110-129.
- \*Denis Saint-Martin, "From Welfare State to the Social Investment State: A New Paradigm for Canadian Social Policy?" in Critical Policy Studies, ed. Michael Orsini and Miriam Smith (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2007), pp. 279-298.

**Week 20 (February, 22, 2019)**

**MID-TERM RECESS**

**Week 21 (March 1, 2019)**

**Health Policy**

Readings:

- Antonia Maioni, "Health Care," in Herman Bakvis and Grace Skogstad, eds., Canadian Federalism: Performance, Effectiveness, and Legitimacy, 2nd ed., Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2012, ch.9.
- Carolyn Hughes Tuohy, Accidental Logics: The Dynamics of Change in the Health Care Arena in the United States, Britain and Canada (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999), chs. 1,2 & 7, pp.3-61; 203-238.
- \*Antonia Maioni and Christopher Manfredi, "[When the Charter Trumps Health Care – A Collision Course of Canadian Icons](#)," *Policy Options*, Vol. 26, No. 7 September 2005: pp. 52-56.

**Week 22 (March 8, 2019)**

**Immigration and Citizenship**

Readings:

- Harold Troper, "Canada's Immigration Policy since 1945," *International Journal*, Vol. 48 (Spring 1993), pp. 190-237.
- Irene Bloemraad, "Becoming a Citizen in Canada and the United States: Structured Mobilization and Immigrant Political Incorporation," *Social Forces* Vol. 86, No. 2 (2006), pp. 667-695.
- Triadafilos Triadafilopoulos, Becoming Multicultural: Immigration and the Politics of Membership in Canada and Germany, Vancouver: UBC Press, 2012, ch.4, pp. 86-119.
- \*Jeffrey Reitz, "Canada: Immigration and Nation-Building in the Transition to a Knowledge Economy," in Controlling Immigration: A Global Perspective, ed. Wayne A. Cornelius (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004), pp. 96-139.
- \*Jenna Hennebry, "Who Has Their Eye on the Ball? Jurisdictional Fútbol and Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program," *Policy Options*, Special Issue on Immigration, Jobs and Canada's Future, VOL. 31, No. 7 (July-August 2010), pp. 62-67.

**Week 23 (March 15, 2019)**

**Multiculturalism**

Readings:

- Evelyn Kallen, "Multiculturalism: Ideology, Policy, and Reality," *Journal of Canadian Studies* Vol. 17, No. 1 (1982), pp. 51-63.
- Randall Hansen, "Assimilation by stealth: Why Canada's multicultural policy is really a repackaged integration policy," in The Multiculturalism Question: Debating Identity in 21st Century Canada, Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2014, pp. 73-88.
- Keith Banting and Will Kymlicka, "Canadian Multiculturalism: Global Anxieties and Local Debates," *British Journal of Canadian Studies*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (2010), pp. 43-72.
- \*G rard Bouchard. 2015. Interculturalism: A View From Quebec. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, chs.1 and 3, pp. 10-27 and 59-70.
- \*Neil Bissoondath. 1994. Selling Illusions: The Cult of Multiculturalism in Canada. Toronto: Penguin, ch. 4, pp. 45-77.

### **Week 24 (March 22, 2019)**

**Research Paper Presentations**

**Notes: Research Papers Due**

### **Week 25 (March 29, 2019)**

**Research Paper Presentations**

### **Week 26 (April 5, 2019)**

**Research Paper Presentations**

## **Course Policies**

### **Submission of Assignments**

Assignments are to be submitted in hard copy at the beginning of class on the due date. Late work may be emailed to me in soft copy at: camerg3@mcmaster.ca. You are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work of your assignments.

### **Grades**

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

<b>MARK</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-

<b>MARK</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

### **Late Assignments**

Late proposals and research papers will be penalized 5 per cent per day (including weekends).

### **Absences, Missed Work, Illness**

Extensions on assignments can be arranged in the event of illness, family emergency, or similar circumstances. In general, I require some form of official documentation to waive penalties associated with late work or missed class. All extensions must be arranged in advance of the day on which an assignment is due. In light of the format of the course and the emphasis on regular and consistent participation in class discussions, attendance is mandatory. Some absences (such as in cases of illness, for example) may be unavoidable. Please contact me in advance (or as soon thereafter as possible) via email if you are going to be absent.

### **Computers and Phones**

Phones must be kept out of sight during seminar. Computers are permitted for note-taking, but social media and email functions must be turned off. You will be invited to a private meeting with me if I observe that your computer is distracting you from complete engagement with seminar discussion.

### **Avenue to Learn**

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

## **University Policies**

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious

consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

### **Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities**

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca). For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

### **Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

### **Course Modification**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.