

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN RESEARCH – CASE STUDIES IN PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

Fall/Winter 2019-20

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Course Description

With support from the Socrates Project, this course aims to demystify parliamentary institutions and public policy making in Canada, through field trips, guest lectures, case studies and problem-based learning approaches. Students accepted into the course will work collaboratively in small groups, under guidance of the McMaster Public Leadership for Change Distinguished Visiting Professor (DVP). Leveraging the DVP's practical political experience and extensive networks, students will engage in independent research, including document analysis and candid interviews with decision makers. They will gain a deeper understanding of how political power operates, and how policy reform and social change is achieved through advocacy, alliance building, skilled communication, negotiation and principled compromise across competing interests. Students will also learn practical skills such as policy analysis and policy memo writing.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Identify components of successful case studies and
- Produce case studies on political science topics useable by future undergraduate students;
- Justify decisions made in case study development, including analysis of predicted case study outcomes;
- Analyze and provide feedback on political science case studies;
- Collaborate successfully in groups.

Required Materials and Texts

-Access to Ontario Legislature: Hansard

-Access to Canadian Legislature: Hansard

-Recommended resources:

1. Selected Decisions of Speaker Peter Milliken
2. House of Commons Procedures and Practice 3rd Edition 2017 Bosc & Gagnon
3. Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules & Forms Fraser/Birch/Dawaon 1978

-Mandatory Text:

The Politics of Ontario
Edited by: Cheryl N. Collier
Jonathan Malloy

Class Format

Lecture, Group work

Course Evaluation – Overview and Details

Term 1 (Fall 2019)

1. Participation – 5%
2. Attendance – 5%
3. Group Contract – 5%, due Week 2 Sept 12th

4. Weekly Reading Assignments & Response – 10%, due Week 4 Sept 26th
5. Case Study Outline – 5%, due Week 11 Nov 21st
6. Peer Review of Case Study – 10%, due Week 12, Nov 28th
7. Final Submission of Case Study – 10%, Week 13 Dec 5th

Total Of Year: 50%

Term 2 (Winter 2020)

1. Participation – 5%
2. Attendance – 5%
3. Weekly Reading Assignment & Response – 10%, due Week 2 Jan 16th
4. Case Study Topic & Rationale – 5%, due Week 4 Jan 30th
5. Case Study Outline – 5%, due Week Mar 5th
6. Peer Review of Case Study – 5%, due Week 10 Mar 12th
7. Case Study Final Submission – 15%, due Week 15 Apr 2nd

Total Of Year: 50%

Note regarding assignments handed in and graded.

1. Grading will be done and returned in a timely fashion.
2. Instructor will respond to emails no earlier than 24 hrs after graded papers are returned.

Term One (Fall 2019) : Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1: Thursday Sept 5th

Topic:

Introductions, outline, goals of course and group cohesion.

Readings: Chapter 1: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Notes: Sample of Group Contract

Week 2: Thursday Sept 12th

Topic:

Components of a Case Study; Working effectively in Groups

Readings: Chapter 2: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Notes: Outline of case study provided

Week 3: Thursday Sept 19th

Topic:

Model Case Study: “What Were You Thinking”: Ontario Gas Plant Ruling.

Readings: Chapter 3: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Notes: Discussion of ruling re: Gas Plants

Week 4: Thursday Sept 26th

Topic:

Case Study Development Planning: required research, interviews and predictions.

Readings: Chapter 4: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 5: Thursday Oct 3rd

Topic:

Group Work on Case Study

Readings: Chapter 5: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 6: Thursday Oct 10th

Topic:

Group Work on Case Study

Readings: Chapter 6: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 7: October 17th

Reading Week – No Class

Week 8: Thursday Oct 24th

Topic:

Group work on Case Study + Guest Speaker

Readings: Chapter 8: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 9: Thursday Oct 31st

Topic:

Field Trip to Queens Park: Interviews/Observations/Connections

Readings: Chapter 8: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Notes: Various meetings to amplify Case Study

Week 10: Thursday Nov 7th

Topic:

Group work on case study + Guest Speakers (2)

Readings: Chapter 9: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 11: Thursday Nov 14th

Topic:

Guest Speakers + Submission of Case Study

Readings: Chapter 10: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 12: Thursday Nov 21st

Topic:

Respond to Peer Cases: Feedback and Defense

Readings: Chapter 11: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Notes: Group work

Week 13: Thursday Nov 28th

Topic:

Revision of Case Study and explanation of changes or non-changes

Readings: Chapter 12: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 14: Thursday Dec 5th

Topic:

Final Submission and Defense of Case Study and Reflection on Group Process

Readings: Chapter 13: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Term Two (Winter 2020) : Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1: Thursday Jan 9th

Topic:

Generating topics for Case Studies: What makes an appropriate topic?

Readings: Chapter 14: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 2: Thursday Jan 16th

Topic:

Review: Components of a Case Study and Model Case Study

Readings: Chapter 15: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 3: Thursday Jan 23rd

Topic:

Model Case Study Responses and Defense

Readings: Chapter 16: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 4: Thursday Jan 30th

Topic:

Case Study Development Planning.

Readings: Chapter 17: The Politics of Ontario – 2 questions/2 pages max

Week 5: Thursday Feb 6th

Group work on Case Study + Guest Speaker

Readings: Discussion of The Politics of Ontario

Week 6: Thursday Feb 13th

Topic:

Group work on Case Study + Guest Speaker

Readings: Discussion of The Politics of Ontario

Week 7: Thursday Feb 20th

Reading Week – No Class

Week 8: Thursday Feb 27th

Topic:

Group work on Case Study + Guest Speaker

Readings: Discussion of The Politics of Ontario

Week 9: Thursday Mar 5th

Topic:

Guest Speaker + Submission of Case Study to Peer Groups for review

Readings: Discussion of The Politics of Ontario

Week 10: Thursday Mar 12th

Topic:

Respond to Peer Cases: Feedback and Defense.

Readings: Discussion of The Politics of Ontario

Week 11: Thursday Mar 19th

Topic: Defense & Feedback

Respond to Peer Cases: Feedback and Defense

Readings: Discussion of The Politics of Ontario

Week 12: Thursday Mar 26th

Topic:

Revision of Case Study and explanation of changes or non-changes

Week 13: Thursday April 2nd

Topic:

Final Submission and Defense of Case Study and Reflection on Group Process

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

Written assignments should be provided to the instructor, either at the beginning of class or during office hours prior to class. As a last resort, assignments can be submitted to the box outside of the political science office after hours (date-stamped for the following day) or to the Department of Political Science Office during regular business hours. Assignments will not be accepted that are slipped under the instructor's or any other door. Papers received by e-mail or fax will not be accepted without the prior express permission of the instructor on each assignment.

Final case study to be submitted for final marking

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
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-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

Students should make all reasonable attempts to submit papers on the due date. In the event that a legitimate extension is required, students should speak to the instructor **in advance** of the due date to make the appropriate arrangements for such an extension. Requests for an extension submitted by email will not be considered – you must speak to the instructor in person.

Examinations and/or assignments related to this and other courses do not constitute or qualify as exceptional circumstances or legitimate excuses.

Late papers may be penalized at the rate of five percentage points per working day for each day of delay, up to a maximum of one week. After one week, the instructor may refuse to accept any late assignments in the absence of proper medical certification justifying an inability to fulfill academic requirements on a prolonged basis. Papers accepted after one week of lateness, in addition to the daily deduction, will be subject to a further deduction of one full letter grade (ie. A to B, B to C) per each week of lateness.

The instructor reserves the right to not provide any comments or feedback on papers submitted after the original deadline, whether an extension is granted or not and whether any other late penalties are applied.

Policy: After following format outlined instructor reserves the right to modify on a case by case basis.

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

Students should make all reasonable efforts to attend and are responsible for the material covered in each and every scheduled class. However, it is understood that some absences are unavoidable and students should make every effort to catch up on missed materials and the instructor will provide reasonable assistance to assist a student. In this regard, students should attempt to obtain lecture notes or other class materials from their colleagues in the class before seeking assistance from the instructor concerning missed lecture and/or class content.

Requests for the instructor to repeat a lecture or seminar discussion (either during office hours or at any other time) or provide access to the instructor's lecture notes are not reasonable requests for assistance. In the event that students are unable to attend class or tutorials or complete required assignments, they should avail themselves of the MSAF policy or submit the appropriate medical or other documentation to their faculty office to support an accommodation request based on a prolonged absence. In the absence of either an MSAF or a faculty approved accommodation request, the instructor reserves the right to not accept any outstanding work in accordance with the late assignments policy. If a student has submitted the appropriate documentation to their faculty and been granted an allowance for outstanding work or has received the approval of the instructor for the incomplete work, the instructor reserves the sole right to re-allocate the missed grades to other assignments.

Please note that an MSAF submission, where permitted, provides a three day extension for any assignment. In the event that students require a further period of time to submit their outstanding work, they must discuss any further extension with the instructor prior to the end of the three day MSAF. In the absence of a further approved extension, an assignment subject to an MSAF becomes a late submission after three days.

The filing of an MSAF does not relieve a student of the obligation to complete the outstanding assignment.

Policy: After following format outlined instructor reserves the right to modify on a case by case basis.

Lecture/Group Etiquette and Social Media

Proper decorum during classes can be undermined by the inappropriate use of attention paid to social media or digital media. Accordingly I would like us all to follow "the McGuinty Rule" that was introduced to Ontario provincial cabinet by former Premier McGuinty.

First of all, not only should all social, digital and phone media be turned off but the hardware should be out-of-sight and out-of-reach during the class. Leaving the room to read messages, make calls or text is also viewed as inappropriate. The class will have a twenty (20) minute break in the middle of the lecture/group work. This should give

you time to attend to your outside connections. Violations of these rules of etiquette are rude and unprofessional and may be attended to by the instructor.

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.

Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests

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. 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.