COURSE TITLE: Canadian Government and Politics
COURSE NUMBER: POLS 200
WHERE AND WHEN: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30-9:50 in 7-212
Except classes on January 9th and 11th will be held in The Gathering Place

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Tracy Summerville
OFFICE: Admin 3067
E-MAIL: summervi@unbc.ca
PHONE NUMBER: (250) 960-6637

OFFICE HOURS: I hold my office hours in the library on the main floor that way
you don’t have to come and find my office and we will have access to the resources just
when you need them.

I will be in the library Wednesday mornings from 9:30-10:30.

NOTE: If you need to see me privately, please email me at
tracey.summerville@unbc.ca and we will arrange to meet in my office.

This syllabus and other information regarding Political Science at UNBC can be
found at:
http://www.unbc.ca/politicalscience

This course has a Blackboard shell. I use Blackboard to put up resources including
lecture material and other resources. I also use Blackboard to email you information
about changes to classes (room numbers or cancellations). PLEASE check your email
frequently.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The study of Canadian government investigates the conflicts and challenges within
Canadian society and the institutions of government at federal, provincial, local and First
Nations levels. This includes such topics as Canadian political culture, federalism,
political economy and the Charter.
**Course Learning Outcomes, Modules including Readings, Assignment Descriptions**  
(note that I have an assignment sheet for each assignment on Blackboard) and Due Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Welcome to the Course: Unpacking a Story or Political Cartoon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Outcomes:</strong></td>
<td>By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• describe the course objectives and assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• describe you responsibilities in the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• identify important concepts that will be used in the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>• Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assignment:</strong></td>
<td>• note the process we used to “unpack” a story in Canadian politics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Classes on January 9th and 11th will be held in The Gathering Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 2</th>
<th>Canada is Big</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Outcomes:</strong></td>
<td>By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• explain how Canada’s geography and demographics impact Canadian politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• define and describe: federalism, Member of Parliament, constituency, demographics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• find and use the Stats Can web site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• find and use the Parliament of Canada web site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• find and use the Elections Canada web site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Assignment 1:**  
 **Due:** January 25th | • Complete instructions are on assignment sheet 1 which is available on Blackboard |
## Module 3
### Canadian Politics: Let’s Party and Let’s Get Organized (Elections and Institutions)

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:

- define and describe the function of political parties
- describe the origins and evolution of Canada’s political parties
- name and describe the Canadian federal political parties and the BC political parties

- define and describe Canada’s electoral process
- define and describe the factors that impact voter choice
- describe some different types of electoral systems that may be used

- explain the role of the bicameral legislature
- describe the role Governor General
- describe the role of the Prime Minister
- describe the role of the cabinet
- describe the role of the public service

**Readings:**

- Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics* Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)

**Story of the day**


## Module 4
### The Story of Canada: Part One – The Making of a Country

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- describe the ideology of conservatism
- connect ideologies to particular political parties
- describe why Canada drew upon the traditions and models of the British government
- describe why Canada is a federal state and how it recognized diversity
- define and describe the significance of Royal Proclamation of 1763
- define and describe the significance of the Quebec Act 1774
- define and describe responsible government

**Readings:**

- Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics* Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)

**Story of the day**


### Module 5
**The Story of Canada: Part Two – Bringing Home the Constitution and the creation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms**

#### Learning Outcomes:
By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:
- define and describe the functions of a constitution
- describe the story of the patriation
- explain why Trudeau thought that the Supreme Court Reference on the Patriation on the Constitution “fatally tilted” Canada towards a compact
- identify and describe sections of the Constitution and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms including sections 1 and 33

#### Readings:
- Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics* Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)

#### Story of the day

### Module 6
**The Story of Canada: Part Three – Canadian Political Culture from deference to rights**

#### Learning Outcomes:
By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:
- define political culture
- describe the evolution of Canadian political culture: from deference to rights

#### Readings:
- Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics* Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)

#### Story of the day

**Note:** Last day to withdraw without academic penalty is February 22nd

### Module 7
**The Story of Canada: Part Five – Regionalism –**

#### Learning Outcomes:
By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:
- define and describe the elements of regionalism in Canada
- describe the chronology of regionalism

#### Readings:
- Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) *Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics* Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)

#### Story of the day
TBA
Module 8 Aboriginal Politics

Learning Outcomes: By the end of class this lesson students will be able to:
• identify key issues related to sovereignty, Aboriginal rights and self-determination

Readings:
• Peter H. Russell et al. eds. (2016) Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications (for these readings see list of table of contents with module numbers inserted on the left)

Story of the day https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/editorials/globe-editorial-this-is-what-reconciliation-can-look-like/article37450142/

REQUIRED TEXTS:


ASSIGNMENT DETAILS are on Blackboard

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE WEIGHTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Grade Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment One All students must complete this assignment; you will need to hand in a copy of the map but the essay can be emailed to me</td>
<td>January 24th</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two story assignments</td>
<td>Various due dates (see module summary)</td>
<td>20% each (40 % in total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpacking a story</td>
<td>Various dates – in class</td>
<td>25% (5 x 5 marks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>To be scheduled by the Registrar’s Office</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All students should familiarize themselves with the Academic Regulations and Policies of the University of Northern British Columbia [http://www.unbc.ca/calendar/undergraduate/general/regulations.html](http://www.unbc.ca/calendar/undergraduate/general/regulations.html)

This awareness of the rules includes an important reminder about exam policy conduct and a discussion about plagiarism.

**Email:** Students are required to use a UNBC email address. I will contact students using the Blackboard system which uses only UNBC accounts.

**Exam Policy**
Please note that the term ends on the final day of the exam period NOT on the last day of classes. Students are advised not to make arrangements to travel on a date prior to the date of the final exam as scheduled by the Registrar. The instructor will not hold early exams for the purpose of accommodating travel requests.

**Deferrals**
Upon request of a deferral, the student and the instructor will consider arrangements for the timely completion of assignments and examinations. Instructors reserve the right to grant deferrals.

**Access Resource Centre**
If there are students in this course who, because of a disability, may have a need for special academic accommodations, please come and discuss this with me, or contact staff at the Access Resource Centre located in the Teaching and Learning Centre, Room 10-1048.

**The Academic Success Centre**
The ASC provides great services for students including tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, workshops, and student resources ([www.unbc.ca/asc](http://www.unbc.ca/asc)).