COURSE TITLE: Comparative Northern Development (Fall 2018)
COURSE NUMBER: POLS 615
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Gary N. Wilson
OFFICE: ADM 3066
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OFFICE HOURS: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00 – 2:00 pm
Or by appointment

This syllabus and other information regarding Political Science at UNBC can be found at:

http://www.unbc.ca/politicalscience/

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar course explores issues and strategies of northern development in comparative context. The course will examine and discuss a variety of topics relating to governance and politics, economic and social development, and Indigenous peoples in the Canadian provincial and territorial north, as well as the circumpolar north.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To discuss and evaluate the issues and concepts that influence public policy and development in the countries of the Circumpolar North
- To enhance the students’ understanding of political science methods and approaches
- To prepare students for careers in government, the media, business and academia
REQUIRED TEXTS and READINGS:

1. Various Readings. These are available electronically as books and journal articles at the UNBC Library or on the Internet. The two books used in the course are also available on short term loan in the UNBC Library.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE WEIGHTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Grade Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay Outline and Preliminary Bibliography</td>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>November 27</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>November 20</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Research Essay Outline and Preliminary Bibliography. You are required to develop a two page (double-spaced) outline for your research essay. This outline should provide a brief overview of your topic and the different sections of your essay. In addition to the two page outline, you must also include a 1 page preliminary bibliography of sources that you will use in your essay. This assignment is due on Tuesday October 9 and is worth 5% of the final grade for the course. You are strongly encouraged to discuss your essay topic with the course instructor, well in advance of the due date.

Research Essay. You are required to research and write a 20-page (double-spaced) essay based on the outline that you submitted in October. This paper is worth 30% of the final grade for the course. An electronic copy of your research essay is due on Tuesday November 27.

Group Presentation. You are required to participate in a group presentation on a topic related to northern development in two or more circumpolar countries. Some suggested topics include education, healthcare, women and gender issues, and economic development. The group should develop their topic in consultation with the course instructor. This presentation will be worth 15% of the final grade for the course.

Participation. Participation in seminar discussions is worth 20% of the final grade for the course. You are expected to attend the weekly seminars, and read and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings. As a graduate student, you will be expected to take a leadership role in seminar discussions.

Final Exam. The final exam covers all of the material presented in the course. You will be provided with a list of questions in the last week of classes. Some of these questions will appear on the final exam and you will be required to answer all of them. The date and time of the final exam will be set by the Registrar. The final exam is worth 30% of the final grade for the course.
DEPARTMENT POLICIES

Extension Policy: Extensions on tests and assignments are not permitted, except in case of illness or serious extenuating circumstances. In the event of illness or serious extenuating circumstances, the student must inform the instructor before the due date, and documentary evidence of the illness or serious extenuating circumstances must be provided to the instructor. In the case of written assignments, the student must also provide the instructor with a draft of his or her assignment at the time of the illness or serious extenuating circumstances, indicating that substantial progress has already been made towards a final product. Please note that written assignments must be submitted in hard copy to the instructor before the start of class on the day that the assignment is due. Assignments submitted after this time/date and/or in electronic form, without an approved extension, will be late and will be subject to a penalty of 10% per day.

Travel 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 or make-up exams for the purpose of accommodating travel requests.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. The minimum penalty sought for any student caught plagiarizing on any written assignment will be failure in the course. Depending on the circumstances more severe sanctions may be sought. Anyone who is unclear about the meaning of plagiarism is advised to consult the university calendar and the instructor.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Writing and Studying Skills: Writing and studying workshops and tutors are available at the University’s Academic Success Centre. For more information, consult the following website: http://www.unbc.ca/academic-success-centre

Research Skills: The Geoffrey R. Weller Library offers a range of supports for research. Please consult the library homepage (http://library.unbc.ca) or talk to one of the librarians for helpful advice on a variety of topics such as: search strategies; finding books and articles; using government documents and Internet resources; evaluating materials; and citing sources.

Access Resource Centre: If there are students in this course who, because of a disability, may have need for special academic accommodations, please come and discuss this with the instructor, or contact staff at the Access Resource Centre (arc@unbc.ca) located in the Teaching and Learning Centre, Room 10-1048 at the Prince George campus. Students can also call the ARC at: (250) 960-5682. Regional students can call the ARC toll-free at: 1-888-960-5682.
COURSE SCHEDULE

September 11: What is north? What is northern development?

- No readings

September 18: Northern British Columbia: Development in Historical Context


September 25: Nord-UNBC Symposium

- No readings

October 2: Buses, Bikes and Automobiles: Transportation Issues in Northern British Columbia

- Jennifer Baddeley (BA Candidate, NRES) “Electric Vehicles in the North”
- Heather Mitchell (MA Candidate, NRES) “Cycling in the North”
- Cassidy Shuvera (MA Candidate, IDIS) “Public Transportation in the North”
October 9: Northern British Columbia: Resource Development


October 16: Inuit Multilevel Governance


October 23: Canadian Territorial North


**October 30: Greenland (Greenland video)**


**November 6: Norway**


November 13: Russia


November 20: Class Presentations

- Readings to be assigned by groups

November 27: Circumpolar Governance and Security
