

Political Science 1020E Section 551
Huron University College
Introduction to Political Science
Course Outline

Type: Full Course (Essay) Sept.2022 to April 2023

Antirequisites: the former Politics 021F - 026G series

Room: HC-H221

Time: Mondays 6.30pm-9.30pm

Instructor: Dr. Robert F. Jonasson Office: V125; E-mail address: rjonasso@uwo.ca
(please e-mail anytime)

Office Hours: Mondays 5pm-6pm

Required Readings: (available at U.W.O. bookstore)

Andrew Heywood. Politics. 5th Edition. (MacMillan, U.K.: 2019.)

NOTE: You may use used copies. Please try to order a physical or e-copy of the text.

POL1020E SEC551

<https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=HC&term=W2022&courses%5B0%5D=551> HC/POL1020E

Learning Objectives:

Students should have definitional knowledge and understanding of political science, a rudimentary knowledge and understanding of the principal theories of political analysis, a preliminary knowledge and understanding of the principal fields of political analysis, a preliminary knowledge and appreciation of political science in the context of other disciplines, and an ability to search for, gather, review, and evaluate materials relevant to the core substantive learning objectives of Political Science 1020E.

Structure: Political Science 1020E is an introductory course in the field of politics. The course will cover a wide variety of topics, including Canadian politics, international politics, political theory, comparative politics and public administration. Each class will have a lecture held on campus. There will be 10 in-class assignments on Tuesdays (note the dates below). These assignments consist of:

1/ Opinion Questions. In many weeks, part of the lecture period (the last part) will feature a Critical Political Issues Opinion question. Students will be asked to address major challenges arising from the weekly readings and lecture presentations. The task for each Opinion is to produce strategies and solutions that respond creatively to the challenges facing governments and political communities. Each student will write his/her own opinion to the questions (2 pages double-spaced minimum). Booklets will be provided. The questions will be in OWL-Resources. These are pass/fail. The question will be straightforward and short. You may go over the page limit, but try to keep it near 2 pages double-spaced. These are opinion questions, so no formal research is required (**10 percent – 1% each – 10 of them in total**).

Note the dates for all Opinion Questions. If you miss up to 2 Opinion Questions, no excuse is necessary. You can e-mail me up to 2 missed answers by the last day in the course (April 10/23 by 9.30pm).

OWL: This course uses Western OWL as a learning tool on a regular basis. Login to OWL by going to <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal> and entering your user ID and password. Check that you have access to the course.

Topics: Readings are from the **5th edition** of the textbook. It may prove difficult at times to keep to the schedule below. Course notes will be posted to OWL.

Term 1:

Week 1: Sept. 12: Course outline; What is political science? (Ch.1);

Week 2 Sept. 19: Basic Concepts: Society, Gov't, Power (Ch.1); **Opinion #1**

Week 3: Sept. 26: Basic Concepts: Sovereignty, The State, The Nation, Nation-State (Chs.3,5,6);

Week 4: Oct.3: Basic Concepts: Law, Constitutionalism, (Chs.4,13); **Opinion #2**

Week 5: Oct. 10 - holiday

Week 6: Oct. 17: Ideology; Liberalism (Ch 2);

Week 7: Oct. 24: Ideology: Conservatism (Ch.2); Ideology: Fascism (Ch.2); **Opinion #3**

Week 8: Oct.31: Fall Reading Week

Week 9: Nov.7: Ideology: Socialism, Communism (Ch.2); Ideology: Feminism and Environmentalism (Ch.2);

Week 10: Nov. 14: **mid-term test in class 1 hour (6.30-7.30pm); essay**

Week 11: Nov. 21: International Politics (Chs.6,7,18); **Opinion #4**

Week 12: Nov.28: Forms of Gov't: Liberal Democracy (Ch.5); Totalitarianism, Authoritarianism (Ch.5);

Week 13: Dec.5: Forms of Gov't: Parliamentary Systems (Ch.14); Presidential Systems (Ch.15); **Opinion #5**

Term 2

Week 1: Jan.9: Forms of Gov't: Federalism, Canadian Federalism (Ch.17); **Opinion #6**

Week 2: Jan.16: The Political Process: The Political System, Political Culture (Ch.9)

Week 3: Jan. 23: The Political Process: Interest Groups (Ch 12); **Opinion #7**

Week 4: Jan.30: The Political Process: Political Parties (Ch.11);

Week 5: Feb. 6: The Political Process: The Media (Ch.9); **Opinion #8**

Week 6: Feb. 13: How to write an essay; extension and late policies (essay instructions on OWL);

Week 7: Feb.20: Winter Reading Week

Week 8: Feb.27: The Political Process: Elections and Electoral Systems (Ch.7); **Opinion #9**

Week 9: March 6: The Political Process: Representative Assemblies (Ch.14);

Week 10: March 13: **essay hard copy due in class at start (at 6.30pm) and e-copy in OWL-Assignments - Essay by 9.30pm**

Week 11: March 20: The Executive (Ch.15); **Opinion #10**

Week 12: March 27: The Political Process: The Administration (Ch.16);

Week 13: April 3: The Judiciary (Ch.12)

Week 14: April 10: lecture make-up (if necessary); final exam info

Final Exam: (April Exam Period - time and place TBA)
- essay format; 2 hours

Grade Breakdown:

Final Exam: 35% (TBA)

Mid-term: 15% (November 14/22 in class 6.30pm-7.30pm)

Essay: 40% (12-15 pages, double-spaced; due March 13/23) – more info given below

Opinion Answers: 10% in total (1% each)

NOTE: If you legitimately miss the mid-term, there will be no make-up exam but your final exam will then count for 50%.

NOTE: All page requirements in the outline use the Times New Roman 12 standard.

Late Penalty for Essay: 2% penalty per working day; after 2 weeks late (including weekends), the paper gets a zero; computer breakdown is not an excuse; you must keep a backup copy of your paper (e-file); essays will be put into Turnitin

POL.SCI. 1020E ESSAY

Length: 12-15 pages double-spaced

Due date: Tuesday, March 13/23 by 6.30pm (hard copy is due at start of class)

The e-file is to be put into OWL – Assignments – Essay by 9.30pm on the due date (do not wait until the last minute – lates will be strictly enforced; if you submit the wrong file, you must e-mail me the correct one before the deadline); the e-file and the hard copy must both be submitted and they must be the same

Lost Assignments: It is your responsibility to have other copies of your paper.

Advice: Please see essay writing document on OWL.

Appeals: You may see me about your grade (but not on the day I return your work), but be aware that I mark carefully! YOU MUST PUT ALL CONCERNS IN WRITING. I will only change a grade if you prove to me that I am in error about certain pieces of factual information in your paper (bring documents to prove). Please remember that I do not give grades according to your personality - try not to be personally offended by what you consider a poor grade. See more details in course rules.

Essay questions/ thesis statements

Choose one as the core argument of your paper (you may take the reverse of each). You must do one of the below.

- 1/ Canadian conservatism is significantly different than American conservatism.
- 2/ The United Nations has mainly been a success as an international organization.
- 3/ Russian political culture is still strongly congruent with dictatorship.
- 4/ Offence as a 'hate crime' is deeply problematic for the right to free speech.
- 5/ Nigeria is an example of a fragile liberal democracy.
- 6/ China has elements of both right and left-wing authoritarianism.
- 7/ In many Western countries, recent government spending to combat the global pandemic is leading to a looming fiscal crisis of the state.
- 8/ Recent Canadian Prime Ministers, of both major parties, have tended to be authoritarian in relation to their party members in the House of Commons.

All essays must be put in Turnitin in OWL Assignments – Essay as e-file attachments (by the same due date as above). You must hand in a paper copy on the due date above if the class is held. The paper copy and the e-file must be identical.

Plagiarism detection software may be used in this course. Students may be required to submit their work in electronic form.

COURSE PROCEDURES

1/ **E-Mail:** You may e-mail me at rjonasso@uwo.ca anytime. I will check e-mail Monday to Saturday (not including any holidays) – from 10am to 6pm. I will endeavour to answer your e-mails within several hours during the above period (from 6pm to 10am, you may e-mail, but I will take longer to respond). There may be some exceptions to the above, but I will try to stick to this schedule. Please always be courteous.

2/ **Questions:** Ask questions intelligently. Do not ask questions for the sake of asking them (i.e. to show ‘interest’, to ‘stick out’ etc.). Please ask specific questions about the topics; questions like ‘can you explain this topic to me?’ are too broad. I cannot tutor each student obviously. Questions about course material can usually be answered in this course outline or on other documents. Of course, ask away! I’m especially glad to answer thoughtful questions.

3/ **Lecture Notes:** These are on OWL in Resources. They are now the most detailed ever. They are crucial to what I want you to know. The textbook is excellent but use it to illuminate the material in the notes (you must read it though!). Material in the textbook not covered in the notes will not be tested (even if I still hope you will read it!). If the notes and text disagree, go with me. I have placed all the notes together by topics (in order). How you go about learning them is up to you, but the outline is suggesting a certain weekly breakdown.

4/ **Grading:** All grade values in the course outline are ‘set in stone’. There will be no re-weighting or bell-curve. No extra assignments will be given. No items will be omitted from the final grade.

The University of Western Ontario Senate has adopted a set of grade descriptors which explain the meaning of grades assigned in all university courses:

- A+ 90-100% One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
- A 80-89% Superior work which is clearly above average
- B 70-79% Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
- C 60-69% Competent work, meeting requirements
- D 50-59% Fair work, minimally acceptable
- F below 50% Fail

5/ **Appeals:** You may ask me to revisit your grades, but be aware that I mark carefully! YOU MUST PUT ALL CONCERNS IN WRITING. I will only change a grade if you prove to me that I am in error about certain pieces of factual information in your assignment, paper or exam. Please remember that I do not give grades according to your personality - try not to be personally offended by what you consider a poor grade (indeed, it is difficult to get to know students in an on-line course in any case). An appeal must go to me first. Your grade may go up, stay the same or go down (I would give then you an average of the old grade and the new grade). You may go down if I discover critical things I missed the first time.

NOTE: Do not assume your past (eg. past grades, experience level, age) is the key to your future performance. Profs assume everyone wishes high grades. Please do not indicate to the prof that you need or expect a certain grade in the course.

6/ Due dates: All due dates (eg. essays, assignments, tests, exams) in the course outline are ‘set in stone’, unless they are moved to a later date by the instructor. Under no condition will due dates be made *earlier* than the dates indicated in the course outline.

7/ Extensions: As indicated in the policy of the dept., there are some legitimate excuses which may allow students to get limited extensions for essays, tests and exams. **ALL EXCUSES MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN OFFICIAL NOTE** (eg. doctor’s note) which is shown/sent to **Academic Counselling**. Dates must be present to indicate the time period the student was affected. The Instructor must be notified by **Academic Counselling** within 2 weeks of the missed essay or test. **I must have the clear approval of Academic Counselling for any extension which requires this office.** The permission must be produced immediately in the case of the final exam. If an extension is warranted, the prof and the student will negotiate a time frame for submission. This time frame cannot be just what the student wants.

8/ Problems with OWL/Internet: If OWL is officially down for all students generally for a period of more than 12 hours on the day something is due, I will permit an extension to all students – generally, the next day. However, short problems cannot justify this, even to the deadline itself. My advice is do not wait to submit work to the last minute on due days! *Personal computer/internet/OWL issues are not valid grounds for an excuse.*

9/ If you are a student with a serious concern, whether valid or not, and you are unable to keep up with the course for a long period of time, the prof strongly advises that you drop the course. Students who get too far behind generally do not finish in any case or receive an uncharacteristically low grade. Sometimes unfortunate events occur in our lives; try to persevere, but if you cannot, it is no shame to reduce your course load in certain situations.

10/ Please do not ask the instructor for final grades (or final exam grades). These must be released by the Registrar’s Office first.

11/ NOTE: the following updated policy takes effect for all reference requests past August 1, 2021 for past or current students

I will give students basic references (for jobs, student exchange programs etc.) if their grade is above 75% in a class in which I have taught them (final grade). **For all post-graduate references (law school, grad school, teachers’ college etc.) and scholarships, students must have completed at least 3 courses (half or full) with me beyond 1020E and have a grade of 85% or better (as an average in the courses). If students took 1020E with me, they may or may not factor the grade in this class into their average, but they will need 2 more classes (half or full).** However, good character is an important consideration for promotion as well. I do not promote opportunists (eg. those who ask for higher grades without merit) or those with ‘entitlement’ attitudes. Make sure you give me at least 3 weeks’ notice for any deadlines and always give me all forms and postage. **I will do a maximum of 4 paper/online references for a student in a term.**



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022

Pandemic Contingency

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#). The appeals process is also outlined in this policy

as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: **Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the

severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar/) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academic-support.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)