

**Political Science 2230E Section 550**  
**Huron University College**  
**Canadian Politics**  
**Course Outline**

**Type:** Full Course (Essay) Sept 2021 to April 2022

**Place:** W8

**Times:** Tuesdays 3.30-5.30pm; Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm

**Instructor:** Dr. Robert F. Jonasson Office V125

**E-mail address:** rjonasso@uwo.ca (please e-mail anytime)

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 4-6pm Office V125

**Prerequisite:** Pol. Sci. 1020E (former 020E); **Antirequisite:** Pol. Sci. 2223F/G; 2221F/G

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**Required Reading:** (available at U.W.O. bookstore)

Stephen Brooks. Canadian Democracy. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. (Oxford, Don Mills, Ont.: 2020.).

Students can order through the [Book Store's](#) website and the books will be shipped directly to them, or can pick up in store (see our updated Safety Measures here: <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/safety-measures>). We also have an ebook version that the students can purchase through the Book Store's website.

[https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=HC&term=W2021&courses%5B0%5D=550\\_HC/POL2230E](https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=HC&term=W2021&courses%5B0%5D=550_HC/POL2230E)

Both options will be on the course listing on our website.

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

**Course learning outcomes:** Political Science 2230E is in 2 major parts: Part 1 is an examination of the Canadian state and its major branches and institutions. Students will become familiar with the Canadian constitution and its historical development. Both horizontal and vertical checks and balances in the Canadian governmental system will be explored including the executive, legislative, judiciary and federalism. Political parties will also be examined closely as a key institution of the Canadian liberal democratic regime. By the end of this course, students will be able to identify the key components of the Canadian regime. Students will have an appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of the Canadian institutions of liberal democracy - both in the past and today. Part 2 is an examination of the Canadian society and its relationship to the Canadian state. Students will become familiar with the Canadian society and its historical development. Some major societal divisions, both historical and current, for example, the Indigenous dimension of Canadian life and the challenge of Quebecois separatism, will be examined as to their political impacts on the Canadian liberal democratic regime. By the end of this course, students will be able to identify the key components of the Canadian society and

their relationships to the political realm. Students will have an appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of the Canadian institutions of liberal democracy - both in the past and today - in creating social and regional solidarity in the Canadian polity.

**Structure:** Each class will have a lecture at Huron (for sure one each Tuesday, and most Thursdays as well).

**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 from the Brooks textbook (9<sup>th</sup> ed.) are given below.

### **Term 1:**

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Week 1: Sept.9  
Course outline and expectations

Week 2: Sept. 14, 16  
Major events in Canadian history (Ch.1)

Week 3: Sept. 21: The Constitution (Chs.6,7); Sept. 23: How to write an essay (see Essay Instructions on OWL)

Week 4: Sept.28, 30  
The Constitution – development (Chs. 6,7)

Week 5: Oct. 5, 7  
The Executive (Ch.9)

Week 6: Oct. 12, 14  
The Legislative (Ch.9)

Week 7: Oct. 19, 21  
The Judiciary: (Ch.9)

Week 8: Oct. 26, 28  
The Bureaucracy (Ch. 10)

Week 9: Reading week

Week 10: Nov. 9: Federalism (Ch.8); **Midterm test Thursday, Nov.11 in class; 1 hour (essay)**

Week 11: Nov. 16: Federalism continued; Nov.18 essay help

Week 12: Nov. 23, 25

Political Parties (Ch.11)

Week 13: Nov. 30: Elections and Electoral System (Ch.11); Dec. 2 essay help

Week 14: **Dec. 7: essay due at start of class and e-file in OWL-Assignments**

**Term 2:**

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Week 1: Jan. 4, 6:  
Canadian identity and political culture (Chs. 2, 4)

Week 2: Jan. 11, 13  
Interest groups: Introduction to Canadian divisions in society (Chs.4, 12)

Week 3: Jan. 18, 20  
The class divide (Ch.3)

Week 4: Jan. 25, 27  
The language divide (Ch. 14)

Week 5: Feb. 1, 3  
The gender divide (Ch.15)

Week 6: Feb. 8, 10  
Indigenous issues (Ch.16)

Week 7: Feb. 15, 17  
Indigenous issues continued

Week 8: Spring Reading week

Week 9: March 1, 3  
Western Alienation (Ch. 5)

Week 10: March 8, 10  
Week 11: March 15, 17 .  
Quebec issues (Ch.5)

Week 12: March 22, 24  
Quebec issues continued

Week 13: March 29, 31

**Final Exam:** During April exam period (TBA)  
- Essay format

## **Grade Breakdown:**

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**Final Exam: 35% (TBA)** (more info to come on OWL in 2<sup>nd</sup> term)

**Essay: 50%** (13-16 pages, double-spaced; due Tuesday, Dec. 7/21 hard copy at 3.30pm in class and online submission by 5.30pm)

**Midterm: 15%** in class Thursday Nov.11/21 in class 3.30-4.30pm; 1 hour, essay (more info to come on OWL in first term)

**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

## **POLISCI 2230E ESSAY**

**Length: 13-16** pages double-spaced minimum

**Due date: Tuesday, December 7/21 hard copy in class at start of class 3.30pm – e-file to be put into OWL – Assignments – Essay by 5.30pm on the same day (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); you must submit both the same hard copy and e-file**

**Files:** the e-files must be in Word or PDF format and must have your last name as the start of the file name

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

**Bibliography:** You must include a bibliography.

**Citations and other items:** See Essay Instructions document on OWL.

### **Essay questions/ thesis statements**

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

1/ Canada needs to create a universal basic income for all adult citizens.

2/ The separatist movement in Quebec is still powerful and remains a threat to Canadian unity.

- 3/ Canadian Medicare is threatened by a weak federal role in health care.
- 4/ Human Rights Commissions and Tribunals in Canada (both federal and provincial) have been and still are problematic for free speech rights in Canada.
- 5/ The Canadian Senate does not adequately carry out its functions and should be abolished.
- 6/ The New Democratic Party needs to move to the political center to win a federal election in Canada.

**NOTE: You may do your own thesis statement/topic with permission.**

**IMPORTANT: SEE ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS DOCUMENT ON OWL FOR MORE INFO**

#### COURSE PROCEDURES

- 1/ **E-Mail:** You may e-mail me at [rjonasso@uwo.ca](mailto: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. Professor Brooks is not teaching this course. 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 11.59pm 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 (e.g. 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 2021 - 2022**

### **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.

### **Pandemic Contingency**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

## **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>.

## **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:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf).

## **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: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf). 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](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, 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**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf) are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

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, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, 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) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto: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 where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. 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: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

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

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

### **Mental Health & Wellness Support 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. 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](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Chaplaincy: [gthorne@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:gthorne@huron.uwo.ca)

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