



## COURSE OUTLINE: POL110 - INTRO TO CANAD. GOV.

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Approved: Karen Hudson - Dean

<b>Course Code: Title</b>	POL110: INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN GOVERNMENT
<b>Program Number: Name</b>	
<b>Department:</b>	SOCIAL SCIENCES
<b>Academic Year:</b>	2025-2026
<b>Course Description:</b>	<p>This course is designed to provide students with an overview of Canadian government. The key structures of government at all levels will be reviewed, however, the primary focus will be on the federal and provincial levels. Students will become cognizant of the impact of government on their lives and how their participation in the system can affect change.</p> <p>This course includes two hours of in-class instruction and one hour of independent study each week.</p>
<b>Total Credits:</b>	3
<b>Hours/Week:</b>	3
<b>Total Hours:</b>	42
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	There are no pre-requisites for this course.
<b>Corequisites:</b>	There are no co-requisites for this course.
<b>Substitutes:</b>	OEL363, PFP211, POL100, POL105
<b>Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:</b>	<p>EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.</p> <p>EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.</p> <p>EES 5 Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.</p> <p>EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.</p> <p>EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>EES 8 Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.</p> <p>EES 9 Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.</p> <p>EES 10 Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.</p> <p>EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.</p>
<b>General Education Themes:</b>	<p>Civic Life</p> <p>Social and Cultural Understanding</p> <p>Personal Understanding</p>



**Course Evaluation:**

Passing Grade: 50%, D

A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.

**Books and Required Resources:**

Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches by Blidook, Cochrane, & Dyck  
 Publisher: Top Hat / Nelson Edition: 9th  
 ISBN: 9781774122938

**Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:**

<b>Course Outcome 1</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1</b>
1. Explain the party system in Canada and our electoral process.	1.1 Identify the attributes of various political parties and their ideologies 1.2 Understand the functions and roles of political parties 1.3 Review the Canadian electoral system - current practices and proposed reforms 1.4 Assess various aspects of Canadian voting behaviour
<b>Course Outcome 2</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2</b>
2. Describe the operation of the Canadian parliamentary system.	2.1 Discuss the functions of the three branches of government 2.2 Review possible avenues of Senate reform 2.3 Describe how legislation is passed in Parliament 2.4 Identify stages and types of legislation 2.5 Outline the policy making process
<b>Course Outcome 3</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3</b>
3. Explain the meaning and significance of federalism in Canada, and describe the framework of the Constitution.	3.1 Relate the origins of the concept of federalism in Canada 3.2 Describe the separation of federal and provincial powers under the Constitution Act 3.3 Review the different sections of the Constitution and evaluate the strengths and weakness of particular areas, particularly the Charter of Rights and Freedoms 3.4 Identify attempts at constitutional change since 1980
<b>Course Outcome 4</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4</b>
4. Discuss the use and abuse of power in government.	4.1 Explain the powers of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet 4.2 Describe the authority of Parliament and become cognizant of its checks and balances 4.3 Discuss the relationship between the government and the opposition 4.4 Distinguish between a majority and minority government
<b>Course Outcome 5</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5</b>
5. Identify current issues facing Canadian government/society.	5.1 Present and discuss current happenings in Canadian society 5.2 Identify the many ways in which government action affects your life 5.3 Recognize how world issues impact government actions 5.4 Reflect on how a citizen's actions can impact government decisions



**Evaluation Process and Grading System:**

<b>Evaluation Type</b>	<b>Evaluation Weight</b>
Assignments	30%
Class Activities	5%
Presentation Of Current Events	5%
Tests	60%

**Date:**

June 17, 2025

**Addendum:**

Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.

