

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 4411/9765**  
**Threats to Global Democracy**

**Winter 2013**

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**Office Hours:** W 2:30- 3:30 p.m. or by appointment  
**Class Meeting:** M 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. SSC 4255

**Course Objectives**

This course explores the nature of the threats to democratic regimes around the world. In order to more fully comprehend these threats, we begin with an overview of the state of research on democratization and then turn to an examination of the concept of democracy in light of debates around its definition and measurement. We then turn to an in-depth investigation of a number of the leading theoretical explanations employed as a means of understanding the durability of democracy including economic conditions, political institutional configurations, civil-military relations, presidential coups and social conditions. We then explore the possibilities of several mechanisms for protecting democratic regimes including civil society, international aid, external imposition and the nature of democratic uncertainty.

**Course Materials**

There is no “required text” for this course. It is the students’ responsibility to locate the assigned readings. Course materials may be accessed via the UWO library page (utilizing available full text databases), through print subscriptions held by Western Libraries, or from books held in the UWO library collection. Some course content may be accessed via the course page on the OWL system (<http://owl.uwo.ca/>). Such content could include copies of and/or links to the required readings as well as a variety of other materials including discussion group postings and course change advisories. You should plan to access the course web page on a weekly basis. As always, please be aware of CanCopy regulations.

**Course Requirements**

**4491:**

Participation	25%
Critical Reviews	25%
Group Project	15%
Research Project	35%

**9765:**

Participation	25%
Critical Reviews	25%
Group Project	10%
Research Project	30%
Peer Assessment	10%

## **Course Pre- and Anti-requisites**

The prerequisite for this course is Political Science 2231 or Political Science 2245 or International Relations 2701 or permission of the instructor. The Anti-requisite is Political Science 392e: Topics in International Relations: The State of Global Democracy (2006/7 or 2007/8) or Political Science 3390f: Topics in International Relations: Threats to Global Democracy (2010/11) or Political Science 3347: Threats to Global Democracy (2011/12).

## **Participation**

This is a fourth year/graduate seminar course. As such, you are expected to read the materials and think about their relevance **before** you come to class. You are expected to attend class and participate in a regular, ongoing fashion. Marking such participation will recognize the extent you are able to demonstrate you have read the required materials, that you have thought about the importance of the readings, that you can link the readings with readings and ideas discussed in prior classes, and that you can illustrate your understanding of the materials based on the case study on which you are basing your research project. In addition, students will be provided with the opportunity to participate in written form on the course webpage. Such participation is expected to supplement, not replace, in-class participation. Students who fail to attend at least 60% of the class sessions will be barred from submitting the research project for credit.

## **Critical Reviews**

Students enrolled in 4411 will write five critical reviews of during the course of the semester (weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 9). Students enrolled in 9765 will write eight critical reviews of during the course of the semester (weeks 2 through 9). The purpose of these papers is to critically evaluate an argument or set of arguments advanced in the readings for a given week. The reviews are due prior to the start of class for given assignment dates. Papers received after the start of class on the due date will not be marked for credit. Reviews are strictly limited to: 2 pages of text (4411 students); 4 pages of text (9765 students). The marking of these papers will be based on your ability to identify an important argument and then critically evaluate that argument in light of the other readings for the current week as well as the prior course readings and discussions.

## **Peer Assessment**

Students enrolled in 9765 will engage in an anonymous peer assessment exercise at least five weeks during the course. A description of expectations will be discussed at the end of class on January 14.

## **Group Project**

The group project will be discussed in class on January 21. The assignment expectations and due dates will be posted on OWL prior to class on February 4.

## **Research Project**

The research project is designed to allow the 4411 student to test the major theoretical approaches employed in the democratization literature through an in-depth examination of a single case (topics to be negotiated with 9765). The project has three parts: an essay proposal, an annotated bibliography and a research paper. A list of cases will be distributed in class on January 14. If you wish to express a preference over which case you are assigned, you should email an ordered list (top 3-5) to the professor no later than 11:59 p.m. on Thursday January 17. A list of case assignments will be distributed in class on January 21, 2012. No later than the start of class on **February 25** you will hand in an essay proposal and an annotated bibliography. The essay proposal should include a one

paragraph thesis statement and a one page outline. The annotated bibliography should include at least eight substantial sources with a brief description of the importance of each source. The mark you receive on these two project elements will count for 10% of your overall research project mark. Late assignments will not be marked for credit (you will receive 0/10 for the 10% overall value). As well, a late penalty of 25 points per day, counting against your **final project mark**, will be assessed for assignments received after the start of class on February 25. You will receive no more than 50% on the final project mark if you do not pass each of these two tasks. The research paper should include a minimum of 15 pages of text, as well as appropriate citations, a bibliography and necessary supporting materials (tables, charts, and appendices). A minimum of fifteen substantial sources should be employed. The Research Paper is due **April 15, 2013 no later than 11:30am**.

### **Paper Submission Issues**

All written assignments must be submitted in two ways: a paper copy **AND** an electronic submission through the appropriate OWL course page turnitin link. The paper (or text/document submission) copy must be submitted no later than the start of class on the assignment due date. The electronic copy must be submitted through the OWL course page Turnitin link no later than the start of class on the assignment due date. A link for submitting the papers through turnitin will be posted on the course web page. A paper is not considered as submitted (and hence is considered to be a late paper) until it is received in both formats. Late papers will be assigned a penalty of **100%**. Papers handed in after the due date will not be marked for credit. Other rules and requirements regarding papers will be posted on the course webpage in advance of the due dates.

The instructor will **not** grant extensions unless notified by the appropriate Academic Counselling Office that one is warranted according to University Regulations. If you believe you have legitimate cause for an extension of any kind, please visit your faculty's Academic Counselling Office. All Social Science students should make use of the Social Science Academic Counselling Office, located in Room 2105 in the Social Science Centre. For more information, please visit <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/>.

# Course Schedule

This lecture outline and/or readings assigned for a given topic will change throughout the semester at the discretion of the professor. Notice of any changes will be made in class and on the OWL course page at least one week in advance of the relevant class.

## 1. January 7: Course Introduction

Pass out the course outline. Discuss the outline and course expectations.

## 2. January 14: Assessing the Three Waves of Democratization

Critical Review Due (4411)

Peer Review Assignment Discussion (9765)

Huntington, Samuel P. (1991). "Chapter 1: What?" *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 3-30.

Doorenspleet, R. (2000). "Reassessing the Three Waves of Democratization." *World Politics*. 52(3), 384-406.

Merkel, Wolfgang. (2010). "Are Dictatorships Returning? Revisiting the 'Democratic Rollback' Hypothesis." *Contemporary Politics* 16(1), 17-31.

## 3. January 21: Assessing the State of the Democratization Literature

Group Project Discussion

Ulfelder, Jay. (2012). "Democratic Transitions." In (ed) Jeffrey Haynes, *Routledge Handbook of Democratization*. London: Routledge, 147-160.

Lehoucq, Fabrice. (2012). "The Third and Fourth Waves of Democracy." In (ed) Jeffrey Haynes, *Routledge Handbook of Democratization*. London: Routledge, 273-286.

Aleman, Jose and David D. Yang. (2011). "A Duration Analysis of Democratic Transitions and Authoritarian Backslides." *Comparative Political Studies* 44 (9), 1123-51.

Kapstein, Ethan B., and Nathan Converse. (2008). "Chapter 2, Why Do Young Democracies Fail?" *The Fate of Young Democracies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. Read 37-69.

Recommended Additional Reading:

Huntington, Samuel P. (1991). *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 31-46.

## 4. January 28: Democracy: What Does it Mean/How is it Measured?

Critical Review Due (4411)

### **Defining Democracy**

Huntington, Samuel P. (1991). *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 5-13.

Diamond, Larry. (2003). "Defining and Developing Democracy." In Dahl, et. al. (eds) *The Democracy Sourcebook*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 29-39.

Przeworski, Adam. (2003). "Minimalist Conception of Democracy: A Defense." In Dahl, et. al. (eds) *The Democracy Sourcebook*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 12-16.

Bailey, M. & Braybrooke, D. (2003). "Robert A. Dahl's Philosophy of Democracy, Exhibited in his Essays." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 6, 106-110. Note page numbers – not entire article.

Recommended Additional Reading:

Armony, A.C. & Schamis, H.E. (2005). "Babel in Democratization Studies." *Journal of Democracy*, 16(4), 113-128.

**Measuring Democracy**

Collier, D. & Adcock, R. (1999). "Democracy and Dichotomies: A pragmatic approach to choices about concepts." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 2, 537-565.

Munck, G. L., & Verkuilen, J. (2002). "Conceptualizing and measuring democracy: Evaluating alternative indices." *Comparative Political Studies*, 35(1), 5-34.

Recommended Additional Reading:

Coppedge, M. (2002). "Democracy and dimensions: Comments on munck and verkuilen." *Comparative Political Studies*, 35(1), 35-39.

Marshall, M. G., Gurr, T. R., Davenport, C., & Jagers, K. (2002). "Polity IV, 1800-1999: Comments on munck and verkuilen." *Comparative Political Studies*, 35(1), 40-45.

Ward, M. D. (2002). "Green binders in cyberspace: A modest proposal." *Comparative Political Studies*, 35(1), 46-51.

Munck, G. L., & Verkuilen, J. (2002). "Generating Better Data: A response to discussants." *Comparative Political Studies*, 35(1), 52-57.

Bowman, K., Lehoucq, F., & Mahoney, J. (2005). "Measuring political democracy: Case expertise, data adequacy, and Central America." *Comparative Political Studies*, 38(8), 939-970.

**5. February 4: Are there Economic Threats to Democracy?**

Przeworski, A., & Limongi Neto, F. P. (1997). "Modernization: Theories and facts." *World Politics*, 49(2), 155-183.

Boix, C., & Stokes, S. C. (2003). "Endogenous Democratization." *World Politics*, 55(4), 517-549.

Gerring, J., Bond, P. J., Barndt, W. T., & Moreno, C. (2005). "Democracy and Economic Growth: A historical perspective." *World Politics*, 57(3), 323-364.

Recommended Additional Reading:

Huntington, Samuel P. (1991). *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 59-72.

Roll, R., & Talbott, J. L. (2003). "Political Freedom, Economic Liberty, and Prosperity." *Journal of Democracy*, 14(3), 75-89.

Navia, P., & Zweifel, T. D. (2003). "Democracy, Dictatorship, and Infant Mortality Revisited." *Journal of Democracy*, 14(3), 90-103.

Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, Morrow, J. D., Siverson, R. M., & Smith, A. (2001). "Political Competition and Economic Growth." *Journal of Democracy*, 12(1), 58-72.

Karl, T. L. 1. (2000). "Economic Inequality and Democratic Instability." *Journal of Democracy*, 11(1), 149-156.



## **6. February 11: Are there Institutional Threats to Democracy?**

### Critical Review Due (4411)

- Munck, G.L., (2003). "Democratic Politics In Latin America: New debates and research frontiers." *Annual Reviews of Political Science*, 7, 437-462.
- Cheibub, J.A. & Limongi, F. (2002). "Democratic Institutions and Regime Survival: Parliamentary and presidential democracies reconsidered." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 5, 151-179.
- Fish, M.S. (2006). "Stronger Legislatures, Stronger Democracies." *Journal of Democracy*, 17(1), 5-20.

### Recommended Additional Reading:

- Krastev, I. (2006). "Democracy's 'Doubles'." *Journal of Democracy*, 17(2), 52-62.
- Kornblith, M., & Jawahar, V. (2005). "Elections versus Democracy." *Journal of Democracy*, 16(1), 124-137.

## **7. February 25: Are there Military Threats to Democracy?**

### Essay Proposal and Annotated Bibliography Due

- Bruneau, Thomas C. (2012). "The Military." In (ed) Jeffrey Haynes, *Routledge Handbook of Democratization*. London: Routledge, 207-221.
- Feaver, P.D., (1999). "Civil-Military Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 2, 211-241.
- Ruhl, J. M. (2004). "Curbing Central America's Militaries." *Journal of Democracy*, 15(3), 137-151.

## **8. March 4: Can Civil Society Protect Democracy?**

### Critical Review Due (4411)

- Brysk, A. 1. (2000). "Democratizing Civil Society in Latin America." *Journal of Democracy*, 11(3), 151-165.
- Howard, M. M. (2002). "The Weakness of Post-communist Civil Society." *Journal of Democracy*, 13(1), 157-169.
- Tripp, Aili Mari. (2001). "The New Political Activism in Africa." *Journal of Democracy* 12(3), 141-155.

## **9. March 11: What is the Uncertainty of Democracy?**

### Critical Review Due (4411)

- Przeworski, Adam. (1991). *Democracy and the Market*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 10-15, 40-50.
- O'Donnell, Guillermo, Schmitter, Philippe and Whitehead, Laurence. (1986). *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 3-5, 65-72.
- Schedler, Andreas. (2001). "Taking Uncertainty Seriously: The Blurred Boundaries of Democratic Transition and Consolidation." *Democratization* 8 (4), 1-22.
- Alexander, Gerard. (2002). "Institutionalized Uncertainty, The Rule of Law, and Sources of Democratic Stability." *Comparative Political Studies* 35 (10), 1145-1170.

## **10. March 18: Is there a Democratic Diffusion Effect?**

- Levitsky, S., & Way, L. 1. (2005). International Linkage and Democratization. *Journal of Democracy*, 16(3), 20-34.
- Owen, John M. (2002). "The Foreign Imposition of Domestic Institutions." *International Organizations* 56 (2), 375-409.

Enterline, Andrew J. and J. Michael Greig. (2005). "Beacons of Hope? The Impact of Imposed Democracy on Regional Peace, Democracy, and Prosperity." *The Journal of Politics* 67 (4), 1075-1098.

### **11. March 25: Does Democracy Promotion Work?**

Gershman, C., & Allen, M. (2006). "The Assault on Democracy Assistance." *Journal of Democracy*, 17(2), 36-51.

Scott, James M; Stelle, Carie A. (2005). "Assisting Democrats or Resisting Dictators? The Nature and Impact of Democracy Support by the United States National Endowment for Democracy, 1990-99." *Democratization* 12(4), 439-460.

Carothers, Thomas. (2006). "The Backlash against Democracy Promotion." *Foreign Affairs* 85(2), 55-68.

#### Recommended Additional Reading:

Huntington, Samuel P. (1991). *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 85-105.

Cooper, A. F. 1., & Legler, T. (2001). 'A Model for the Future?' *Journal of Democracy*.12(4), 123-136.

McClintock, C. (2001). "Room for Improvement." *Journal of Democracy*, 12(4), 137-140.

### **12. April 1: Group Project Presentations – The Future of Democracy (1)**

### **13. April 8: Group Project Presentations – The Future of Democracy (2)**

### **April 15 (11:30am): Final Research Papers Due**

## **Course Notes**

1. Students are **strongly** advised not to miss class. Some material covered (and tested) will not appear in the readings. During the year, the class will engage in “non-lecture” learning (small group discussion, simulations, etc). Lessons from these exercises will appear on course exams.
2. The act of plagiarism is an academic offence and it is not acceptable in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to understand what is meant by plagiarism and the UWO procedures for addressing acts of plagiarism. A good place to start is with the Scholastic Discipline and Academic Sanctions section in the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy (I believe this is the most recent version but please confirm that for yourself:  
<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>).
3. Written assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments should be submitted personally to the instructor or to your Discussion Group Leader who will note the time and date of receipt. Papers are considered received at the time the later of the electronic or paper copy is received. The Department of Political Science Main Office does not accept papers on behalf of professors. Do not place late essays under a door - they may be misplaced or stolen. In the event that you have received a University sanctioned recommendation for a makeup exam, the dates for those exams are as follows: Midterm makeup – January 11, 2013, Final exam makeup – May 8, 2013. The makeup exams will take place from 10:30am until 12:30pm. You should meet me in my office no later than 10:25am. The questions and format of the makeup exams will differ from the original exams.
4. It is always possible that essays may be lost or stolen, so it is the responsibility of each student to retain a copy of their essays as part of their personal records. If an essay is lost or misplaced, the student must provide a replacement for grading.
5. If you use a computer to prepare your essays, it is your responsibility to ensure that your computer equipment is in proper working order. **“Computer or printer breakdown or problems” will not be accepted as grounds for an extension.** It is the student’s obligation to backup all work in such a way as to prevent problems caused by such breakdowns. To avoid problems, make sure to backup work in more than one location (i.e., some form of memory stick or the University h: drive) on a regular basis while you are working.
6. **If you are having problems with the material, or due to external circumstances that are affecting your academic work, you should see the instructor.**
7. All class members are expected to treat each other with appropriate courtesy. Students not acting in a courteous manner will be expelled from that class session.

8. Cell phones should not be used during class. If you must keep your phone on, for emergency purposes, the ringer should be turned off. Violation of this policy will result in expulsion from the class session. No electronic devices of any type are allowed to be in your possession during any course activity for which you may receive a mark (for example, exams and group quiz activities in class). As possession of such a device during a graded situation enables plagiarism (cheating), we will assume that possession is an indication of plagiarism regardless of whether an instructor or proctors witness the actual act of plagiarism. For group quiz type activities, we will not require students to place their electronic devices at the front of the room; rather we will require them to be out of reach (and beyond the ability to observe any content). If any person violates this prohibition during a group activity, we will assume **the entire group** has benefited from the plagiarism and will bring charges against all group members.

9. My lectures and lecture materials are copyrighted (copyright held by Peter A. Ferguson). No duplication is allowed. This includes all forms of duplication (at minimum this includes audio, video and written duplication).

Despite the formal tone of this information, I want to emphasize that I welcome the opportunity to speak on a one-to one basis with you about your assignments, your comprehension of the material, useful courses to take in the future or your academic career. Please make use of my office hours.

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility**

"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."

**Essay course requirements**

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

**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."

**Security and Confidentiality of Student Work** (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

**Duplication of work**

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

### **Grade adjustments**

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

### **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 Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Submission of Course Requirements**

**ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS).**

**THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.**

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

## **Plagiarism**

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking:** "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> )."

**Multiple-choice tests/exams:** "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

### **PLAGIARISM\***

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

**A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.**

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

**B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.**

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the

important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

\*Reprinted by permission of the Department of History

Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

### **Accessibility at Western**

Please contact [poliscie@uwo.ca](mailto:poliscie@uwo.ca) if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

### **(Graduate) Statement of 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 Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)