

**The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Political Science**

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**Course:**       **Political Science 1025**  
**Title:**         **Political Ideas and Institutions**  
**Term:**         **Fall 2025**  
**Professor:**   **Nig Narain**  
**Date & Time:** **See OWL site or UWO Course Timetable**

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**Course Description: What is this Course about?**

We are excited and delighted to have YOU with us in Political Science 1025 Political Ideas and Institutions!

"This course will introduce students to the key ideas and ideologies which organize and inspire political action, such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism, and nationalism. It will also examine the institutional setting within which politics takes place, including states, political regimes, and more specific forms of government."

While we are going to consider ideas, concepts, institutions, debates and critiques together through a Political Science 'lens', and we should take an investigative approach to them: understand their history, scrutinize their development, question their role and impact, and critique them in light of current events and issues. Thus, it is not only important for us understand, say, the rise fascism or environmentalism, but also of the Modern Westphalian State and its treatment of Indigenous peoples, and how it can or should organize our daily life.

Our goal then, is to have you understand the world according to Political Science -- ideas, institutions, etc. -- while also analysing real-world politics and political issues, such as fights over governance and democracy in China-Hong Kong, differences between how Britain and India decide very different political actions while having similar political systems, how a US judicial principle came to be and impacts other countries' legal systems, or concerns about Canadian Prime Minister's being significantly greater powers than the US President.

There will always be, we hope, lots for you to think and talk about in our class, but *also outside of our class*.

Together, we will consider what is politics, worldviews which explain our political world, the different political systems and institutions, and important global issues.

We provide an exciting opportunity to understand and challenge political ideas; discuss varied and critical political issues; learn reading, discussion & writing skills; and understand our world.

*We look forward to having YOU in our class and pursuing a journey of learning!*

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### **Course Objectives: What will you learn in this Course?**

We will consider ideas, arguments, theories, and ideologies produced in the history of political thought in the West, including power, democracy, freedom, justice, liberalism, conservatism, socialism, feminism, and ecologism.

Students will develop the capacity to think about politics analytically and critically. In particular, they will acquire and strengthen their abilities to: understand and analyze arguments in political texts; connect and assess them in light of current political debates; and, defend clear positions on potentially controversial political issues, such as the obligation to obey the law, the nature of justice, the legitimacy of democracy, the nature of a free society, the status of the dominant ideologies of our time, the value of political participation, and the role of global organization in the modern world.

Students will achieve objectives by engaging in lecture-class discussions, watching video lectures, and doing readings from the textbook, and completing a research and outline assignment for the essay, writing an argumentative essay, participating in discussions, and completing a mid-term test and a final exam throughout the term. The discussions and writing assignments, along with your reading and lecture attendance, will provide the practice needed to succeed in the tests and exams.

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### **Learning Outcomes: What is this Course teaching you?**

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Learning Outcomes</i>
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognize the importance of engaging colleagues' ideas</li><li>• Communicate verbally in an analytic and clear fashion</li><li>• An awareness of the extent and limits of one's own knowledge, informed by exposure to information, concepts, theories and experience</li></ul>
Essays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organizational skills that contribute to scholarly and personal independence</li><li>• Well-developed research skills, such as those articulated by the Political Science Research Competency Guidelines adopted by the Association of College and Research Libraries</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion</li> <li>• Situate knowledge historically and contextually</li> <li>• Assess evidence critically</li> <li>• Ethical dimensions of problem identification and methodology</li> </ul>
Lectures & Tests & Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of diverse theories and approaches</li> <li>• Understanding of methods; knowledge of epistemological approaches and ontological diversity</li> <li>• Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion</li> <li>• Situate knowledge historically and contextually</li> <li>• Assess evidence critically</li> <li>• How power, culture, and history condition knowledge formation</li> <li>• Understand the ambiguity, uncertainty, ubiquitous and controversial nature of politics</li> </ul>

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### Important Dates: What big dates should you note?

- 2025:
  - September 4 First Day of Fall Term Classes
  - September 30 No classes - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
  - October 13 Thanksgiving Holiday
  - November 3–9 Fall Reading Week
  - December 9 Fall Term Classes end
  - December 10 Study Day
  - December 11–22 Examination Period
- 2026:
  - January 5 Classes resume
  - February 14–22 Spring Reading Week
  - February 16 Family Day Holiday
  - April 3 Good Friday Holiday
  - April 9 Classes end
  - April 10–11 Study Days
  - April 12–30 Final examination period

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### Course Texts: What must you read and where should you get it?

Note: UWO Bookstore sells physical and electronic copies, so please the Bookstore's website for the eBooks options to purchase the eBook.

We are using the editions listed below so if you use older or other editions, please note you are still responsible for the materials in the edition we have listed below.

Heywood, Andrew. *Political Ideologies: An Introduction*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Red Globe Press, 2021.

<https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/9781352011838>

Heywood, Andrew and Matthew Laing. *Politics*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Bloomsbury, 2025.  
<https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/9781350356801>

For any non-textbook lecture readings, readings will be posted on the class OWL site.

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### **Course Evaluations: How are you graded?**

Your grade will be evaluated as follows:

Essay Bibliography & Outline	10%
Mid-Term Test	20%
Essay	30%
Final Exam	<u>40%</u>
	100%

#### **NOTE:**

- We are an English-language school, so all assignments, etc., must be in English
- Maximum grade for any one assignment or the course is 100%, so any bonuses, etc., will not result in a grade higher than 100% nor will they carry over to any other assignment
- No Undocumented Absences will be usable for this course:
  - Mid-Term Test is a Designated Assignment
  - Final Exam is during Official Exam period
  - Essay Bibliography & Outline has a 'window of time' for submission
  - Essay has a 'window of time' for submission
  - Lectures have no grading components

*Necessary conditions for passing this course or receiving your earned grade:* you must write Final Exam (not necessarily pass it) and submit the Essay for the course (not necessarily earn a passing grade on the Essay, but your Essay must be assessed as minimally acceptable effort to complete a proper essay). If you do not meet the aforementioned two conditions, then you will receive a failing grade (not your earned grade based on completed assignments) for the course and not receive credit for this course. Contact Nig Narain ([nnarain@uwo.ca](mailto:nnarain@uwo.ca)) if you have any questions.

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### **OWL Brightspace Website: Why should you check this regularly?**

To enter our OWL website, go to <https://westernu.brightspace.com/> to look for your "POLISCI 1025" tab. On this website, you will find information about the class, grades, links to other resources, and more. In particular, Lecture Videos, non-textbook readings, etc., will be posted on the OWL site. All course announcements, etc., will come from the OWL site. Please do check the OWL site

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regularly and constantly. Do not turn off notifications for announcements, students are responsible for all notifications from this course.

"All course material will be posted to OWL Brightspace:

<https://westernu.brightspace.com/> If students need assistance with OWL Brightspace, they can seek support through <https://brightspacehelp.uwo.ca/>. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk <https://wts.uwo.ca/helpdesk/> online or by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800 for technical support. Current versions of all popular browsers (e.g., Safari, Chrome, Edge, Firefox) are supported with OWL Brightspace; what is most important is that you update your browser frequently to ensure it is current. All JavaScript and cookies should be enabled." (UWO guidance to students)

Note that the latest, most-up-to-date information is posted on the OWL site, so though dates, evaluations, policies, etc., are stated in this Course Outline, it is your responsibility to check the OWL site for updated and most current information.

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### **Lecture Class: What does this look like?**

Our class is a 3-hour class and will be modelled like a 'blended class', so course lectures are organized as follows:

1) Lecture videos will be posted online on the OWL site before lectures, so you should view or review Lecture videos in advance of lectures or after, so the lecture discussions, debates, activities, etc., will be more helpful and useful, and you are welcome to pull ahead in the readings and lecture videos, and complimentarily, you can catch up on the core materials if you miss a lecture but do attend lectures!

2) In-person lectures go over the Lecture Video's materials more briefly (not covering everything) and so will include opportunities for questions-and-answers, discussions, activities, debates, etc. based on the lecture videos and current events, etc., so take notes accordingly: what was highlighted, what was stressed, what debates arose, etc..

Importantly: if you are unwell for any reason, please don't come to the lecture hall at all, focus on getting healthy, and you can always watch the lecture videos while you are getting better or after.

Note: test and exams are based on lecture videos and all readings.

### **Schedule of Lectures and Assignments Due Dates:**

**What questions are we covering? What do we read? What Academic Considerations are applicable?**

- Sep 10    Intro to the Course  
Lecture 1: Justice & Property & Inequality → Reading: see OWL site for Wolff reading PDF (... and don't worry about having it read, or about viewing the Lecture Videos, for the first lecture!)
- Sep 17    Lecture 2 : Nationalism → Reading: Heywood *Politics* Chapter 6
- Sep 24    Lecture 3: Indigenous Politics → Reading: see OWL site
- Oct 1     Lecture 4: Ideologies and Liberalism → Reading: Heywood *Political Ideologies 2*
- Oct 8     Lecture 5: Conservatism and Marxism → Reading: Heywood *Political Ideologies* Chapter 3 & 4

**Fri Oct 10, 11:59 PM: Essay Bibliography and Outline (EBO) assignment Due via OWL site → no penalty applied if submitted by Thurs Oct 16 11:59pm)**

*Fri Oct 17, 11:59 PM: Late -10% Essay Bibliography and Outline (EBO) assignment Due via OWL site → no penalty applied if submitted by Thurs Oct 23 11:59pm*

- Concerning "Undocumented Absence" Academic Consideration:
    - You do not need to submit a request for academic consideration if the EBO deadline cannot be met (self-attestation or otherwise)
    - This is because an extension will be granted automatically, without penalty, to Thu Oct 16, for those experiencing extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness, bereavement, etc.) that prevent submission on the Due Date of Fri Oct 10.
    - TO BE CLEAR: *this does not mean the EBO is "really" due on Thu Oct 16.* It is due on Fri Oct 10, but after Thu Oct 16<sup>h</sup> 11:59pm, the EBO is considered late, but we will still accept submission Thu Oct 23 11:59pm with a late penalty of -10% applied
    - The aforementioned also applies to the Late -10% EBO with respectively adjusted dates
    - Again, any requests for academic consideration will not be considered if submitting between Fri Oct 10 and Thu Oct 23 11:59pm because extensions were already granted and accounted for in the due dates and no-penalty lee way dates
    - Per Senate Regulations: "An instructor may deny academic consideration relating to the timeframe submission of work where there is already flexibility in the submission timeframe (e.g., 72-hour submission window). This assessment flexibility must be indicated on the course outline"
- ([https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html#cannot](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html#cannot))

- Per Office of the Registrar FAQ "When CAN'T I use an undocumented absence? When flexibility in assessment exists and is clearly stated on the course outline, both undocumented absences and academic consideration requests with documentation may be denied."  
([https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html#cannot](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html#cannot))
- If you have significant extenuating documented circumstances, you should read the Registrar's Academic Consideration page [https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html) and go through their Student Absence Portal to request such academic consideration
- If you have documented grounds for a late submission extension beyond Thu Oct 23, in that case, you should read the Registrar's Academic Consideration page [https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html) and go through their Student Absence Portal to request such academic consideration
- Those students who are accommodated with flexible deadlines through Accessible Education (AE) should check the OWL site for your particular AE dates and other details and notes

Oct 15    Lecture 6: Fascism and Feminism → Reading: Heywood *Political Ideologies* Chapter 7 & 8

### **Mid-Term Test: Sun Oct 19 6pm-7pm via OWL site**

- ONLY covers Weeks 1-3 of Lectures
- Further details, rules, directions, cautions, etc., will be provided on the OWL site
- This Test is a Designated Assessment exemption from "Undocumented Absence" Academic Consideration:
  - February Test is designated as exempt from "undocumented absence" academic consideration
  - Per Office of the Registrar FAQ "When CAN'T I use an undocumented absence? ... Undocumented absences also cannot be used for the "designated assessment" in each course."  
([https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html#cannot](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html#cannot))
  - Per Senate regulation "Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs", under "Policy": "Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. In such cases, the instructor must provide the student with another opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in the content evaluated by the missed assessment within the time frame of the course.", and note that our course is a full-year course so each term is 'half-course weight'  
[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration\\_Sep24.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf))

- Documented Absence Academic Consideration: to request academic consideration for your medical, varsity sport, or other documented matter, you should read the Registrar's Academic Consideration page [https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html) and go through their Student Absence Portal to request such academic consideration to write the Make-up Test
- If you don't have documented grounds for academic consideration, e.g. you slept-in or you forgot about the test, you may write the Make-up Test with a – 10% penalty applied
- Make-up Test dates:
  - Tues Oct 21
  - Thurs Oct 23
  - Mon Oct 27
- Accessible Education (AE) students: you don't need to register for this Test with Accommodated Exams so just check the OWL site for your particular AE test details closer to the Test dates

Oct 22 Lecture 7: Environmentalism, Multiculturalism and Radical Political Islamism → Reading: Heywood *Political Ideologies* Chapter 9 & 10 & 11

Oct 29 Lecture 8: Political Regimes, Governments, and Constitutions → Reading: Heywood *Politics* Chapter 5 and Chapter 13 320-337

Nov 12 Lecture 9: Electoral Systems and Political Parties → Reading: Heywood *Politics* Chapter 10 and 11

Nov 19 Lecture 10: Executive and Bureaucracy → Reading: Heywood *Politics* Chapters 14 and 16

Nov 26 Lecture 11: What are Assemblies? What is the Judiciary? → Reading: Heywood *Politics* Chapters 15 and 13, 337-343

Dec 3 Lecture 12: What is a Political Culture? What is the relationship between Media and Politics? What is a 'post-truth' politics? → Reading: Heywood *Politics* Chapter 9

**Fri Dec 5 11:59pm: Essay assignment Due via OWL site → no penalty applied if submitted by Thu Dec 11 11:59pm**

*Fri Dec 12 11:59pm: Late -10% Essay assignment Due via OWL site → no penalty applied if submitted by Thu Dec 18 11:59pm*

- Concerning "Undocumented Absence" Academic Consideration:
  - You do not need to submit a request for academic consideration if this Essay deadline cannot be met (self-attestation or otherwise)
  - This is because an extension will be granted automatically, without penalty, to Thurs Dec 11 11:59pm for those experiencing extenuating circumstances



(e.g., illness, bereavement, etc.) that prevent submission on the Due Date of Fri Dec 5 11:59pm

- TO BE CLEAR: this does not mean the Essay is “really” due on Thurs Dec 11 11:59pm; it is due on Fri Dec 5 11:59pm, but after Thurs Dec 11 11:59pm, the Essay is considered late, but we will still accept submission until Thurs Dec 18 11:59pm with a late penalty of -10% applied
- The aforementioned also applies to the Late -10% Essay with respectively adjusted dates
- Again, a request for academic consideration will not be considered if submitting between Fri Dec 5 and Thu Dec 18 11:59pm, because an extension was already granted
- Per Senate Regulations: “An instructor may deny academic consideration relating to the timeframe submission of work where there is already flexibility in the submission timeframe (e.g., 72-hour submission window). This assessment flexibility must be indicated on the course outline” ([https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html#cannot](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html#cannot))
- Per Office of the Registrar FAQ “When CAN'T I use an undocumented absence? When flexibility in assessment exists and is clearly stated on the course outline, both undocumented absences and academic consideration requests with documentation may be denied” ([https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html#cannot](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html#cannot))
- If you have significant extenuating documented circumstances, you should read the Registrar’s Academic Consideration page [https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html) and go through their Student Absence Portal to request such academic consideration
- If you have documented grounds for a late submission beyond Dec 18, in that case, you should read the Registrar’s Academic Consideration page [https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html) and go through their Student Absence Portal to request such academic consideration
- Those students who are accommodated with flexible deadlines through Accessible Education should check the OWL site for your particular AE dates and other details and notes

### **Final Exam: 2-hours, Date & Time set by Registrar, during Official Exam Period, In-person**

- ONLY covers Lectures 4-12
- In-person exam on Campus
- Note: this is during the Official Exam period, so per the Office of the Registrar: “When CAN'T I use an undocumented absence? Undocumented absences cannot be used for examinations scheduled by the Office of the Registrar during official examination periods (including take-home final exams and December mid-year exams for full courses)” ([https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html#cannot](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html#cannot))

- Documented Absence Academic Consideration: to request academic consideration for your medical, varsity sport, or other documented matter, you should read the Registrar's Academic Consideration page [https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic\\_considerations/index.html](https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html) and go through their Student Absence Portal to request such academic consideration to write the Make-up Exam
  - If you don't have documented grounds for academic consideration, e.g. you slept-in or you forgot about the Exam, you may write the Make-up Exam (in-person) with a -10% penalty applied
  - Make-up Exam (in-person) dates in January 2026 will be posted on the OWL site after the Registrar sets the date for the Regularly Scheduled Exam (we do not permit writing the exam *ahead* of the Regularly Scheduled Exam date)
  - Accessible Education students: ensure you have selected to write our Final Exam with AE Accommodated Exams services by November as this is an in-person exam and they will need to make your arrangements accordingly
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### **Important Information & Rules About the Course: What are some general rules governing this course?**

- Please read the Political Science Department's "APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE" document: <https://politicalscience.uwo.ca/undergraduate/docs/outlines/2025-26/APPENDIX%20TO%20UNDERGRADUATE%20COURSE%20OUTLINES1.pdf>
  - Necessary conditions for passing this course or receiving your earned grade: you must write the Final Exam; (not necessarily passing it, and submit the Essay for the course (not necessarily earn a passing grade on the Essay, but your Essay must be assessed as minimally acceptable effort to complete a proper essay). If you do not meet the aforementioned two conditions, then you will receive a failing grade (not your earned grade based on completed assignments) for the course and not receive credit for this course. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.
  - Pre-requisites and Anti-Requisites:  
*Prerequisites:* none  
*Anti-requisites:* the former Politics 020E and 021F-026G, Politics 1020E 002, Politics 1020E 003, Politics 1020E 200, Politics 1020E 201, Politics 1021F/G-1026F/G  
 Please Note: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for an appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for
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students who require the course in question for graduation.” – *Office of the Dean, Faculty of Social Science*

- USE your UWO/Western email account: Send and receive emails by the UWO email system so that your information is confidential and secure. Also, your non-UWO email may get caught in spam, etc., and may not get a response or review.
- Email, text and phone: Use your UWO Email for class communication or text message or phone *only if you have identified yourself*. Grades are never discussed via email or text or phone. I will endeavour to reply within 72-hours as there are a lot of students in this class (and my other classes). If something is *truly urgent* then text me. Please don't follow up emails with more emails after a few hour, etc., and texts or calls as well, as that just clogs emails and makes responding more time-consuming and confusing for all.
- Statement on Use of Electronic Devices: NO electronics devices are allowed during tests and examinations unless specified differently.
- 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 Web site: [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)
- Concerning Turnitin: “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>).”  
Also check:  
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID>
- Multiple-Choice Exam format checking software: “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.”  
Also check:  
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID>
- Test and Exam review will only be reviewable at select times and locations. Information will be provided at the appropriate times in the term.
- Bringing family, friends, children, interested persons, etc., to class: Yes. If you want *or need* to bring your family, friends or others to class you are welcome to do so. Please ensure they are respectful and do feel free to introduce them to me and those sitting around you. If you need to bring to class for childcare, breastfeeding, eldercare, etc., or other reasons, that’s perfectly fine and it is

recommended sitting at the back of the classroom as there is more space there for your loved ones, etc., to move around and can provide more area to have privacy if needed. If there are any problems or you need other accommodations, please do connect with me as you see fit or reach out to Western Student Services' offices.

➤ **Support Services:**

Please visit the Social Science Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: Academic Counselling - Western University ([uwo.ca](https://uwo.ca)).

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Wellness & Well-being / Mental Health @ Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html).

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

Please contact Accessible Education at

[http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html) if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills.

They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more.

Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>. Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

➤ **Respectful conduct and engagement:** Note conduct should accord with the University of Western Ontario Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed as a PDF from:

[http://studentexperience.uwo.ca/student\\_experience/studentconduct.html](http://studentexperience.uwo.ca/student_experience/studentconduct.html).

In general, please be respectful of and courteous to yourself, me, our TAs, your class colleagues, and others during discussions and other course engagements.

➤ **Acceptable and Unacceptable Use of AI:** The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Dall-e, other LLMs, etc.) is permitted to aid or nuance your thinking, communication, and learning but not to replace or subvert it.

The use of generative technology is permitted in this course for the following activities: A). Exposing you to other ideas: however, it is important to

brainstorm your own ideas first. Be aware that generative technology may introduce biases into the topic, and in questions of politics has a persistent consensus-driven bias. B) Improving clarity and expression of ideas and thoughts that you have written down first. Do not copy any sentences directly from generative technology, make sure to edit and retain your writing C) Study or assessment aids, by generating practice questions, flashcards or learning simulations, but double check the accuracy of any generated content D) make information easier to understand, simplifying the material, providing pre-reading and post-reading summaries for accessibility. However, you should always read the text yourself as generative technology tends to oversimplify and can misrepresent political information.

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities: A) responding to a classroom prompt: participating in discussions is about building community and exposing your ideas to others, communication of your own ideas is necessary B) modifying AI generated work slightly to make it appear as if you created it. This results in surface level learning and misunderstanding of the material C) Analysis of data: using generative technology to assess or argue politically. Generative technology is statistically probable, but it cannot currently replace analysis and assessment D) Copying AI generated text and citing it as written by AI. You must use original academic sources in your responses, and you cannot cite generated text.

You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws, or contain misinformation or unethical content). Any assignment that is found to have used generative AI tools in unauthorized ways can result in: a failure to receive full grades, the need to resubmit the assignment, need to orally present the assignment in office hours, or a failure to complete the requirements of the course. If in doubt about permitted usage, please ask for clarification.

- Religious Accommodation: When conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request an accommodation for their absence in writing to the course instructor and/or the Academic Advising office of their Faculty of Registration. This notice should be made as early as possible but, in particular for assignments (e.g. test, exams, and essays) no later than one week prior to the deadline, due date or completion date. Please visit the Diversity Calendars posted on our university's EDID website for the recognized religious holidays:  
<https://www.edi.uwo.ca>
- Accommodation Policies: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)
- Academic Policies- The website for Registrar Services is  
<https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>.

- UWO Email: In accordance with policy, the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner. See:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies\\_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf)
- 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:  
[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)
- Zoom Etiquette (for office hours):
  - Please pay attention to video, microphone and screensharing settings.
  - Keep chat rooms and images appropriate for an academic setting.
  - Any inappropriate actions, imagery, discussion or chat messages may result in your removal from the meeting at my discretion.
  - Audio recordings may be available as an alternative to synchronous discussion.
  - Please test all WIFI, video and audio before the meetings.
  - Use Zoom buttons for raising your hand, responding yes and no, asking host to adjust speed, requesting a break and more.
  - Please be conscious of your speaking time and that of others, if you are continuing in a manner that is not fair to your peers, I reserve the right to intervene and put us back on a more focused discussion.
- Recording synchronous content (office hours or other meetings): Any remote learning sessions for this course **may** be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings may be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings. Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.
- **NOTE: if changes to the Course Outline are necessitated, we work to let you know as soon as possible, so please check the OWL site and your emails regularly!**

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***Approach me with your questions or concerns: we want to help YOU learn, improve & do your best.***

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***Enjoy the Course!***

## 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 2100-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses.

### **General Word Count Guidelines by Course:**

Half Course (e.g., 1000-1999): At least 1500 words.

Half Course (e.g., 2200+): At least 2500 words.

**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.

### **Links for the list of topics below can be found at:**

<https://teaching.uwo.ca/news/2025/Annual%20UG%20Course%20Outline%20Update%20Guide%202025%20-%202026.pdf>

- \_Key Academic Dates
- \_Requests for Relief from Academic Decisions - Undergraduate Procedures
- \_Scholastic Offences - Undergraduate Procedures
- \_Senate Review Board Appeals - Procedures
- \_Course Numbering Policy, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction
- \_Marks/Grades; Definitions of Grades;
- \_Grading Scale for Undergraduate Students
- \_General Policy Structure of the Academic Year Policy
- \_Course Numbering Policy, Essay Courses, and Hours of Instruction
- \_Undergraduate Course Credit Policy • Procedures
- \_Examinations Definitions of Types of Examinations



- \_Examinations Evaluation of Academic Performance
- \_Examinations Examination Conflicts Policy
- \_Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
- \_Accommodation for Religious Holidays Policy
- \_Policy on Academic Consideration –
- \_Requests for Relief from Academic Decisions (Undergraduate)
- \_Scholastic Offences (Undergraduate)
- \_Senate Review Board Academic Appeals

During exams/tests/quizzes, no electronic devices (e.g. a phone, laptop, iPad) are allowed and must be powered down and stored out of reach.

**Scholastic offences** - 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>).

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

If a course uses remote proctoring, please be advised that you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. Completion of a course with remote proctoring will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at:

### **Support Services**

Please visit the Social Science Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters:

<https://www.advising.ssc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Wellness & Well-being / Mental Health @ Western for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. <https://www.uwo.ca/health//psych/index.html>

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either

recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html).

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at [http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html) if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling. Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

## **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. [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/index.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html)

## **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.

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