



**Faculty of Social Sciences
Political Science**

Course Number: POLI 2P99
Term/Year/Duration: Fall/2017-2018/ 3
Course Title: Introduction to Canadian Public Policy

Instructor Name: Paul Gray
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Office Location: PLZ 340
Contact: pgray2@brocku.ca
Teaching Assistants: Tim Fowler, Emmanuel Osei
Liaison Librarian: Heather Whipple (hwhipple@brocku.ca)

Times and Locations:

Lectures:

Tuesday, 4-5 pm. Location: AS216. Lecturer: Paul Gray

Friday, 4-5 pm. Location: AS216. Lecturer: Paul Gray

Seminar 1: Monday, 4-5 pm. Location: IC117. Seminar Leader: Tim Fowler

Seminar 2: Thursday, 3-4 pm. Location: TH149. Seminar Leader: Emmanuel Osei

Seminar 3: Friday, 3-4 pm. Location: MCC403. Seminar Leader: Paul Gray

Seminar 4: Thursday, 4-5 pm. Location: EA307. Seminar Leader: Emmanuel Osei

Note: Classes at Brock University end ten minutes ahead of the hour or half hour to facilitate transfer time.

Course Calendar Description:

Major theories, approaches and concepts including the nature of public policy studies, contending theories of the state and public policy making, the growth of the state and the expansion of the scope of public policy activities, and alternative modes of state intervention.

Additional Description:

This course explores public policy in a Canadian context. First, we will study the major theories and concepts of public policy. Second, we will discuss some of the dynamics of public policy unique to a Canadian setting. Third, we will study the ways in which public policies are implemented and competing theories about how they are evaluated. Fourth, we will look at some of the more important fields of Canadian public policy, including

the impact of globalization on macroeconomic policy; different visions of social justice in welfare and healthcare policy; debates about the boundaries between the public and private spheres in family policy; enduring colonial practices and legacies in Aboriginal policy; and finally, the major issue of our times, environmental policy and the climate crisis.

Course Prerequisites:

Prerequisite(s): one of one POLI credit numbered 1(*alpha*)90 to 1(*alpha*)99, **LABR 1F90, 1F99** or permission of the instructor.

Completion of this course will replace previous assigned grade and credit obtained in LABR 2P99.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

The key to my teaching philosophy is the conviction that education is an end in itself. Students often encounter pressures to treat their courses as a mere means to their degrees. Conversely, my pedagogy is grounded in the belief that the purpose of genuine learning is to develop the skills necessary for a critical engagement with society. I often remind my students that if they prioritize creative exploration and rigorous thinking over rote memorization, not only will they tend to do better on assignments, but what they learn will remain with them long after the course is over.

I attempt to show the foundations of enduring debates and what I regard to be the strengths and weaknesses of each framework, including my own. When I have a settled position in these debates, I am candid about it. This is not because I expect my students to embrace my position, but so that they can detect potential biases in my explanations and arguments. I make clear that a sophisticated defence of an opposed position is worthy of much more esteem than a dogmatic defence of an otherwise shared view.

A crucial aspect of education is creating a safe learning environment. Like any other institution, the academy can provoke unhealthy forms of competition, such as ‘winner-takes-all’ debates. I encourage tolerant, collaborative discussions that allow for passionate disagreement as long as we critique ideas and not the people expressing them. This includes zero-tolerance for racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and ableism. I try to strike the right balance between encouraging students who more easily participate in discussions and nurturing those who, for a variety of reasons, tend to contribute less even though they are just as enthusiastic and have compelling things to say. I attempt to be as approachable as possible to students who have concerns about the classroom environment.

Required Readings or Texts:

The textbook for this course is Miljan, Lydia. (2012). *Public Policy in Canada: An Introduction. Sixth Edition.* Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

All other readings will be made available on the course SAKAI site.

Course Communications:

If any updates and changes are needed, they will be communicated in class and by email. If classes must be cancelled due to illness or weather, you will be notified by email.

Email correspondence should be conducted through your university email. Please reserve emails for short questions. For longer, more theoretical questions, it is better to visit during my office hours.

My office is PLZ 340 and my office hours are Monday, 2-3 pm; Tuesday, 5-6 pm; and Thursday, 11 am – 12 pm.

Evaluation Components and Due Dates

Evaluation Component	Grade Weight	Due Date
Seminar Participation	10%	Ongoing
Short Essay: Film Review	20%	October 17
Research Essay: Proposal	10%	November 7
Research Essay	30%	November 28
Final In-Class Test	30%	December 5
Total	100%	

Seminar Participation:

You are expected to attend and actively participate in your seminars. Half of your seminar participation mark will be based on seminar attendance and participation. The other half of your mark will be based on a seminar presentation. Each student will be required to give a 10-minute presentation in one of the seminars during our course. The presentations will be based on the readings and are designed to provoke conversation in our seminars. Seminar presentation topics and dates will be distributed during the first week of seminars. More detailed instructions for the presentations will be offered during the first lecture.

Short Essay: Film Review:

You will choose a movie that addresses issues relevant to Canadian public policy. I will provide a list of potential films, all of which are freely accessible at any time from the National Film Board website. The essay should be no less than 750 words and no more than 900. You should address the major themes of the film, explore these themes using the concepts we are learning and developing in the course, and offer a critical, argumentative commentary on the extent to which the film adequately depicts the major issues of Canadian public policy. If you would like to choose a film that is not on the list, you need to get permission from your seminar leader first.

Research Essay: Overview

In this assignment, you will choose a topic relevant to Canadian public policy. I will provide a list of potential topics in class. If you want to choose a topic that is not on the list, you need to get permission from your seminar leader first. The assignment comes in two parts.

Proposal:

You will submit a 500 word, one-page proposal that explains your choice and offers a clear thesis statement. The proposal will not only get us into the habit of consciously developing the goals of a theoretical project before it begins, but will also allow your seminar leaders to offer comments that should help guide you when you write your essay.

Essay:

You will submit a 2,000 word, eight-page research essay. For your research essay, you can cite the assigned readings in our course, but in addition, you must use at least three peer-reviewed social science sources that are

not course readings. You are also encouraged to bring in other forms of relevant media, including newspapers or broadcasts, social media, policy centre research papers, etc.

Your research essay should offer a detailed explanation of the major issues relevant to your theme; offer a critical analysis of the sources you have selected, including commentary on whether or not their arguments are convincing; relate your chosen sources and topic to the general themes and concepts of the course; and, explain how they address current social problems and debates. In your critical analysis, you may agree or disagree with the readings, but you must offer evidence for your arguments.

Final In-Class Test:

The final test will be based on essay-questions. Rather than using multiple-choice, which tends to favour rote memorization, this in-class test is meant to provide a low-pressure opportunity to reflect on your experiences in the course over the year. One week before the day of the test, I will give you five essay-questions. Three of these questions will appear on the actual test, from which you must choose two to answer. The goal is to use the concepts we have developed in the course to reflect upon questions of Canadian public policy.

Late Submission Policy:

The penalties for late submission of assigned coursework (e.g., papers, assignments, weekly reflections) are 5% per day, unless accompanied by medical documentation. See Medical Exemption Policy and the medical health certificate at <http://www.brocku.ca/health-services/policies/exemption>

Relationship between attendance and grades:

Students are expected to attend all classes and must submit all assignments in order to pass this course.

Important dates: (check the section on sessional or important dates in the relevant online University calendar at <http://brocku.ca/webcal/>)

November 7, 2017 is the date for withdrawal from the course without academic penalty.

October 31, 2017 is the date you will be notified of 15% of your course grade.

October 10-13, 2017 is the scheduled reading week.

December 6, 2017 is set aside for designated reading days (these may be used to cover classes missed because of adverse weather).

December 7-19, 2017 is set aside for formal examination periods.

Academic Policies

Academic Integrity:

Statement for undergraduate courses

Academic misconduct is a serious offence. The principle of academic integrity, particularly of doing one's own work, documenting properly (including use of quotation marks, appropriate paraphrasing and referencing/citation), collaborating appropriately, and avoiding misrepresentation, is a core principle in university study. Students should consult Section VII, "Academic Misconduct", in the "Academic Regulations

and University Polices” entry in the Undergraduate Calendar, available at <http://brocku.ca/webcal> to view a fuller description of prohibited actions, and the procedures and penalties.

Intellectual Property Notice:

All slides, presentations, handouts, tests, exams, and other course materials created by the instructor in this course are the intellectual property of the instructor. A student who publicly posts or sells an instructor’s work, without the instructor’s express consent, may be charged with misconduct under Brock’s Academic Integrity Policy and/or Code of Conduct, and may also face adverse legal consequences for infringement of intellectual property rights.

Academic Accommodation:

As part of Brock University's commitment to a respectful work and learning environment, the University will make every reasonable effort to accommodate all members of the university community with disabilities. If you require academic accommodations related to a documented disability to participate in this course, you are encouraged to contact Services for Students with Disabilities in the Student Development Centre (4th floor Schmon Tower, ex. 3240). You are also encouraged to discuss any accommodations with the instructor well in advance of due dates and scheduled assessments.

Academic Accommodation due to Religious Obligations:

Brock University acknowledges the pluralistic nature of the undergraduate and graduate communities such that accommodations will be made for students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event. Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructor(s) for alternative dates and/or means of satisfying requirements.

Medical Exemption Policy:

The University requires that a student be medically examined in Health Services, or by an off-campus physician prior to an absence due to medical reasons from an exam, lab, test, quiz, seminar, assignment, etc. The Medical Certificate can be found at: <http://www.brocku.ca/health-services/policies/exemption>

Additional Academic Policies

- You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the full syllabus and university policies.
- Graded material will be returned in lectures and seminars as promptly as possible. It can also be collected during office hours. Final grades will be submitted to the university as promptly as possible.
- Regular attendance and participation is a vital part of our course. If you have to miss a lecture or seminar, please notify me and your teaching assistants as soon as possible. You should be present for the entirety of the lectures and seminars. If you have to miss a lecture or seminar, arrange to obtain notes from another student. Exchange contact info with two or three other students for this purpose. Lecture notes will not be provided, although certain diagrams, tables, and other illustrations will be made available for students.
- Electronic devices can be an important educational tool, but they can also be a distraction. Laptops are permitted in both lectures and seminars, but handwritten notes are encouraged. All cell phones must be silenced and cell phone conversations can only occur outside of lectures and seminars. If you are a primary caregiver who may need to consult your phone, please speak with me at the beginning of the term.

- We are committed to creating accessible and respectful learning conditions. Students with disabilities are encouraged to discuss this with me and your tutorial leaders at the beginning of the term, but all academic accommodations require a documented rationale.
- Assignments must be submitted in hard copy in lectures or seminar. In special circumstances, you may arrange ahead of time to submit your assignments electronically. All assignments must be typed in 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins, printed on white paper, and must be stapled when there are multiple pages. The first page of all assignments must have the following information:
 - Student name and number
 - Assignment title
 - Course name and title
 - Name of professor
 - Tutorial seminar number
 - Name of teaching assistant
 - Citation style
 - Date
- You may use a recognized citation style, including CMS (Chicago), MLA, or APA. For a useful guide to academic writing, see: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
- Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day and will not be accepted seven days after the deadline. In special circumstances, such as a documented medical reason or on compassionate grounds, students may arrange for extensions, but must request them in advance of the assignment deadline. If you are having difficulty with course materials or deadlines, please speak to me.
- Grading guidelines:
 - A = 80 to 100 = excellent to outstanding
 - B = 70 to 79 = good to very good
 - C = 60 to 69 = acceptable to fair
 - D = 50 to 59 = weak to poor
 - F = Below 50 = unacceptable, minimum standard not met

Sequence and Dates of focus/activities/readings

Consider outlining a schedule or pathway for students as they experience the course. Include dates of key evaluation components, reading weeks, and/or scheduled exam periods.

Example:

Week/Module/Class Dates	Focus/topic	Activities/Assessments	Readings	Seminar/Lab Activities
September 8	Introduction		There are no readings for this week, but I will be giving a lecture.	No seminars this week.
September 12	Systematic Approaches to Policy Studies		Miljan Chapter 1	Seminars begin this week.
September 15	Systematic Approaches to Policy Studies		Miljan Chapter 1	
September 19	Understanding Major Theories and Concepts in Public Policy		Miljan Chapter 2	Seminar presentations begin this week.
September 22	Understanding Major Theories and Concepts in Public Policy		Miljan Chapter 2	
September 26	The Canadian Context of Public Policy Formulation		Miljan Chapter 3	
September 29	The Canadian Context of Public Policy Formulation		Miljan Chapter 3	
October 3	Implementing Public Policy		Miljan Chapter 4	
October 6	Implementing Public Policy		Miljan Chapter 4	
October 10	Reading break: no class			
October 13	Reading break: no class			
October 17	Evaluating Public Policy	Short Essay: Film Review due.	Miljan Chapter 5	
October 20	Evaluating Public Policy		Miljan Chapter 5	
October 24	The Macroeconomic		Miljan Chapter 6	

	Environment: Globalization and the Constraints of Domestic Policy			
October 27	The Macroeconomic Environment: Globalization and the Constraints of Domestic Policy		Miljan Chapter 6	
October 31	Welfare and Related Social Policies – Competing Visions of a Just Society		Miljan Chapter 7	
November 3	Welfare and Related Social Policies – Competing Visions of a Just Society		Miljan Chapter 7	
November 7	Health Policy – the Quintessential Canadian Dilemma	Research Essay: Proposal due.	Miljan Chapter 8	
November 10	Health Policy – the Quintessential Canadian Dilemma		Miljan Chapter 8	
November 14	Family Policy – Determining the Boundaries between Public and Private Spaces		Miljan Chapter 9	
November 17	Family Policy – Determining the Boundaries between Public and Private Spaces		Miljan Chapter 9	
November 21	Aboriginal Policy – How Far has Canada		Miljan Chapter 10	

	Come?			
November 24	Aboriginal Policy – How Far has Canada Come?		Miljan Chapter 10	
November 28	Environmental Policy – The Crisis of Our Times	Research Essay due.	Miljan Chapter 11	
December 1	Environmental Policy – The Crisis of Our Times		Miljan Chapter 11	
December 5	In-Class Test			No seminars this week.

APPENDIX 2: ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND LATE ESSAYS POLICY

Department of Political Science *POLICY ON LATE ESSAYS*

Late essays received by the instructor or deposited in the Political Science department essay boxes after 4:00 p.m. of the date on which they were due will be penalized **two per cent** per day from Monday through Friday and **five per cent** from Friday 4:00 p.m. to Monday 8:30 a.m. No paper will be accepted two weeks after the due date. **Individual instructors may impose different penalties and submission requirements. Be sure to check your course outlines.**

An essay is considered received when the **original** hard copy of the paper is in the hands of the instructor or in the box outside the Political Science Department's office. (ALL ESSAYS MUST INCLUDE A TITLE PAGE WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CLEARLY MARKED: STUDENT NUMBER, TA and INSTRUCTOR'S NAME, COURSE NAME and NUMBER).

Having an essay date-stamped by security, or the library, or anyone else does **not** constitute receipt of the essay by the Political Science Department. Instructors may require that essays be submitted electronically. In this case, students must consult with the instructor on what constitutes a late essay.

Instructors may establish more restrictive deadlines or more severe penalties in particular courses – check the course outline. Extensions of due dates are granted only in circumstances that are beyond the student's control, such as health problems that are supported by a Brock medical certificate or other, clearly equivalent, situations.

Time management problems are not grounds for extensions. You are strongly urged to avoid these penalties by beginning to work on essays early in the term; by setting your own target dates for completion that are several days before the due date; and by carefully budgeting your time.

POLICY ON RETURNING MARKED ESSAYS

Marked essays will normally be returned during class meetings or at the final examination. Students who are not in class to receive their essays or do not receive them at the final examination can obtain them in three ways:

- directly from the instructor during his/her office hours (unless the instructor specifies in the course outline or by notice on his/her office door that this option is not available), and/or
- directly from the instructor on specific days and at specific times announced in class or posted on his/her office door.
- after the term has ended students should contact their instructor for specific instructions for collecting their papers.

Note: Essays that are not picked up within a year after the end of term will be shredded.

APPENDIX 3: STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please read and sign the following statement, and submit this sheet with your paper. Your paper will not be graded until you have submitted this form.

I, the undersigned, confirm that I understand that all the following constitutes academic misconduct according to Brock University's policy on academic misconduct, which in turn is consistent with general academic practice:

- Quoting someone's words without using quotation marks
- Quoting someone's words without acknowledging the source
- Citing someone else's ideas in my own words but without citing the source
- Using someone else's organization of ideas
- Allowing someone else the opportunity to borrow material from my paper (e.g., by letting them have access to my paper when they are writing their own paper)
- Writing the paper for another student, or doing some of the work for them (such as, but not limited to, reading the articles for them and providing them with notes on the articles)
- Allowing someone else (or paying someone else) to write part or all of my paper, or do some of the work for me. The exceptions to this are that it is acceptable to allow someone to type the paper for me or make editorial comment on it. However, if someone types the paper for me, or if I incorporate an editorial suggestion, and there are errors in the typing or the suggestion was misguided, I take full responsibility for those errors.
- Submitting this work to another course without both instructors' permission.

I confirm that I have not done any of the above forms of academic misconduct.

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX 4: MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES

Mental Health Support Services

Confidential Personal Counselling on Campus

- To make an appointment to see a counsellor call 905-688-5550 extension 4750 during regular
- office hours (8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 4:30) or visit the Student Development Centre (ST400)
- during office hours.
- <https://brocku.ca/personal-counselling>

Student Justice Centre

A space safe on campus that provides listening, support, and referral services. Services are available Monday through Friday 9:00-5:00 (TH252A) by appointment or drop in.

www.brocksjc.ca

I.M. Well App

The I.M. Well app aims to address the stigma surrounding mental wellness by connecting students to the appropriate services on campus and within the community. This is an educational tool that covers a wide variety of topics such as anxiety, depression, transition and addiction. This app also offers a 24/7 live chat with mental health professionals.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.eapexpert.iamwell&hl=en>

<https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/im-well/id1150435727?mt=8>