

PPAS-HREQ 3761 / POLS 3170 3.0 (M)
Canada's Social Policy
Summer S2 2022

	Time	Room
Class Time and Location	Monday & Wednesday 11:30 – 14:30	SLH - C

Professor	Office	Telephone	Email	WWW	Office Hours
Daniel Cohn	McLaughlin 128	416-736- 2100 ext.77276	dcohn@yorku.ca	www.yorku.ca/dcohn	Monday & Wednesday 10:30 – 11:00

Summary Description:

Examines Canadian federal, provincial and municipal programs aimed at those outside the paid labour force. Programs covered include health care, child care services and benefits, old age pensions, social assistance and disability. Covers current debates on future of the welfare state. Course credit exclusions: None. PRIOR TO FALL 2009: Course credit exclusion: AK/POLS 3761 3.00.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Familiarize participants with different capitalist welfare state regimes such that they can identify them, the socio-economic forces that are said to give rise to them and the socio-economic and political consequences that flow from these regimes
- Familiarize students with the relationship between change in economic and productive regimes and shifts in capitalist welfare state regimes.
- Familiarize participants with the key social policies that form the foundation for the capitalist welfare state
- Familiarize participants with the impact that Canada's political institutions and unique socio-economic circumstances have had on the development of the Canadian capitalist welfare state, such that they have a foundation for engaging in comparative analysis of provincial welfare state policies and outcomes
- Give students the opportunity to further develop their written communication skills
- Give students the opportunity to further develop their analytical skills and critical thinking capabilities.

Assignments, Grading Scheme, Due Dates:

Assignment	Date	Grades
Essay Proposal	Monday July 11	10
Essay	Monday August 8	50
Final Take Home Exam	Assigned Thursday Aug 11 – Due Thursday August 17	40
Total		100

Grading Policies:

Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by [The University's Academic Honesty Policy](#), as well as The University's other policies governing student conduct and for ensuring that all work is done in conformity with the best standards of academic behaviour. I am required by the regulations of the University to report ALL suspected violations of the Academic Honesty Policy. I will be happy to answer any questions students might have about academic integrity, but it is up to each student to ensure that they do not cheat. Sounds silly, I know. However, over the years I have found that most violations of these policies are simply accidental and not deliberate. If any student in this class is uncertain as to what is expected, you may wish to look at the Essay and Assignment writing Toolkit provided by the Learning Commons located in the Library <https://spark.library.yorku.ca/>.

If you absolutely cannot deliver your assignment to me in person in class or during my office hours, bring it to the main School of Public Policy and Administration office (Room 119 McLaughlin College). The staff there will accept your assignment during their normal business hours, date stamp it and record the arrival of your assignment in their log book. If you arrive after office hours, there is a night drop box. Anything placed in the drop box will be stamped as received at 8:30 the next morning.

Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 1/10th the marks available per day (Weekends count as one day). This penalty will be waived if you have a compelling reason for being late, such as a serious illness or the need to care for a sick dependent which is appropriately documented. Please let me know as soon as possible if you cannot make a deadline and are going to be late.

YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE FOR THIS COURSE. WHERE WARRANTED, I WILL GIVE EXTENSIONS, ETC. IF YOU HAVE A LEGITIMATE REASON FOR HAVING WORK OUTSTANDING AT THE END OF THE TERM. HOWEVER, THE REQUIREMENT TO COMPLETE ALL WORK WILL ONLY BE WAIVED IN THE MOST EXTREME SITUATIONS.

Accessibility:

If you require accommodation to be made in the structure, delivery of the course, or the assignments due to a disability, please advise me of this as soon as possible or arrange to have the appropriate office on campus send me an “accommodation letter” or “notice of needed accommodation form”, etc. I am happy to make any adjustments needed so that you can achieve your full potential as a student in the course.

Required Readings:

- Rice, James J. and Prince, Michael J. 2013. Changing Politics of Canadian Social Policy, Second Edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press (Hereafter Rice & Prince)
- Van den Berg, Axel; Plante, Charles; Raiq, Hicham; Proulx, Christine and Faustman, Sam. 2017. Combating Poverty: Quebec’s Pursuit of a Distinctive Welfare State. Toronto: University of Toronto Press (Hereafter Van den Berg et al.)
- Other readings required will be made available electronically via the York University Library, or government, civil society and university websites on the internet.

Please Note: The assumption made in drawing up the course syllabus is that each of you has a basic understanding of Canadian politics and government. If this is not the case for you, or you just want a refresher, there is a very easy to read and short (only 51 pages) book that is available free of charge from the website of The Library of The Parliament of Canada: [How Canadians Govern Themselves](#) .

Class by Class Schedule:

- Monday June 27: Introduction to the Course
- No Readings
- Wednesday June 29: Canada and the Worlds of the Capitalist Welfare State
- Rice & Prince, Introduction
 - Van den Berg et al., Introduction
- Monday July 4: The World of Disorder, Globalization & Pluralization
- Rice & Prince, Chapter 1
- Wednesday July 6: The Development of a Canadian Liberal Capitalist Welfare State
- Rice & Prince, Chapters 2 and 3
- Monday July 11: The Crisis of the Capitalist Welfare State
- Rice & Prince, Chapters 4

- Jessop, Bob. 1993. "Towards a Schumpeterian Workfare State? Preliminary Remarks on Post-Fordist Political Economy." Studies in Political Economy 40: 7-39. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/10.1080/19187033.1993.11675409>

Wednesday July 13: Responses to the Crisis Canada as a Case and as Cases

- Rice & Prince, Chapter 5
- Van den Berg et al., Chapter 1

Monday July 18: The New Market Economy: New Social Needs and New Social Policy

- Rice & Prince Chapter 6
- Van den Berg et al., Chapters 2 and 3

Wednesday July 20: The New Market Economy in Crisis: The Return of the "Working Poor" and "Chronic Poverty"

- Rice & Prince, Chapter 7
- Van den Berg et al., Chapter 4

Monday July 25: Diversity & Equality Among Policies and Provinces: Two Neoliberal Social Policy Paradigms: "Immediate Activation vs. Human Capital Development and Social Investment Activation."

- Rice & Prince, Chapter 8
- Van den Berg et al., Chapter 5

Wednesday July 27: Exploring the Gender Divide in the Post-Keynesian Era of the Welfare State

- Rice & Prince, Chapter 9
- Provencher, Annick. 2017. "From the Invisible Hand, To the Invisible Woman: A Gender Perspective on the Tax Policy Discourse on Social Tax Expenditures." Canadian Journal of Women and the Law 29(1): 110-156. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/10.3138/cjwl.29.1.110>
- Smith-Carrier, Tracy. 2017. "Reproducing Social Conditions of Poverty: A Critical Feminist Analysis of Social Assistance Participation in Ontario, Canada." Journal of Women, Politics & Policy 38(4): 498-521. https://resolver-scholarsportal-info.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/resolve/1554477x/v38i0004/498_rscopas_apioc.xml

Monday August 1: **CIVIC HOLIDAY NO CLASS**

Wednesday August 3: The Retreat of the Federal State in Social Policy, Can Provinces and Civil Society make a Difference?

- Rice & Prince, Chapter 10
- Van den Berg et al., Chapter 6 and Conclusion

- Mahon, Rianne, Christina Bergqvist and Deborah Brennan. 2016. "Social-Policy Change: Work-Family Tensions in Sweden, Australia and Canada." Social Policy & Administration 50(2): 165-182. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/10.1111/spol.12209>

Monday August 8: The Return of the Federal State to Social Policy and the Future? To What Degree is it Shaped by Agency and to What Degree is it Shaped by Structure?

- Béland, Daniel, Michael J. Prince and R. Kent Weaver. 2021. "From Retrenchment to Selective Social Policy Expansion: The Politics of Federal Cash Benefits in Canada." Canadian Journal of Political Science 54(4): 809-829. https://resolver-scholarsportal-info.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/resolve/00084239/v50i0001/13_tcjopsbo m.xml
- McDaniel, Susan A. and Amber Gazo. 2021. "COVID-19 in the Wake of the Great Recession in Canada and the U.S.: Reflections on Social Reproduction and Life Courses." Canadian Review of Sociology & Anthropology 58(4): 587-596. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/10.1111/cars.12360>
- Paterson, Stephanie and Francesca Scala. 2020. "Feminist Government or Governance Feminism? Exploring Feminist Policy Analysis in the Trudeau Era." In MacDonald, Fiona and Alexandra Dobrowolsky Eds. Turbulent Times, Transformational Possibilities? : Gender and politics Today and Tomorrow. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, pp. 49-67. **NOTE:** This book is available in electronic format from the Library. However, it was not possible to provide a hypertext link. Please follow the links to it in the York University Library catalogue.

Thursday August 10: Take Home Examination Assigned

Thursday August 17: Take Home Examination Due

***Note Wednesday August 10 is a so called end of term "study day". According to the rules, this day is supposed to be free, so you can study for exams. Therefore, I have had to move the start and end of the Take-Home Final Exam back one day so as to start on Thursday August 10.