Course Director: N. Sanders, PhD
Email: nsanders@yorku.ca

<u>Course Organization</u>: Please note this is an **online course.** The entire course, including the submission of assignments, discussion and assessments will take place online through York eclass. The course is organized weekly, with the expectation that students complete two classes per week to ensure timelines are met. While this course is delivered online, weekly videos, narrated lectures, discussion forums and Q&A formats will ensure engagement and some level of interaction. Please review this course outline which provides the expectations and requirements of the course as well as a weekly schedule.

<u>Virtual Office Hours:</u> Virtual office hours will be held on Wednesdays at 12 noon through phone or by Zoom.   Meetings must be booked in advance through an email request. Additional times may be offered as needed. Please know that Dr. Sanders is committed to your success in this course; please do not hesitate to contact me: nsanders@yorku.ca.

Technical requirements for taking the course:

While there are no scheduled zoom classes, students may require access to the zoom platform for meetings or office hours. Any direct meetings with your professor will be through Zoom. A stable, higher-speed Internet connection, a computer with webcam and microphone and/or a smart device with these features is needed. Students must use their passport YorkU sign in to access Zoom meetings and the eclass system.

Students shall note the following:

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the U.S. This includes recordings done through Zoom.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources and help:

Student Guide to Moodle

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

This course provides a systematic introduction to Canadian government and politics with a particular focus on political institutions. Topics will include the executive, the legislature, the judiciary, federalism, the policy process, electoral behavior, and group politics. Course credit exclusions: AP/POLS 2910 6.00, GL/POLS 2600 6.00, AP/POLS 2100 3.0. Previously offered as: AP/PPAS 2110 6.00.

Course Learning Objectives: Students will
- Describe the basic principles of the Canadian democratic regime, including the concept of responsible government
- Identify and describe major political and governmental structures, their functions and the connection between the institutions that collectively form our government
- Delineate the constitutional principles, forms and functions that are similar to those of the UK and those similar to the US
- Gain or further develop an understanding of elections and the functions of major political parties including ideology, organization, and fiscal regulations
- Define and describe key terms in the study of Canadian government providing examples or application to case studies
- Demonstrate ability to summarize and synthesize core concepts, think critically, and apply theoretical knowledge to an argument

Required Text: Malcolmson, P., Myers, R., Baier, G., Bateman, Thomas M.J. (2021). The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada, *Seventh Edition*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Evaluation Overview:

A detailed "Assignments" document will be available in eclass

Assessment Component	Due Date	Weight (% of final grade)
Reflection Response 1	May 18 6pm (EST)	25%
Reflection Response 2	June 8 6pm	25%
3 Discussion Forums	May 18, 25; June 20 6pm	15% (5% each)
Position Paper	June 12-15 6pm	35%

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York.

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2010-2011/academic/index.htm

York's grading scheme

Letter	Point Value	Percentage	Definition
A+	9	90-100	Exceptional
A	8	80-89	Excellent
B+	7	75-79	Very Good
B	6	70-74	Good
C+	5	65-69	Competent
C	4	60-64	Fairly Competent
D+	3	55-59	Passing
D	2	50-54	Barely Passing
E	1	40-49	Marginally Failing
F	0	0-39	Failing

Assignment Submission: Assignments are to be handed in through Turnitin in eclass. Students are required to save all work and may be asked to resubmit if any difficulties in submission arise.

Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Given the compressed timeline of a summer session course remaining on top of assignments is essential. Students may submit Reflection Papers and Discussion Forums at any point up until the due dates/closing dates as noted. Students are

encouraged to work ahead on weekly assignments to allow for adequate time for the development of your final Position Paper.

Lateness Penalty: Reflection Papers and final Position Papers received later than the due date will be penalized one half letter grade per day. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, extenuating circumstances, etc., may be entertained by the professor. The Discussion Forums close at 6pm on the dates noted.

Course Policies

Students are expected to demonstrate preparedness, attention to detail, engagement with the material and respectful engagement if interacting with each other.

Important Course Information for Students: Senate approved policies, procedures and regulations are available for your review at
https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/

Turnitin

To promote academic integrity in this course, students will be normally required to submit their written assignments to Turnitin (via eclass) for a review of textual similarity and the detection of possible plagiarism. In so doing, students will allow their material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used only for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

Academic honesty and integrity

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's Academic Integrity module at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty: Academic Honesty, Senate Policy on | Secretariat Policies (yorku.ca). Your lack of familiarity with the Senate Policy and Guidelines on Academic Honesty does not constitute a defense against their application. Some academic offences can also constitute offences under the Criminal Code of Canada, which means that you may also be subject to criminal charges.
More advice is available at https://www.glendon.yorku.ca/career-skills-centre/academic-intergrity/

How can you demonstrate academic integrity in the completion of your course?
- Respect the ideas of others: Your course work should represent your own knowledge and ideas. You should not falsely claim credit for ideas that are not your

own, by presenting another's work as yours. If you are quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing another person's work in order to support your own ideas, identify the

- work and the author through proper citation practices. For more information about how to cite properly, use the [Student Papers and Academic Research Kit](#) (SPARK). You can improve your writing, research, and personal learning abilities through the [Learning Commons](#).
- Respect your peers: Know when you are allowed to collaborate. Ask your instructor about what group work entails when it comes to the sharing of work. In test situations and assignments, don't steal or give answers to your peers. Cheating and aiding in a breach of academic honesty are both against York University's academic honesty policy.
- Respect your course instructor(s): Understand what the instructors are asking of you in class, in assignments, and in exams. If you are unsure, ask your professor or teaching assistant. They are committed to making you feel supported and want to assess you fairly and with integrity. Please do not submit the same piece of work for more than one course without your instructor's permission.
- Respect yourself: When you act with integrity, you know that your work is yours and yours alone. You do not allow others to impersonate you on tests and exams. You do not buy or otherwise obtain term papers or assignments. You do the work. As a result, you know that you *earned* the grades that you receive, so you can be proud of your York degree. By acting with integrity in your course work, you are also practicing a valuable professional skill that is important in all workplaces.
- Take responsibility: If you have acted in an academically dishonest way, you can demonstrate courage and take responsibility for your mistake. You can admit your mistake to your course instructor as soon as possible.

This Course Prohibits the use of Generative AI in Graded Assignments
In this course, all work should be completed by you and you alone. As such, you are not allowed to use generative artificial intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, GPT-3, DALL-E and other similar AI tools to help you complete any of your graded work in this course. If you do not know whether an online resource or tool can be used in this course, please contact me for guidance. Any use of generative AI in this course will be considered a breach of the *[Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#)*. Students are asked to keep all research notes and draft versions of your work. You may be asked to present these if it is suspected that an AI app was used to help complete your work. These drafts can be used to show how your work was developed and provide evidence that the work is your own. Additionally students may be asked to meet individually with the professor to discuss and demonstrate knowledge of the assignment.

Group Messaging Tools
Group messaging platforms, such as Discord or WhatsApp, can be helpful tools that connect students and support learning. However, such tools can lead to academic honesty violations when students share or use answers to homework tasks, quizzes, tests, or exams, or when students collaborate on individual assignments. According to *[York's Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#)* these behaviors may lead to a penalty. Moderators of these groups are required to clearly communicate the group's purpose

and to remind students of the expectations for academic honesty. Being a member of such a group is not a breach of academic honesty or any other university policy. However, if you witness academically dishonest behavior, it is strongly recommended that you leave the group. If you are unsure whether the behavior is a violation of academic honesty, check with your instructor. For detailed information about expectations for academic honesty, please refer to *York's Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.*

Contract Cheating

Contract cheating occurs when a third party completes a student's work, and the student then submits that work as their own. Third parties can include: freelance academic writers or tutors, online essay writing companies, friends, classmates, or even family members. Contract cheating is considered to be a serious type of academic dishonesty that carries severe penalties. Besides penalties imposed by the university, contracting a third party to complete academic work carries the additional risks of identity theft and blackmail. If you are unsure whether a certain resource is a legitimate source of help, check with your TA or instructor. For authorized resources and sources of help at York, please visit: https://www.yorku.ca/unit/vpacad/academic-integrity/student-resources/

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as misusing another person's published or unpublished work by presenting their ideas, writing or other intellectual property as one's own without proper acknowledgement (*Senate Policy on Academic Honesty*, section 2.1.3.). There are a number of acts that are considered to be plagiarism, for example:

• copying content word-for-word from a source without proper citation; • paraphrasing from a source without proper citation; submitting work you have already submitted for another course without the instructor's approval; • rewording someone else's work which you submit as your own;

• having a third party complete work in whole then submitting it as one's own (also known as contract cheating).

Although plagiarism is often thought to involve words and ideas, it can also involve drawings, paintings, photographs, programming code, statistics, presentations, musical scores, among other types of content. Even if the act of plagiarism was unintentional, you can still receive a penalty. To avoid plagiarism, keep good track of any outside sources you use, and ensure that you cite sources properly. For more help on how to avoid plagiarism, contact the Library, Writing Centre, or your instructor.

Accessibility

While all students are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to achieve excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to perform at their best. For

more information about this policy, please refer to these guidelines and procedures: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

The university encourages students with disabilities to register with [Student Accessibility Services](#) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term. An Accessibility Counsellor will help you establish recommended academic accommodations, which will then need to be communicated to your course instructor(s) as necessary. Please let the Course Instructor and Tutorial Leader know as early as possible in the term if you require academic accommodation so that your accommodation needs can be discussed and considered within the context of this course.

Intellectual Property Notice

Course materials should only be used by students enrolled in this course. As a student in this course, you may not publish, post on an Internet site, sell, or otherwise distribute any of this work without the instructor's express permission. Unauthorized or commercial use of these materials is strictly prohibited. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian copyright law. Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website, or online sharing of course material with people outside of the course) may lead to a charge of misconduct under York's [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) and the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#). In addition, you may face legal consequences for any violation of copyright.

Student Conduct

Students, course instructors and staff have a joint responsibility to create and maintain a welcoming and inclusive learning environment. All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). Whether online or in-person, students and course instructors are expected to cultivate and sustain a professional relationship characterized by mutual respect and courtesy. In all classrooms, any [disruptive and/or harassing behaviour](#) will not be tolerated. [Please respect the privacy of your peers and instructors. Never share private information about your peers and instructors without their permission. Remember, no aspect of your courses should be recorded or distributed without everyone's consent.](#)

Important Dates

Please note the following [important dates](#) for Summer 2022

- Summer Session 1 starts May 8
- There is a break for the 2023 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences is May 27-

June 2, 2023. The University remains open but no classes are held.

- Last date to add course is May 12, 2023
- Last date to drop course without receiving a grade is June 5, 2023

Module Organization:

This course is presented over a 6 week time period, consisting of 12 classes. Students should begin the course at Class 1 and complete each of the subsequent classes in sequence. While you can complete the classes at your own pace, it is important to schedule your time to ensure all readings and activities are completed prior to Quiz dates or assignment due dates.

Each module consists of the following:

- A short introductory video outlining key learning expectations, assignments and lecture highlights
- An assigned reading in your Text
- A lecture and/or narrated powerpoint
- Additional required readings; some optional readings/materials

2023	Summer Session 1 May 8 to June 23
Week 1 May 8 Class 1	Introductions, Course Outline, Assignments The Canadian Regime: Overview of principles similar to that of the UK and aspects that are similar to that of the US Malcolmson et al: Chapter 1 *Note: For all classes: Additional Readings and Resources are found in "Agenda&Organization" document and/or on eclass for the Week*
Week 1 Class 2	What is a Canadian? Issues that unite and divide The Constitution Malcolmson et al: Chapter 2; text pp201-203) Additional Readings and resources as per unit
Week 2 May 15 Class 3	Responsible Government Key roles and responsibilities (partisan and nonpartisan) The Crown: "Constitutional Monarch" Policy Making Process Malcolmson et al: Chapters 3 and 4 Additional Readings as per unit
Week 2 Class 4	The Canadian Parliamentary System Roles, conventions, business Calls for Reform Malcolmson et al: Chapter 5 Additional Readings **Submission of DF 1 and Reflection Paper 1 by May 18 6pm**

Week 3 May 22 Class 5	Elections and Political Parties: Terms, roles, operations Malcolmson et al: Chapter 6 and 7 Additional Readings and Resources
Week 3 Class 6	Federalism: Federal, Provincial, Municipal Governments Self-governing Indigenous Communities Malcolmson et al: Chapter 8 Additional Readings and Resources **Submission of DF 2 by May 25 6pm**
May 28- June 2	**Break**
Week 4 June 5 Class 7	Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms Malcolmson et al: Chapter 9 Additional Readings and Resources
Week 4 Class 8	Canadian Judiciary Malcolmson et al: Chapter 10 Additional Readings and Resources **Submission of Reflection Paper 2 by June 8 6pm**
Week 5 June 12 Class 9	Guest Speaker session Position Paper Consultations and completion Additional Readings and Resources
Week 5 Class 10	**Position Papers: Topic posted June 12 and submissions received up to June 15 6pm**
Week 6 June 19 Class 11 & 12	**Submission of DF3 due June 20** Course Closure -Special Topic(s) of Interest may be covered/updated Course Evaluations (online) completed (please contribute!) **Final date for acceptance of any course work (may be subjected to late penalties) is June 22 at 6pm**