

Canadian Government

AP/PPAS 2110 Section M
Winter 2026

Course Information

Course Instructor: Dr. Nancy Sanders
E-mail: nsanders@yorku.ca
Office Hours & Location: Before/After class;
as requested through email

Course Time & Days: Wed 10:30-12:20
Class Location: Stedman Lecture Hall A
Course eClass site: AP/PPAS 2110 M –
Canadian Government (Winter 2025-2026)

**Tutorials, Labs and TA Contact Information: Location is Victor Phillip Dahdaleh Bldg.
Please note Tutorials start Jan 14th**

Tutorial 1 DB 4	Wed 9:30-10:20	Jennifer Servos	jservos@yorku.ca
Tutorial 2 DB 9	Wed 9:30-10:20	Esra Ali	
Tutorial 3 DB4	Wed 1:30-2:20	Tarisai Mudiwa	mudiwat@yorku.ca
Tutorial 4 DB 9	Wed 1:30-2:20	Jennifer Servos	jservos@yorku.ca

Land Acknowledgment

York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region ([LA&PS Land Acknowledgement](#)).

Course Overview

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.

Pre-Requisites: none

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 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

Course Organization

Weekly lecture; one weekly tutorial with attendance

Instructor Office Hours and Communication Guidelines

Please reach out to Prof Sanders and/or Tutorial Leaders before or after class or book an appointment through email.

Required Course Materials

Course Learning Material	Cost	Availability
Required Text: Malcolmson, P., Myers, R., Baier, G., Bateman, Thomas M.J. (2021). The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada, <u>Seventh Edition</u>. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.	\$60 paperback; \$55 ebook. Prices may be subject to change.	This text is widely available, including through York U Bookstore. Students must ensure their text is 7th edition. No other editions of the text are acceptable as the course textbook.

Technical Requirements

Several platforms will be used in this course (e.g., eClass, Zoom, etc.) where students will interact with course materials, the course director/TA, as well as with each other.

Need technical help? Check out the following helpful links for information resources and support:

- [Student Guide to eClass](#)
- [Zoom@YorkU Best Practices](#)
- [Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide](#)
- [eLearning Getting Started](#) (LA&PS eServices)
- [Student Guide to Remote and Online Learning](#)

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as [Speedtest](#), that can be run. If you need technical assistance, please consult the [University Information Technology \(UIT\) Student Services](#) webpage or write to askit@yorku.ca.

Course Evaluations

Course Evaluation Chart

Assessment	Due Date	Weight %
Issue & Reflection Response 1	Jan 27 6pm	20%
Issue & Reflection Response 2	March 3 6pm	20%

Assessment	Due Date	Weight %
3 Discussion Forums	Close at 12 noon on the Tues before Wed Class DF1 Feb 3 noon DF2 Feb 10 noon DF3 Feb 24 noon	15% (5% each)
Final Position Paper	March 19 noon	30%
Tutorial Grade (Attendance & Participation)		15%
		100%

Assessment Descriptions

There is a separate “Assignments” document for this course available on eclass.

How to Submit Assessments

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. Students may submit Reflection Papers and Discussion Forums at any point up until the due dates/closing dates as noted.

Late Work Policy

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 tutorial leaders. The Discussion Forums **close at 12 noon** on the dates noted (please work ahead on DF's as the closing times are final – no extensions).

new Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Missed Coursework effective Fall 2025

Missed Assessments, Tests and Exams

Missed assessments should be discussed well in advance with your tutorial leaders who may consult with the Professor.

How to Use Citations in this Course

All sources must be properly cited. Citations promote academic accountability, gives credit to the original authors, and helps to avoid plagiarism. For this course students are asked to use APA or MLA Style formatting. Regardless of format, students **must** include page numbers for in-text citations). The following links may be helpful to students:

Resources to help with citations:

- [I need to cite and reference](#), Learning Commons
- [Drop-in Research Support](#), York U Libraries
- [Writing Centre](#)
- [Student Papers & Academic Research Kit \(SPARK\)](#)

Grading

The grading scheme for this course confirms to the 9-point system used in undergraduate programs at York University. For a full description of the York grading system, visit the York University [Academic Calendar](#).

Grade	Grade Point	Percent Range	Description
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	Marginally Passing
E	1	40–49	Marginally Failing
F	0	0–39	Failing

Course Schedule

Important Dates

Explore York University's [Registrar's Office](#) to find a list of important dates, such as class start/end dates, drop deadlines, holidays and more.

Course Policies

Please review the course policies in this section. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

- [Student Rights & Responsibilities](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)

Academic Integrity and Conduct

Academic integrity is a fundamental and important value of York University. To maintain a fair and honest learning environment, you are responsible for understanding and upholding academic integrity in all courses and academic activities. You are encouraged to connect with reliable [on-campus resources](#) that support your coursework and academic honesty. To better understand the serious consequences of breaching academic honesty policies, familiarize yourself with the [Senate Policy on Academic Conduct](#). You can learn more about upholding academic integrity in your courses by exploring [SPARK: Academic Integrity Module](#), [LA&PS Academic Honesty](#) and [Academic Integrity for Students](#).

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)

Students are not permitted to use generative artificial intelligence (AI) in this course. Submitting any work created (in whole or part) through the use of generative AI tools will be considered a violation of York University's [Senate Policy on Academic Conduct](#). Using AI apps such as Microsoft Copilot, ChatGPT, DALL-E, translation software among others to complete academic work **without your instructor's knowledge or permission**, is considered a breach under York's Academic Conduct Policy. For more information, please review [AI Technology & Academic Integrity: Information for Students](#).

If you're not sure whether using an AI app for your academic work is acceptable, it is recommended that you:

- Carefully review the guidelines for your assessments
- Check for any messages from your instructor on eClass
- Ask your instructor or TA if they are permitting the use of these tools

Students are asked to keep all research notes and draft versions of their 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 tutorial leader and/or professor to discuss and demonstrate knowledge of the assignment through future written or verbal assessments.

Turnitin

To promote academic integrity in this course, you will normally be required to submit your written assignments to Turnitin (on the course's eClass site) for a review of textual similarities and the detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, you are allowing your 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](#). York students may opt out of using Turnitin. If you wish to opt out, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible.

Accessibility

York University is committed to creating a learning environment which provides equal opportunity to all members of its community. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this course, please discuss your concerns with your instructor as early as possible. For students with disabilities, contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) to coordinate academic accommodations and services. Accommodations will be communicated to Course Directors through a Letter of Accommodation (LOA). Accommodations for tests/exams normally require three (3) weeks (or 21 days) before the scheduled test/exam to arrange. To learn more, please visit [Accommodated Exam/Test Scheduling](#).

Religious Observance Accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community and making reasonable and appropriate [accommodations to adherents for observances of days of religious significance](#). Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for course assignments, tests, or deadlines conflict with a date of religious significance, please contact the instructor not less than two (2) weeks (or 14 days) prior to the date for which accommodation is sought. If the requested accommodation is for an exam or falls within the formal examination periods, you must complete and submit a [Religious Accommodation Agreement \(PDF\)](#) at least three (3) weeks (or 21 days) before the start of the exam period.

Academic Consideration for Missed Course Work

This policy applies to course assessments worth 20% or less of your overall course grade and does not apply to exams held during the final examination period. Students may self-declare two (2) 7-day consideration periods each 12-week term and one (1) 7-day consideration period per six-week term. An Attending Physician's Statement (APS) is not required for these self-declared absences. However, an instructor may request a signed APS for the final examination period, coursework worth more than 20% of the course grade and missed work outside of the self-declared academic consideration period(s).

Students can submit their self-declaration(s) for academic consideration [using eClass](#). Students are then responsible for contacting the instructor no later than two (2) business days after the end of the consideration period(s) to arrange details of any accommodation for missed coursework. If you do not do this, you may get a zero (0) on the missed work. Where courses have built-in accommodations already established, the instructor may decline providing additional accommodations under this policy. For further details, please review the [Policy on Academic Consideration for Missed Course Work](#).

Intellectual Property

Course materials are designed for use as part of this particular course at York University and are the intellectual property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. 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. Students may not publish, post on an Internet site, sell, or otherwise distribute any course materials or work without the instructor's express permission. Course materials should only be used by students enrolled in this course.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g., uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a charge of misconduct according to York's [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#), the [Senate Policy on Academic Conduct](#), and/or legal consequences for copyright violations.

Student Support and Resources

York University offers a wide range of student supports resources and services, including everything from writing workshops and peer mentorship to wellness support and career guidance. Explore the links below to access these on-campus resources:

- [Academic Advising](#) is available to provide students support and guidance in making academic decisions and goals.
- [Student Accessibility Services](#) are available for support and accessibility accommodation when required.
- [Student Counselling, Health & Wellbeing](#) offers workshops, resources and counselling to support your personal wellness and academic success.
- [Peer-Assisted Study Sessions \(PASS\) Program](#) provides free study sessions where students collaborate and enhance their understanding of course content in select courses.
- [Student Numeracy Assistance Centre at Keele \(SNACK\)](#) supports students in courses involving math, statistics, coding and Excel.
- [The Writing Centre](#) provides multiple avenues of writing-based support including drop-in sessions, one-to-one appointments, a Multilingual Studio and an Accessibility Specialist.
- [Centre for Indigenous Student Services](#) offers a community space with academic, spiritual, cultural and physical support, including writing and learning skills programs.

- [ESL Open Learning Centre \(OLC\)](#) supports students with building proficiency in reading, writing and speaking English.
- [Learning Skills Services](#) offers workshops, resources and tips on learning-related topics like time management, note-taking, studying and exam prep.
- [Learning Commons](#) links to supports for writing, learning skills, career development, exam preparation and other learning-related resources.
- [Roadmap to Student Success](#) is a collection of timely and targeted resources to help students achieve academic, personal and professional success at different stages of their university journey.
- [Office of Student Community Relations \(OSCR\)](#) is responsible for administering the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) and provides critical incident and conflict resolution support.
- [Peer Mentorship](#) helps students transition through their first year by connecting them with upper-year students. The mentors can help students find supports and resources. They also lead a community hub on campus.
- [goSAFE](#) is staffed by York students and can accompany York community members to and from any on-campus location, such as the Village Shuttle pick-up hub, parking lots, bus stops or residences.

For a full list of academic, wellness and campus resources visit [Student Support & Resources](#).

new [Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Missed Coursework](#) effective Fall 2025

Weekly Course Schedule

Week	Readings and Activities	Assessment Due Dates	Tutorial Focus
Jan 7 Class 1	No tutorial Lecture Class 1: Introduction: Course Outline, Assignments The Canadian Regime (Malcolmson et al) Chapter 1		
Jan 14 Class 2	Tutorials begin Class 2: What does it mean to be a Canadian? Issues that unite/divide. Malcolmson et al Chapter 2; text pp 201-203.		
Jan 21 Class 3	Class 3: Responsible Government Key roles/responsibilities; partisan/nonpartisan	Issue & Reflection paper#1	

Week	Readings and Activities	Assessment Due Dates	Tutorial Focus
	The Crown as “Constitutional Monarch” Policy Making Process Malcolmson et al Chapters 3&4	Jan 27 6pm	
Jan 28 Class 4	The Canadian Parliamentary System: Roles, conventions, business. Calls for Reform Malcolmson et al Chapter 5	DF1 Feb 3 noon	
Feb 4 Class 5	Elections & Political Parties: Terms, roles, operations Malcolmson et al Chapters 6 & 7	DF2 Feb 10 noon	
Feb 11 Class 6	Federalism: Federal, Provincial, Municipal Governments Self-governing Indigenous Communities Malcolmson et al Chapter 8	DF 3 Feb 24 noon	
Feb 25 Class 7	The Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms Malcolmson et al Chapter 9	Issue & Reflection paper#2 March 3 6pm	
March 4 Class 8	The Canadian Judiciary Malcolmson et al Chapter 10		
March 11 Class 9	Review and Organization for final assignment in Tutorial (on Zoom) No lecture class		
March 18 Class 10	No class: students working on final position paper	Position Paper March 19 noon	
March 25 Class 11	Closing Lecture (Zoom) Closing Tutorial – please check with your individual tutorial leader		