Political Science 120

September 2021

|  |
| --- |
| Teacher |
| **Sam Wakefield**  |

# General Information

## Key Questions

What is power?

Who has power and why?

How can government best serve the needs of the people?

How are governments chosen and laws made in Canada?

What role do citizens and the media play in the making and enforcing of laws?

## Target Skills

Thinking Skills

* Understanding Current Events
* Analyzing cause and consequence
* Reading for understanding
* Interpreting primary sources

Communication Skills

* Public speaking
* Writing skills
* Group work
* Presenting arguments

## Expectations and Goals

As a Grade 12 elective, the assumption is that each student has chosen to participate in this class. Some will come with very little political understanding and some with very developed political understanding and views. Whatever your starting point, the expectation is you arrive with a growth mindset and are willing to participate in discussion, listen closely to your peers, and put forth full effort and focus on our day-to-day activities.

Students will be keeping portfolios of their work in order to present both their proficiency and growth in a term-end conference.

## Required Materials

Three Ring Binder (if necessary for organization, please have a separate binder for each of your classes)

A writing utensil.

A Hilroy or similar notebook for journaling.

\*Each student will have a folder set up in the classroom for storing materials, as well.

# Topics to be covered

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| Political Philosophy | **Canada/US Relations** |
| Classical and Alternate Ideologies | **Public Opinion Polling** |
| Canadian Government | **Provincial Politics** |
| Democracy | **International Relations** |
| Media Literacy | **Life of a Bill** |
| Indigenous Governance | **Political Activism** |

# Grading

| Formative |  | Summative |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Journals (OBV)* |  |  Midterm 1 (MP)  |
| *Classroom discussion (CON)* |  |  Midterm 2 (MP) |
| *Informal conferencing (CON)*  |  |  Summative 1 (CON) |
| *Socratic circles (CON)* |  |  Summative 2 (CON) |
| *Self- and peer-evaluation (OBV)* |  |  Final Project (MP) |
| *Regular quizzes (OBV)* |  |  Final conference and Portfolio (MP) |
| *Article Response (OBV)* |  |  Final Essay  |

**Observations 25% Conversations 25% Major Products 25%**

**Final Essay 25%**

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

**Do you have a Question? Ask it.**

**Do you have work to do? Focus on it.**

**Do you have an idea? Share it.**

**Do you need any help? Look for it.**

**Have you been given a suggestion to help you grow? Try it. Can you make a positive contribution to the class and to your classmates? Do it.**