

PPOL 619 - Governance, Institutions and Public Policy Course Outline

Course:	PPOL 619 - Governance, Institutions and Public Policy	Term:	Winter 2018
Time:	Tuesdays, 5 – 8pm	Section:	01
Instructor:	Dr. Mark Harding	Place:	Nexen Technology and Conference Center, Rm 520 DTC (Downtown Campus: 5th Floor, 906-8th Avenue SW)
Office:	TBA	Telephone:	TBA
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 4-5pm	E-mail:	mshardin@ucalgary

Required Course Reading:

- Bateman, Thomas M.J., Janet L. Hiebert, Rainer Knopff, and Peter H. Russell (2017), *The Court and the Constitution: Leading Cases* 2nd edition. Toronto: Emond Publishing.

Desire2Learn:

Desire2Learn (D2L), a web-based course management tool, will be used in the course. Students registered in this course can log in at: <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/>. I will frequently use to communicate with you.

Course Description:

The institutional rules governing policy formulation and implementation, which are themselves important public policies, are under constant negotiation and adjustment. A key objective of PPOL 619 is to familiarize students with how public policy is affected by the pervasive politics of institutional modification and interpretation about such matters as

- the rule of law,
- jurisdictional boundaries (e.g., federalism and international agreements)
- intra-branch relations (e.g., between the political and bureaucratic parts of the executive branch),
- inter-branch relations (e.g., between the executive and legislative branches, and between the parliamentary and judicial branches),
- and state/non-state relations.

By the end of the course, students should be able to effectively communicate, in both oral and written form, about these institutional debates and understand how they shape the way Canadians govern and are governed.

Classes and Readings:

Classes will consist of a combination of formal lectures, class discussions, and special guest presentations. In addition to the assigned textbook, other materials and/or links to such materials posted to D2L. The reading schedule will be updated throughout the term via D2L.

Grade Determination:

Participation	20%
Midterm examination	25% (Week 6, February 13th)
Essay assignment	25% (due March 30th)
Final examination	30% (scheduled by the Registrar)

Further instruction on methods of submission and due dates will be provided in class and on D2L.

Participation

Throughout the term you will have the opportunity to discuss and think critically about assigned readings, course topics, and guest speaker presentations. Class will be **participatory**, focusing on the materials assigned on D2L for that week's lecture. Although there will be times where you break into smaller groups during class, your participation evaluation will be assessed *individually*. You will be asked questions on the assigned readings, and asked to contribute to classroom discussion. You will be evaluated based on your ability to demonstrate your knowledge of the assigned readings. This assessment will favour quality of discussion and participation over quantity.

Being prepared during class is a critical part of PPOL 619. Students are expected to have completed the readings and be active participants in discussions that might follow.

Finally, **attendance** in class is necessary in order to do well in this course. If you are not present, you are not able participate during in-class discussion. If you regularly miss class, you will not do well on this component of the overall grade.

Midterm Examination

This **closed-book** test will evaluate the students' knowledge of the course material covered in the assigned readings, lectures, and discussions. It will consist of a combination of short answer questions and essay questions.

Essay Assignment

The essay will be no longer than 4,000 words (excluding citations and bibliography). The essay will give students the opportunity to engage the course material in more detail and can focus on topic of their choosing. Students can explore some aspect of their capstone project in the paper assignment. However, it will need to focus on an *institutional* aspect of that topic. An assignment

hand-out will be posted on D2L with more details. This assignment will be submitted digitally via the D2L Dropbox. The essay is due **March 30th**. Late assignments will receive -5% of the paper grade per day late (including weekends).

Final Exam

The final exam date will be scheduled by the Registrar during the exam period. It is closed-book and will consist of a combination of essay and short answer questions. The exam is **cumulative**. It will focus on the material covered since the midterm test.

Grading: Letter grades as described in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar (see section E.1 of Calendar online) will be given for all elements of grade determination noted above. The course grade will be determined based on a weighted average of those grades according to the percentages shown above. In the event that elements are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, they will be converted to letter grades. As a guide to determining standing, the following letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	97-100	B	75-79	C-	60-62
A	90-96	B-	70-74	D+	55-59
A-	85-89	C+	67-69	D	50-54
B+	80-84	C	63-66	F	0-49

Important Notes:

- The School of Public Policy expects the highest standards of professional conduct by students, faculty and staff. Abusive or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. This includes any expression of prejudice in any of its forms.
- It is the student's responsibility to be fully aware of the academic regulations outlined in the University Of Calgary Faculty Of Graduate Studies Calendar. Provisions regarding Student Misconduct (plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct) will be strictly enforced. Please review the University of Calgary's Regulations on Plagiarism, Cheating and Other Academic Misconduct, online:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>
- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) must discuss their work with the Instructor *within fifteen days* of the work being returned to the class. If not satisfied the student shall immediately take the matter to the Director of the MPP program or the Academic Director of the School and ask for a ruling and written reassessment. Should the student wish a further appeal it must be addressed to the Director and Palmer Chair of the School within 15 days of the ruling by the MPP Director or the Academic Director. For further information see the School of Public Policy Student Appeals Process at: <http://www.policyschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Student-Academic-Appeals.pdf>
- Examinations will not be given prior to the scheduled date.
- Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and

accommodations for students with disabilities, Visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

- All material used in this course is for the sole use of the individual and should not be recopied in either print or digital format. For copyright guidelines, including those relating to photocopying and electronic copies, please refer to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) fair dealing guidelines.
<http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright/fair-dealing>
- The University of Calgary complies with the requirements of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*. The University's policy on the sharing of student information with third parties can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/pg-pi-of-students-to-3rd-parties.pdf>. The University's policy on the sharing of student information with the subject can be found here:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/pg-pi-of-student-to-subject.pdf>
- In the event of an emergency, students may be required to evacuate the building. If evacuation is ordered, follow these procedures:
 - Stay calm, do not rush, and do not panic.
 - Safely stop your work.
 - Gather your personal belongings if it is safe to do so. (keys, purses, jackets, cell phones, etc. It may be hours before you are allowed back in the building.)
 - If safe, close your office door and window, but do not lock them.
 - If directed by wardens, follow their instructions.
 - Use the closest emergency exit. Do not use the elevator.
 - Proceed to the designated Emergency Assembly point in front of the Holiday Inn on 8th avenue to the west of the Downtown Campus.
 - Do not re-enter the building or work area until you have been advised by emergency responders that it is safe to do so.

Graduate Students' Union Vice-President, Academic

Negar Mohammadi

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Graduate Students Association

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Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

CANADA

Tel: 403 220-5997

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Emergency Assembly Point

Holiday Inn Lobby (weather permitting)

1020 8th Avenue SW

Calgary, Alberta T2P 1J2

Or remain at nearest exit point

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Mansell". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "R" and a cursive "Mansell".