



# Governance (GOVN) 301

**Governance, the Public Sector and Corporate Power** (Revision 3)

**Delivery mode:** Individualized study online [↗](#)

**Credits:** 3

**Areas of study:** Arts or Social Science

**Prerequisites:** None; however, a previous course in political science, public policy, or public administration/management is recommended. This is a senior course and as such students are expected to have advanced analytical and writing skills.

**Precluded:** POLI 301. GOVN 301 is a cross-listed course—a course listed under 2 different disciplines—with **POLI 301** [↗](#). (GOVN 301 may not be taken for credit by students who have obtained credit for POLI 301).

**Challenge:** GOVN 301 has a challenge for credit option.

**Faculty:** Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences [↗](#)

**Status:**

Replaced with new revision, see the **course listing** [↗](#) for the current revision **✕**

## Overview

*GOVN 301: Governance, the Public Sector and Corporate Power* explores the changing relationships between business, society, and government in contemporary Canada. It examines the changing patterns of governance; the position of corporate Canada in society's power structure; the phenomenon of globalization and the international extension of business power; the role of the mass media in shaping culture and dominant ideas within society; the restructuring of economic and social policy; constitutional change; the marketization of the state; the transformation of citizens into customers; and the increased threat to social cohesion. Finally, it considers the future of the public sector in Canada.

## Outline

The course consists of the following eight units.

- Unit 1: Introduction to Changing Patterns of Governance: Exploring the Course Themes
- Unit 2: The Business-Government-Society Relationship
- Unit 3: Free Trade, Globalization, and the Canadian State
- Unit 4: Regulation, De-Regulation, and State Restructuring
- Unit 5: Technology, the Media, and Democratic Governance in the Twenty-First Century

- Unit 6: Public Sector Reform: The New Public Management and the Privatization of Social Responsibility
- Unit 7: Civic Society, Partnerships, and the Voluntary Sector
- Unit 8: Governance in a Global Era: Crisis Management and Social Cohesion in Canada

## Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for GOVN 301, you must complete all of the assignments, achieve a mark of at least 50 per cent on the final examination, and obtain a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** [↗](#). The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Paper 1	10%
Midterm Test	20%
Paper 2	30%
Final Exam	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

The **final examination** for this course must be taken online with an AU-approved exam invigilator at an approved invigilation centre. It is your responsibility to ensure your chosen invigilation centre can accommodate online exams. For a list of invigilators who can accommodate online exams, visit the **Exam Invigilation Network** [↗](#).

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).

# Materials

McBride, Stephen, and Heather Whiteside. 2011. *Private Affluence, Public Austerity: Economic Crises & Malaise in Canada*. Halifax, Winnipeg: Fernwood Publishing.  (Print)

## Other materials

All other materials are online, including study guides, and electronic readings and videos.



# Challenge for credit

## Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about **challenge for credit**  can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

## Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for the GOVN 301 challenge registration, you must complete all required components, and achieve an overall grade of at least **D (50 percent)** .

Activity	Weight
Written Assignment 1	10%
Written Assignment 2	10%
Written Assignment 3	10%

Activity	Weight
Exam	70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Challenge for credit course registration form**

## Important links

- › **Academic advising** [↗](#)
- › **Program planning** [↗](#)
- › **Request assistance** [↗](#)
- › **Support services** [↗](#)

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

*Opened in Revision 3, January 14, 2014*

*Updated March 13, 2023*

View **previous revision** [↗](#)

---