



# Political Science (POLI) 291

## Media and Power in Canadian Society (Revision 2)

**Status:** Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#) for the current revision ✖

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

**Credits:** 3

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

**Prerequisites:** None

**Precluded:** POLI 291 is a cross-listed course—a course listed under two different disciplines—with **CMNS 202**. POLI 291 may not be taken for credit by students who have obtained credit for CMNS 202.

**Challenge:** POLI 291 is not available for challenge.

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

## Overview

Canada's mass media have played a particularly significant role in the country's development as a distinct nation. The course is structured around issues of media power in Canadian life. It examines aspects of the Canadian experience in the context of current perspectives on national and international media developments.

## Outline

### Part I: Introduction to the Study of Communication and Power in Canada

- Unit 1: What Makes Communications in Canada Unique?
- Unit 2: Understanding the Relationship Between Communication and Power
- Unit 3: Representation and Cultural Identity

### Part II: Media Industries and Their Powers

- Unit 4: The Media Industries
- Unit 5: Public Broadcasting

- Unit 6: Communication Rights and Restraints Part 1 – Communication as a Human Right and Media Reform
- Unit 7: Communication Rights and Restraints Part 2 – Protection of Privacy and Intellectual Property Rights

### Part III: Regulating and Challenging Media Power

- Unit 8: Communication Policy and the CRTC
- Unit 9: Alternative Media

### Part IV: Digital Transformations and the Power of Networks

- Unit 10: Canada as a Network Society
- Unit 11: Convergence
- Unit 12: Critical Questions for Big Data

## Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for POLI 291, you must complete all of the assignments and achieve a minimum composite course grade of **D (50 percent)** [📊](#). The chart below summarizes the course activities and the credit weight associated with each assignment.

Activity	Weight
Assignment 1	20%
Assignment 2	20%
Assignment 3	20%
Assignment 4	20%
Assignment 5	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

## Materials

This course either does not have a course package or the textbooks are open-source material and available to students at no cost. This course has a **Course Administration and Technology Fee** [↗](#), but students are not charged the Course Materials Fee.

Kozolanka, Kirsten, Patricia Mazepa, and David Skinner. *Alternative Media in Canada*. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press, 2014. [📖](#) (eBook)

### Other Materials

The course materials also include an online study guide and course manual.

## 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 2, June 11, 2019*

*Updated November 6, 2023*

View [previous revision](#)

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