



Political Science (POLI) 309

Canadian Government and Politics (Revision 7)

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

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

Credits: 3

Areas of study: Arts or Social Science

Prerequisites: None

Precluded: POLI 309 cannot be taken for credit if credit has already been obtained in POLI 260.

Challenge: POLI 309 has a challenge for credit option.

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

Notes: Detailed Syllabus [📄](#)

Overview

POLI 309 provides an introduction to the basic structures and processes of government and politics in Canada and will help the student describe, explain, analyze, and assess contemporary issues and events in Canada.

Outline

Part 1: Introduction

- Unit 1: Studying Canadian Government and Politics
- Unit 2: Setting the Context: Governing in a Global World

Part 2: The Societal Context

- Unit 3: Political Culture, Political Socialization, and Canadian Political Identity
- Unit 4: Regional, Economic, and Class Cleavages
- Unit 5: Indigenous Peoples
- Unit 6: French Canada and the Quebec Question
- Unit 7: Gender, Multiculturalism, and Representation

Part 3: Governing

- Unit 8: The Constitutional Context
- Unit 9: The Parliamentary System
- Unit 10: The Executive
- Unit 11: The Bureaucracy
- Unit 12: The Judiciary

Part 4: Linking People to Government

- Unit 13: Civil Society: Interest Groups, Social Movements, and the Voluntary Sector
- Unit 14: Political Parties
- Unit 15: Elections and the Electoral System

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for POLI 309, you must complete the following assignments and the final exam. You must achieve a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** [📄](#) and a grade of D (50 percent) or better on the final examination. The weighting of the assignments is as follows:


Activity	Weight
Assignment 1: Discussion Postings	10%
Assignment 2: Short Essay	20%
Assignment 3: Annotated Bibliography	10%
Assignment 4: Research Essay	25%
Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

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

Cochrane, C., Blidook, K., & Dyck, R. (2017). *Canadian politics: Critical approaches* (8th ed.). Nelson.  (eText)

Bickerton, J., & Gagnon, A-G. (Eds.). (2019). *Canadian politics* (7th ed.). University of Toronto Press.  (Print)

eText

Registration in this course includes an electronic textbook. For more information on **electronic textbooks** , please refer to our **eText Initiative site** .

Other Materials

All other materials are available online.


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 POLI 309 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least **D (50 percent)**  on the examination.



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 7, March 9, 2021

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View **previous revision** 
