

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: POSC 313		Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)													
Course Full Title: Truth and Power: Contemporary Political Thought Course Short Title: Contemporary Political Thought															
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences		Department (or program if no department): Political Science													
Calendar Description: Explores contemporary political theory from the beginning of the 20th century to the current moment. Includes diverse perspectives on democracy, truth, freedom, justice, coloniality, representation, ideology, governmentality, and power.															
Prerequisites (or NONE):		One of POSC 120, POSC 311, POSC 312, or 45 university-level credits.													
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):															
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):															
Antirequisite Courses <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i> Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>		Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every other year Maximum enrolment (for information only): 28													
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total hours</td> <td>45</td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	45									Total hours	45	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.	
Lecture/seminar	45														
Total hours	45														
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Transfer Credit <i>(See bctransferguide.ca.)</i> Transfer credit already exists: No Submit outline for (re)articulation: Yes <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>													
Department approval		Date of meeting: November 2023													
Faculty Council approval		Date of meeting: January 12, 2024													
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval		Date of meeting: March 1, 2024													

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explicate the major themes and thinkers in contemporary political theory.
2. Distinguish the major trends in contemporary political thought,
3. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of different currents of contemporary political theory.
4. Evaluate the applicability of contemporary political theory for engaging current political events and challenges.
5. Analyze Indigenous and anti-colonial theory.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	30%	Assignments:	70%	%
	%		%	%

Details:

Assignments:

Critical analysis paper (short): 20%

Critical analysis paper (long): 40%

Participation (class discussion, active listening, and group discussion): 10%

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lecture, seminar discussion, group presentations

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	John Rawls	A Theory of Justice, Revised Edition, Cambridge	1999
2. Textbook	Michel Foucault	Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison, Vintage	1995
3. Textbook	Iris Marion Young	Justice and the Politics of Difference, Princeton	2011
4. Textbook	Charles Taylor	The Politics of Recognition, Princeton	1994
5. Indigenous knowledge	Glen Coulthard	Subjects of Empire: Indigenous Peoples and the 'Politics of Recognition' in Canada, Contemporary Political Theory	2007

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics**

- Introduction to contemporary political thought
- Liberal political theory
- Hermeneutics, interpretation, and understanding
- Habermas and deliberative democracy
- Foucault and discursive power
- Ideology, Marxism, and post-Marxism
- Gender and feminist political thought
- Race and anti-colonial thought
- Indigenous and decolonial political thought
- Judgment and rhetoric
- Recognition and its critics
- Constructivism
- Comparative political thought