



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2006
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2024
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): March 2030
 Course outline form version: 28/10/2022

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

Course Code and Number: PSYC 368	Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)										
Course Full Title: Political Psychology Course Short Title: Political Psychology											
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	Department (or program if no department): Psychology										
Calendar Description: Surveys the interdisciplinary field of political psychology. Students will apply psychological concepts—drawn from personality theory, cognition, and group dynamics—to understand political phenomena. Students reflect on how psychological theory can be used to understand current and historic political events.											
Prerequisites (or NONE):	45 university-level credits including two of the following: PSYC 101, PSYC 102, POSC 100, POSC 110, POSC 120, or POSC 230.										
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	NONE										
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	NONE										
Antirequisite Courses (<i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i>) Former course code/number: PSYC 491F Cross-listed with: N/A Equivalent course(s): N/A <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: Annually Maximum enrolment (for information only): 25										
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total hours</td> <td style="text-align: center;">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 (See bctransferguide.ca) Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: No <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>										
Department approval	Date of meeting: November 2023										
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: December 8, 2023										
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. Apply psychological concepts from personality theory, cognition, the study of emotions and attitude, and group dynamics to help understand current and historic political phenomena.
2. Discuss political psychological theorizing about leadership, voting, social movements, security issues, nationalism, and social capital.
3. Analyze political ideology from a psychological perspective.
4. Use psychological theory to explain intergroup conflict and tolerance (e.g., race relations).
5. Evaluate the separate roles played by person variables and situation variables in evoking political behaviour.
6. Critically analyze political communication from a psychological perspective.
7. Reflect on how identities (including gender and ethnicity) influence people's access to and involvement in political institutions.

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

Final exam:	35%	Quizzes/tests:	30%	%
Assignments:	30%	Project:	5%	%

Details:

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.)*

May include lectures, seminars, videos, individual or group projects.

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. Journal	Feinberg, M. & Willer, R.	Moral reframing: A technique for effective and persuasive communication across political divides / Personality Psychology Compass	2019
2. Journal	Raynauld, V., Richez, E., & Morris, K. B.	Canada is #IdleNoMore: Exploring dynamics of Indigenous political and civic protest in the Twitterverse / Information, Communication, and Society	2018
3. Journal	Petersen, M. B., & Laustsen, L.	Dominant leaders and the political psychology of followership / Current Opinion in Psychology	2020
4. Journal	Doosje, B., Moghaddam, F. M., Kruglanski, A. W., de Wolf, A., Mann, L., Feddes, A. R.	Terrorism, radicalization and deradicalization / Current Opinion in Psychology	2016
5. Journal	Mutz, C.C.	The consequences of cross-cutting networks for political participation	2002

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

No special materials required.

Course Content and Topics

- Chimpanzee politics
- Processes of decision-making (game theory, rationality, heuristics)
- Personality and political orientation
- Emotion and moralization
- Voting and political engagement
- Social identities and the formation of social movements
- Political psychology of groups and polarization
- Political leaders (leadership styles, gender roles)
- Media and misinformation
- Race, ethnicity, and intergroup relations
- Political extremism and terrorism
- Security and conflict
- Social capital