



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

January 2011

REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

September 2026

COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval):

January 2032

Course outline form version: 26/01/2024

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

Course Code and Number: POSC 301	Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)												
Course Full Title: Indigenous Politics in Canada													
Course Short Title: Indigenous Politics in Canada													
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	Department (or program if no department): Political Science												
Calendar Description: Explores the relationships among Indigenous nations and between Indigenous nations and settler-state governments, through a focus on the politics and practices of Indigenous self-determination in Canada.													
Prerequisites (or NONE):	45 university-level credits.												
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):													
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):													
Antirequisite Courses (Cannot be taken for additional credit.) 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
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													
Department approval	Date of meeting: November 2025												
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: December 5, 2025												
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting: January 30, 2026												

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. Analyze the relationship between the institutional framework of Canadian law, Aboriginal law, and Canadian federalism and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit experiences with the Canadian state
2. Distinguish Indigenous understandings of relevant concepts including colonialism, self-determination, self-government, sovereignty, treaties, Indigeneity, Indigenous law, reconciliation, and resurgence.
3. Analyze recent events relevant to Indigenous politics and activism in Canada
4. Assess the impacts of international law for Indigenous Peoples in Canada
5. Integrate Indigenous voices, knowledges, and research methods into their own study of Indigenous politics
6. Evaluate the contributions and impacts of Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars to understanding Indigenous politics in Canada.

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

Assignments:	90%	Holistic assessment:	10%	%
	%		%	%

Details: Seminar discussion (10%), reflection paper I (20%), reflection paper II (20%), research question (5%), research paper thesis and plan (5%), research presentation (10%), research paper (30%)

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.*)

Methods will vary with instructors, but will typically include short lectures, seminar discussion, audio-visual presentations, and films (e.g. 'Finding Dawn' or 'Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance'), and talks by guest speakers including Indigenous Elders, activists, and leaders.

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. Online resource	Andersen, C.	"Métis": Race, Recognition, and the Struggle for Indigenous Peoplehood. Vancouver: UBC Press	2014
2. Online resource	Craft, A. (Stark, H.K., A. Craft & H.K. Aikau, eds.)	"Thawing the Frozen Rights Theory: On Rejecting Interpretations of Reconciliation and Resurgence That Define Indigenous People as Frozen in a Pre-colonial Past." In: Indigenous Resurgence in an Age of Reconciliation. Toronto: Univ of Toronto Press. 96-111.	2023
3. Online resource	Jesperson, J. & S. Wesley	'Waking to Dream': The Life Stories of Saylesh Wesley, Trans Stó:lō Elder-to-Be." TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly 10(3-4): 265-300.	2023
4. Online resource	Nickel, S. A.	Assembling Unity: Indigenous Politics, Gender, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. Vancouver: UBC Press.	2019
5. Online resource	Scottie, J., W. Bernauer, & J. Hicks	I Will Live for Both of Us: A History of Colonialism, Uranium Mining and Inuit Resistance. Winnipeg: Univ of Manitoba Press.	2022

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

- Introduction to Indigenous relations with the Canadian state
- Writing about Indigenous Peoples' politics in Canada
- Indigenous self-determination in Canada
- Treaties and the Modern Treaty process
- Gender, sexuality, and Indigenous politics in Canada
- First Nations' political activism, recent history
- First Nations political activism in British Columbia in context
- From "Aboriginalism" to Indigenous rights: Canadian laws, social structures, and Indigenous Peoples
- Métis Nationhood and Canadian politics
- Inuit politics and resource extraction in Nunavut
- Urban Indigenous politics
- (Re)conciliation, resurgence, and self-determination