

History 351 (Fall 2007)

Dr. Pat Brennan

A History of Canadian Politics

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Course Description:

In History 351 we shall explore key aspects of the development of Canadian political life from the late 19th century through the recent past. Major themes discussed will include the emergence and changing roles of parties, the impact of federalism (i.e. regionalism and federal-provincial relations), political insurgency and reform, and leadership.

Required Texts:

Dan Azoulay, ed. *Canadian Political Parties*

History Department. *Essay Writing Guide* (also available on the History Department web site, <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/>)

Reserve Reading List:

J.M. Beck. *Pendulum of Power: Canada's Federal Elections*

Michael Bliss. *Right Honourable Men: The Descent of Canadian Politics from Macdonald to Mulroney*

Patrick Brennan. *Reporting the Nation's Business: Press-Government Relations during the Liberal Years, 1935-1957*

Paul Crunican. *Priests and Politicians: Manitoba Schools and the Election of 1896*

John English. *The Decline of Politics: The Conservatives and the Party System, 1901-1920*

J.L. Granatstein. *Canada's War: the Politics of the Mackenzie King Government, 1939-1945*

Michiel Horn. *The League for Social Reconstruction: Intellectual Origins of the Democratic Left in Canada, 1930-1942*

David Laycock. *Populism and Democratic Thought in the Canadian Prairies, 1910-1945*

Douglas Owram. *The Government Generation: Canadian Intellectuals and the State, 1900-1945*

David Smith. *The Regional Decline of a National Party: The Liberals on the Prairies*

Denis Smith. *Rogue Tory: The Life and Legend of John G. Diefenbaker*
 Gordon Stewart. *The Origins of Canadian Politics: A Comparative Approach*
 James Struthers. "No Fault of Their Own": *Unemployment and the Canadian Welfare State, 1914-1941*
 Reg Whitaker. *The Government Party: Organizing and Financing the Liberal Party of Canada, 1930-1957*
 Walter Young. *Anatomy of a Party: The National CCF, 1932-1961*

Assignments:

Book review (due Tuesday, October 16 th)	10%
Research essay (due Thursday, November 22 nd)	45%
Final exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar)	45%

Note: students must complete all three assignments in order to receive a passing grade for the course.

Students must have their essay topic approved by the instructor. Upon request, students must also be prepared to hand in their research notes in order to receive a grade for their essay. They are also strongly encouraged to submit a brief essay proposal and research bibliography to the instructor as soon as possible in the term. Essays must be at least 3000 words in length and conform to the recognized history style as regards footnoting and bibliography outlined in the History Department *Essay Writing Guide*. Essays which are not properly proofread, footnoted or otherwise presentable to a university standard will be returned ungraded for re-submission. The most thoroughly researched and up to date books and scholarly articles should be used for your research, along with suitable primary sources, particularly the *Debates* of the House of Commons (when appropriate) and contemporary accounts (especially editorials and commentary/analysis pieces) from major newspapers and magazines. When compiling your research bibliography of published sources, begin by consulting Douglas Owram, ed., *Canadian History: A Reader's Guide*, Vol. II: *Confederation to the Present* (non-circulating reference and on reserve, FC 161 C364). Other useful bibliographies and general research sources include:

General Reference Works (2LB):

1. *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* CT 283 D52
2. *Canadian Annual Review of Politics and Public Affairs* (since 1960); formerly the *Canadian Annual Review of Public Affairs, 1901-1937/38* FC 2 C22
3. *Documenting Canada: History of Modern Canada in Documents* FC 18 D63 1992

Bibliographies (2LB):

4. Heggie, Grace F., ed. *Canadian Political Parties, 1867-1968: A Historical Bibliography* JL 195 H44 1977

Indexes and Abstracts (2LB):

5. *Canadian Periodical Index* AI 3 C3

6. *America, History and Life: A Guide to Periodical Literature* E 18 A52

For specific consultation on research resources for history topics, contact Ms. Nora Robins, History Librarian (220-7391). Ms. Robins welcomes **serious** research inquiries on defined topics from undergraduate students.

A few of the many possible essay topics would include:

1. any federal election from 1867 through 1988
2. the political debate surrounding the implementation of federal medicare, unemployment insurance or another major national program
3. the women suffrage movement or another aspect of women in politics
4. some significant aspect of federal-provincial relations
5. one of the national third-party movements

Book Review Assignment:

The **book review** mid-term assignment should be approximately 1000-1250 words in length. It will contain a summary of the main arguments and evidence plus an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of a **book assigned by the instructor** (list to be distributed in class).

1. What should your review include? Firstly, it should include a clear summary of the author's thesis (or theses) and supporting arguments, the main points of evidence, and the principal conclusions. This will comprise the larger part of the review. But a review consists of more than a summary of the book's contents. You will also be expected to analyse the book, e.g. is it logically developed? Is it clearly written? Is the argumentation persuasive? Is the supporting evidence weak or convincing? In other words, what do you think are the book's strengths and weaknesses? Dealing adequately with this second part of the assignment will require some additional reading on the subject. As far as possible, you want to be able to place your assessment, be it favourable, unfavourable, or a mix of both, in the context of what other historians have said about the same subject. The best way to achieve this is to read other scholarly reviews of the book you are examining.

2. Grading, length, etc.: Your grade will be determined by three factors: the conciseness and accuracy of your summary, the thoroughness and originality of your analysis, and the quality of your written presentation (grammar, spelling, style). The review must be in essay form, and it should be about 1000 to 1250 words in length, double-spaced (one side only), either typed or legibly handwritten. Finally, be sure to list in a formal bibliography any other sources you have consulted in preparing your review.

Remember, explicit references to scholarly reviews should be included in your review and must be footnoted.

Note: there is a good tutorial on how to write a history book review on the History Department web site.

Book Review List:

- Behiels, Michael. *Prelude to Quebec's Quiet Revolution: Liberalism versus Neo-Nationalism, 1945-1960*
- Brown, Craig. *Robert Laird Borden: A Biography, Vol. II: 1914-1937*
- Cook, Ramsay. *The Politics of John W. Daffoe and the Free Press*
- Crowley, T.A. *Agnes Macphail and the Politics of Equality*
- Crunican, Paul. *Priests and Politicians: Manitoba Schools and the Election of 1896*
- English, John. *The Decline of Politics: The Conservatives and the Party System, 1901-1920*
- Finkel, Alvin. *The Social Credit Phenomenon in Alberta*
- Forbes, E.R. *The Maritime Rights Movement: A Study in Canadian Regionalism, 1919-1927*
- Glassford, Larry. *Reaction and Reform: The Politics of the Conservative Party under R.B. Bennett, 1927-1938*
- Granatstein, J.L. *Canada's War: the Politics of the Mackenzie King Government, 1939-1945*
- _____. *The Politics of Survival: The Conservative Party of Canada, 1939-1945*
- Horn, Michiel. *The League for Social Reconstruction: Intellectual Origins of the Democratic Left in Canada, 1930-1942*
- Laycock, David. *Populism and Democratic Thought in the Canadian Prairies, 1910-1945*
- Lipset, Seymour M. *Agrarian Socialism: The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation in Saskatchewan*
- Mills, Allen. *Fool for Christ: The Political Thought of J.S. Woodsworth*
- Morton, W.L. *The Progressive Party of Canada*
- Neatby, Blair. *Laurier and a Liberal Quebec: A Study in Political Management*
- Owram, Douglas. *The Government Generation: Canadian Intellectuals and the State, 1900-1945*
- Robin, Martin. *Shades of Right: Nativist and Fascist Politics in Canada, 1920-1940*
- Smith, David. *The Regional Decline of a National Party: The Liberals on the Prairies*
- Smith, Denis. *Rogue Tory: The Life and Legend of John G. Diefenbaker*
- Struthers, James. *"No fault of their own": Unemployment and the Canadian Welfare State, 1914-1941*
- Whitaker, Reg. *The Government Party: Organizing and Financing the Liberal Party of Canada, 1930-1957*
- Young, Walter. *Anatomy of a Party: The National CCF, 1932-1961*

The **final examination** will be scheduled during the examination period in April, and focus on your comprehensive understanding of the major issues and themes discussed in the course. Your answers will be based on lecture material and assigned readings from your text book.

Lecture Topics:

Broadly speaking, the lectures will be divided into the following topics and themes.

1. The Macdonald Era, 1867-1891: the National Policy and the formation of the first Canadian political system
2. The Laurier Era, 1896-1911: the politics of “race” and Empire
3. Borden, War and Unionism
4. The Progressives and Mr. King
5. The Politics of Depression, I: King, Bennett and the crisis of leadership, 1930-1939
6. Intellectuals and the State: the politics of the “Government Generation”, 1930-1945
7. Wartime Politics Again: For King and country
8. Politics on the Left: the national CCF, 1933-1958
9. The Government Party: Liberals and bureaucrats in power, 1945-1957
10. The Progressive Conservatives: the rise and fall of Diefenbaker Conservatism, 1956-1963
11. The Grits Revived, 1958-1968
12. The New Democratic Party: socialism revisited
13. New Players and New Issues: the media, feminism and First Nations
14. Trudeaumania: the politics of personality
15. Mulroney and Manning and the Crisis of Conservatism
16. The Political Culture of Canada: some observations and conclusions

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one’s work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one’s own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it’s not.

As noted in the *Department of History Guide to Essay Presentation*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- (a) Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, ideas, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- (b) Borrowed, purchased, and / or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one’s own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- (c) Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those

works. The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. A plagiarized paper will automatically be failed. Plagiarism may also result in a failing grade for the entire course and other penalties as noted in *The University of Calgary Calendar*.