

COURSE OUTLINE - Winter 2026

SO1010(A3 & VC): Canadian Society - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Rashid Begg

VENUE: D308

OFFICE: C203

OFFICE By appointment

PHONE: 780-539-2021

TIME: MON & WED 10:00 – 11:20

E-MAIL: mbegg@nwpolytech.ca

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: A study of development and structure of Canadian society, including such topics as French-English relations, multiculturalism, regionalism, nationalism, native rights and social inequality and conflict.

PREREQUISITE(S):

Complete 1 of the following

Completed the following:

SO1000 - Introductory Sociology (3)

Equivalent course

COREQUISITE(S):

None

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Ron McGivern, William Little. *Introduction to Sociology*. Victoria: BCcampus, 2016.
On-Line.

([Introduction to Sociology - 2nd Canadian Edition - Open Textbook Library](#))

DELIVERY MODE(S): On-Campus & Synchronous

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

1. Analyze the historical and contemporary experiences of Indigenous peoples in Canada.
2. Explain the concepts of multiculturalism and diversity in Canada.
3. Discuss French-English relations and Quebec identity.
4. Identify key aspects of Canadian identity and nationalism.
5. Analyze social justice and inequality issues in Canada.
6. Compare and contrast regionalism and provincial politics in Canada.
7. Explain Canada's economic systems and natural resources.
8. Evaluate healthcare and social policy in Canada.
9. Analyze immigration and refugee policy in Canada.
10. Apply critical thinking skills to contemporary Canadian political issues.
11. Identify the major religious traditions in Canada.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Assessment	Total Point	Weight
Reflection papers (*4; 2.5 pts each)	10 pts	10%
Research Project	30 pts	30%
Midterm	25 pts	25%
Final Exam	35 pts	35%
Total	100 pts	100%

Research Project

Students will decide on individual research projects chosen from any one of the themes offered on the course outline. Key components of the project to be assessed include Title and Research Question, background and context, methodology and data analysis, key findings and results, recommendations and future directions, and visual aids (e.g., charts, graphs, images). Details on the different components to be discussed in class.

Reflection Papers

Students will complete 4 individual reflections based on the content for each unit (2 pages, double-spaced). The Reflection Paper will also include insights from documentaries screened in each unit. Each application assigned will be graded based on the quality of application of content, demonstration of understanding, and ability to critically engage with the content discussed in the unit. No citations or outside sources are necessary for these reflections. More specific instructions for these reflections will be given in class on the date on which they are assigned. Students have 2 weeks to finish the reflections, which are to be submitted on myClass before the start of class (see below for schedule of these times). Students must complete all 4 reflections for complete marks.

Midterm and Final Exam

The Midterm will consist of multiple-choice questions and short essay questions with choice. The Final Exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and short essay questions. There will be a brief review in class before the midterm and final exam respectively. These will test your knowledge and application of concepts, theories, and perspectives on the course material (textbook chapters, classroom lectures, discussions, and video clips). The final exam is NOT cumulative.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Grading Chart

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week	Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1 Jan 5	Indigenous Peoples and Reconciliation	Notes on myClass	
Week 2 Jan 12	Multiculturalism and Diversity	Notes on myClass	
Week 3 Jan 19	French-English Relations and Quebec Identity	Notes on myClass	Paper 1 Due
Week 4 Jan 26	Canadian Identity and Nationalism	Notes on myClass	
Week 5 Feb 2	Social Justice and Inequality	Chapter 9 (Little and McGivern)	
Week 6 Feb 9	Regionalism and Provincial Politics	Midterm Exam	Paper 2 Due
Week 7	Reading Week		
Week 8 Feb 23	Economic Systems and Natural Resources	Chapter 18 (Little and McGivern)	Essay Due Feb 23

Week 9 Feb 2	Immigration and Refugee Policy		
Week 10 Feb 9	Environmental Issues and Sustainability	Notes on myClass	Paper 3 Due
Week 11 Feb 16	Canadian Politics and Governance	Chapter 17 (Little and McGivern)	
Week 12 Feb 23	Healthcare and Social Policy	Chapter 19 (Little and McGivern)	
Week 13 Feb 30	Religions in Canada	Chapter 15 (Little and McGivern)	Paper 4 Due
Week 14 Mar 6	Criminal Justice Administration	Notes on myClass	
Week 15 Mar 13	Revision Class (last day)		

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

Jan 5 – Classes Start
 Jan 15 – Last day to add/drop.
 Feb 16 – Family Day
 Feb 17 – 21 – Winter Break
 March 31 – Last Day to Withdraw
 April 3 – Good Friday
 April 13 – Last day of classes
 April 16 – 23 – Final Exam Period

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

VC Student Requirements

Technology	A stable internet connection sufficient to meet the class requirements. Webcam, microphone, speakers.
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Class Participation	Camera on and showing your face during class. An appropriate screen name.
Test/Exam Supervision These are requirements essential to maintaining the academic integrity of the course. The dual camera option is available to VC students only	Dual camera setup. During the exams you must have a webcam showing your face and a camera behind you showing your work surface with your computer. If you are unable to meet the dual camera setup requirement VC students can pay to write the exams at an independent proctor location approved by me. Note: the proctor cannot be a friend/family member, etc. If neither of the above two options work for you, another option is to come to the NWP campus in person and write the exams with the other students during the scheduled time.

Ultimately, you are responsible for your learning and performance in this course.

Your grades are posted to myClass, so please be sure you are tracking them there. If you believe there is an error, please let your instructor know.

Submission, Late Policies, & Issues of Intellectual Concern:

- Equally important to learn and apply professional communication skills, such as writing proper e-mail messages, it is very important to learn to meet deadlines. Complete your assignments on time!
- Late assignments received will be deducted 5% for every late day (including weekends!).
- Incomplete assignments will receive a grade of 0 unless you have a valid reason supported with appropriate documentation (i.e., a medical note from an M.D.) and you discuss it with me well in advance of any due date.
- In cases where submitted work exhibits concerning patterns or raises questions for the instructor about its creation and the student's intellectual effort involved, students may be required to submit to an oral examination regarding the work at

the discretion of the instructor. Failure to participate in the oral examination will result in an assigned grade of 0 for the assessment. If, following the oral examination, the instructor still has concerns about the work, the academic misconduct provisions of the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy (linked below) may be applied.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.