

Grande Prairie Regional College
Political Studies 3930
Political Sociology (Behaviour & Psychology)
UT (UA, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, KUC)
Year: 2010

Instructor: Tom Enders, PhD
Office: C303
Telephone: 539-2996
e-mail: tenders@gprc.ab.ca
Office hours: TBA and by appointment

Room: TBA
Time: TBA

Calendar Course Description:

An examination of the impact of social organization and structure on the conduct of politics in mass societies and of the ways the organization and structures of such societies are affected by political processes.

Course Description 2010:

This course will examine the social bases of political attitudes and behaviours - and changes in them, in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. The role of various agents of socialization as well as the influence of region and class will be studied. Views on the role of the state, the welfare state and the causes of crime will be considered. As well, attention will be given to social movements, and their origins, mobilization and influence.

Prerequisite:

- One of PO1010, PO1020, PO2210, PO2220, SO1000, or consent of the instructor.

Required reading material:

- Douglas Baer, editor. Political Sociology: Canadian Perspectives. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2002.
- Selected internet readings and course handouts.

Course requirements:

Midterm exam	35%
Term Paper.....	30%
Final exam	35%

Marks will be given in percentage figures before conversion to a letter grade.

Conversion table:

A+ 90-100	B+ 76-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 55-59
A 85- 89	B 73-75	C 64-66	D 50-54
A- 80- 84	B- 70-72	C- 60-63	F 0-49

For conversion of letter grades to the four-point scale, see the College calendar, p. 43.

Note: You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with College calendar information pertaining to cheating and plagiarism, for which there are a range of penalties, all significant (see pp. 49-50). Also note and observe key dates during the term.

Topics:

I. Introduction

II. Political ideologies

III. Canadian, American and European political values

IV. The role of agents of political socialization: education, family, religion, mass media.

V. Ethnicity, race, and region

VI. Class and political views

VII. Views on the role of the state, the welfare state, and crime

VIII. Social movements: origins, mobilization and influence