

GOVT 301: Study Abroad – Canada! Summer 2019

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Course Description

This course will provide students with firsthand exposure to the Canadian political system, as well as an on-location guide to Nova Scotia's 300-year history as a hub of global migration. The tour will cover a 900-mile stretch of eastern Canada, traveling by air, land and sea. The readings and lectures will focus on 1) the contemporary governing structures in Canada, 2) the history of Canadian-American relations, and 3) mass migration in the Maritime Provinces, covering such phenomena as the expulsion of indigenous peoples, the reception of escaped slaves and British Loyalists, and the present-day settlement of refugees. The course will apply the disciplines of comparative politics, international relations, and historical inquiry in a way that aims to enrich students' understanding of global politics generally, not just in North America.

Course Learning Objectives

Learning Objective #1: To understand how the contemporary Canadian political system functions.

Summative Assignment #1: Term paper (10-12 pages) that compares the U.S. and Canada on a domestic policy issue of contemporary significance (e.g. on the environment, health care, or civil rights), focusing not only on the respective policy outcomes but also on the distinct processes that led to those outcomes.

Learning Objective #2: To understand the history of U.S.-Canadian relations.

Summative Assignment #2: Short paper (5-7 pages) that summarizes one major diplomatic development between the United States and Canada in the last ten years in light of the broader history of those relations.

Learning Objective #3: To understand the phenomenon of mass migration from micro- and macro-level perspectives.

Summative Assignment #3: Narrative presentation (20 minutes, with relevant visuals, such as maps and photographs) that offers an account of one of the incidents or historical sites that we explore relating to a mass migration experience, contextualizing it within the broader phenomenon of mass migration. This assignment can be performed in collaboration with one other student.

Required Text:

Patrick Malcolmson and Richard Myers, The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Reading List (how to familiarize yourself with Canada pre-trip):

Books (all available inexpensively from online booksellers)

Ferguson and Ferguson, How to be a Canadian

Ferguson, Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw: Travels in Search of Canada

Cormack and Cosgrave, Desiring Canada: CBC Contests, Hockey Violence, and Other Stately Pleasures

Music (all available on Spotify / other streaming services)

Joni Mitchell, Gordon Lightfoot, Rush, Bachman-Turner Overdrive, The Tragically Hip, Barenaked Ladies, Celine Dion, Alanis Morissette, Our Lady Peace, Drake, Metric, Stars, Great Big Sea

Or just listen to the “Canadian Gold” or “Canadian Rock” playlists on Spotify

TV (available on streaming services)

The Kids in the Hall, SCTV, Corner Gas, Murdoch Mysteries, Republic of Doyle, Trailer Park Boys, Deglassi (in its many incarnations), Little Mosque on the Prairie

Course Requirements:

Class Participation and Discussion – 10%

Term paper 1 – 35%

Term paper 2 – 15%

Narrative presentation – 40%

General:

Students are expected to adhere strictly to the itinerary of the course, including attendance at all lectures and scheduled events and field trips. A student who misses a session must notify one of the instructors. This is especially important if a student is ill. The instructors will immediately contact a doctor if one is required. Missing more than three (3) required sessions without a valid excuse may result in a failing grade (F) being assigned to the student for the course. Additionally, the instructors reserve the right to take participation points off, if students fail to report to lectures and other scheduled activities on time.

Note to Students with disabilities: If you believe that you have a disability, you should make an appointment with the instructor to discuss your needs before you sign up for the course. In order to receive an accommodation, your disability must be on record in the Dean of Students’ office, 3rd Floor David Student Union/DSU (Telephone: 594-7160). Please note that this course requires a good bit of walking and traveling. Some smaller Canadian cities may have fewer accommodations for people with disabilities than may be found in the United States. This having been said and understood, the instructor and the University will make any reasonable accommodation to facilitate students’ participation in the course.

Grading

Grading Scale

94-100 A	74-76 C
90-93 A-	70-73 C-
87-89 B+	67-69 D+
84-86 B	64-66 D
80-83 B-	60-63 D-
77-79 C+	0-59 F

Course outline and travel schedule (tentative: dates and duration of trip subject to change. The schedule of events is open to adjustment based on opportunities that may present themselves or unforeseen circumstances.)

PART I: PRE-DEPARTURE (spring 2019)

Day 1: Lecture, 1.5 hours – Canada: an Introduction

[Excursion: Norfolk Admirals hockey game]

Day 2: Lecture, 1.5 hours – Mass Migration in the Maritime Provinces: an Overview

TERM PAPER 1 DUE BEFORE TRIP

PART II: CANADA (late June 2019)

Day 1: Depart from Washington, DC. Meet at check-in counter

- Depart on XX flight #XX from XX airport to Ottawa Airport
- Arrival in Ottawa at XX.
- Check in to hotel

Day 2:

- Orientation
- Walking tour of Ottawa [LAB, 2 hours]
- Opening lecture [1.5 hours]
- Group dinner

Day 3:

- Tour of [Canadian Parliament building](#) [LAB, 2 hours]
- Meet with Member of Parliament TBA [1.5 hours]

Day 4:

- Tour [Rideau Hall](#) [LAB, 2 hours]
- Lecture – Canadian Politics [1.5 hours]

- Ottawa Redblacks CFL game (pre-game discussion: sports in Canada)

Day 5:

- Tour of [Canadian Museum of History](#) [LAB, 2 hours]
- Lecture [1.5 hours]
- **Short Paper Due**

Day 6:

- Free day in Ottawa

Day 7:

- Daytrip to Montreal by VIA Rail Train
- Walking tour of Montreal [LAB, 2 hours]

Day 8:

- Flight from Ottawa to Halifax
- Check in to [The Lord Nelson Hotel](#)

Day 9:

- Tours of [Grand Pré](#) & [Fort Anne](#) [LAB, 4 hours]
- Lecture (en route) – The Acadian Expulsion of 1755 [1.5 hours]
- Dinner at [Le Caveau](#)

Day 10:

- Tours of [Citadel Hill](#) & the [Maritime Museum of the Atlantic](#) [LAB, 3 hours]
- Meet with MLA TBD [1.5 hours]

Day 11:

- Tours of [Shelburne Waterfront](#) & [Black Loyalist Heritage Center](#) [LAB, 3 hours]
- Lecture (en route) – Loyalist Migration in the 1780s [1.5 hours]
- Excursion – [Port Joli Head Trail](#)

Day 12:

- Tours of [Pier 21](#) & [Immigration Services Association, Nova Scotia](#) [LAB, 3 hours]
- Service project with ISANS
- Lecture – Canadian Immigration, 1928-present [1.5 hours]

Day 13:

- Bus/ferry to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
- Check in to the [Holman Grand Hotel](#)

Day 14:

- Walking tour of Charlottetown [LAB, 2 hours]

Day 15:

- Ferry to Magdalen Islands (5 hours)
- Discussion (en route) - Environmental/Maritime Issues in Modern Canada [1 hour]
- Hotel in Magdalen Islands

Day 16:

- Excursion: Walking / biking tour of Magdalen Islands [3 hours]
- Ferry from Magdalen Islands

Day 17:

- Bus back to Charlottetown
- Farewell dinner at [The Pilot House](#)

Day 18:

- Flight from Charlottetown to Washington, DC (through Montreal)

Day XX (after return to US): Debriefing and Migration Presentations – friends and family invited