

# Course Information

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## Course Description:

This course introduces students to the structure and practice of the federal government of the USA. In particular, this course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the presidency and Congress. This is a demanding course, with a substantial amount of reading. It is imperative that you read all assigned readings before the class for which they are assigned.

## Class Meeting/Format:

This course will meet **in-person** at **BUCH - A202** on Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 PM to 3:20 PM (Pacific Time).

This course does not accommodate asynchronous learning.

### Course Teaching Team

### Communication

**Instructor:** Gyung-Ho Jeong

- Email: [gyung-ho.jeong@ubc.ca](mailto:gyung-ho.jeong@ubc.ca) (<mailto:gyung-ho.jeong@ubc.ca>)
- Office hours: Mondays 9:30-10:30AM or by appointment
- Office: BUCH - C307
- Zoom: [https://ubc.zoom.us/j/4671033468?](https://ubc.zoom.us/j/4671033468?pwd=b0JmeVICdmdMYVdIVXY0Vnp0WlFBZz09)  
pwd=b0JmeVICdmdMYVdIVXY0Vnp0WlFBZz09

**Teaching Assistant:** Philippe Granger

- Email: [philgran@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:philgran@mail.ubc.ca) (<mailto:philgran@mail.ubc.ca>)
- Office hours: Wednesdays 12:30-1:30PM or by appointment
- Office: Wesbrook Building 236

- Email us if you need to set up an appointment.
- For substantive questions, ask in class or office hours.

For details, refer to the [Course Policies](#) section.

## Required Textbooks:

- Roger H. Davidson, Walter J. Oleszek, Frances E. Lee, Eric Schickler, and James M. Curry, *Congress and Its Members*, 18<sup>th</sup> edition, (CQ Press, 2021) (DOLS hereafter) – You can use an earlier version (17<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>).
- Michael Nelson ed. *The Presidency and the Political System*, 12<sup>th</sup> edition, (CQ Press, 2020) – You can use an earlier version (11<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>).

## Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

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1. **Pop Quizzes (22%) and Participation (3%)** - Students are expected to do the readings prior to the class. Also, students are encouraged to participate in class discussion (i.e. asking and answering questions). There will be unannounced pop quizzes in class throughout the term. Each quiz will ask about the material in the textbook or lecture. Each quiz will be graded pass/fail. iClicker Cloud (also known as iClicker Reef) will be used for these quizzes, except some quizzes that require you draw figures. You do not need a physical iClicker device. But you need to set up your account and bring a cellphone or computer to the classroom. Go to [the guide \(https://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/iclicker-cloud-student-guide/\)](https://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/iclicker-cloud-student-guide/) to be ready to use it. If you don't have a phone or computer, you can submit your quiz on a paper in a in-person class.
2. **Midterm Exam (25%)** - There will be a midterm exam in class on October 18th 2-3:20PM. This exam will include 10 true-false questions (2 points each), 10 multiple-choice questions (3 points each), and 5 short-answer questions (10 points each). Note that some exam questions will be drawn entirely from the textbook in order to give you an incentive to read the textbook. Also, some questions will be drawn from the syllabus (esp. course policies section) or other course-related contents (i.e., something those who attend the class regularly can answer).
3. **Final Exam (25%)** - The final exam will be scheduled by University. This exam will include 10 true-false questions (2 points each), 10 multiple-choice questions (3 points each), and 5 short-answer questions (10 points each). This exam covers materials after the midterm exam. That is, exams are not cumulative. Note that some exam questions will be drawn entirely from the textbook in order to give you an incentive to read the textbook. Also, some questions will be drawn from the syllabus (esp. course policies section) or other course-related contents (i.e., something those who attend the class regularly can answer).
4. **Legislation Analysis (<https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/assignments/1486069>), (25%)** - Each student is expected to write an analytical essay (5-6 pages, double-spaced) on legislation of your choosing from the following list (No substitution!). This essay should analyze the roles of and interactions between Presidents and Congress in the enactment of the legislation. Draw on what you have learned in this course. (Due on November 29th)

### List of Legislation

1978 Neutrality Treaty and Panama Canal Treaty

1990 Clean Air Act

2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution

## Tentative Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

Note. The schedule is subject to change

Date	Topic	Readings	Lecture Notes
Sept 8	Introduction	No Readings	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099847/download_frd=1)
Sept 13	The Constitution	<a href="https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript">The Constitution</a> ↗ (https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript) and the <a href="https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights/what-does-it-say">Bill of Rights</a> ↗ (https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights/what-does-it-say).	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509985?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509985?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099850/download_frd=1)
Sept 15	Electoral Connection I	No Lecture. <a href="#">Watch a documentary and work on a quiz. Read and submit Quiz on "Can Mr. Smith Get to Washington Anymore?"</a> ( <a href="#">\$CANVAS OBJECT REFERENCE\$/assignments/g5e9208c0fb34f029d7dfc8f673572ef6</a> )	
Sept 20	Electoral Connection II	Chapters 3 and 4 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509985?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509985?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099856/download_frd=1)
Sept 22	Evolution of Congress and the Two Congresses	Chapters 2 and 5 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509983?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509983?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099835/download_frd=1)
Sept 27	Political Parties in Congress	Chapter 6 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099844/download_frd=1)
Sept 29	Congressional Committees I and Spatial Voting Models	Chapter 7 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099845/download_frd=1)  SVM <a href="#">Guide</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099852?wrap=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099852?wrap=1</a> ) ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099852/download_frd=1) and <a href="#">Practice</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099853?wrap=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099853?wrap=1</a> ) ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099853/download_frd=1)
Oct 4	Congressional Committees II	Chapter 7 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1)</a> . ↓ (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099848/download_frd=1)
Oct 6	Lawmaking Procedures I	Chapters 8 and 9 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509984?wrap=1)</a> . ↓

			( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099849/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099849/download_frd=1</a> )
Oct 11	Lawmaking Procedures II	Chapters 8 and 9 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099851/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099851/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099851/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099851/download_frd=1</a> )
Oct 13	Review	No Lecture. Bring your questions.	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099824/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099824/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099824/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099824/download_frd=1</a> )
Oct 18	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	2:00 PM to 3:20 PM in class	
Oct 20	Lawmaking Procedures III – Application of Spatial Voting Models	Chapters 8 and 9 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099854/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099854/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099855/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099855/download_frd=1</a> ) and <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099854?wrap=1">SVM Guide and Exercises (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099854?wrap=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099854/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099854/download_frd=1</a> )  <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099862?wrap=1">Answer Key (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099862?wrap=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099862/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099862/download_frd=1</a> )
Oct 25	Lawmaking Procedures IV – Application of Spatial Voting Models	Chapters 8 and 9 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099858/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099858/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099858/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099858/download_frd=1</a> )
Oct 27	Congress and the Executive	Chapters 10 and 11 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099859/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099859/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099859/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099859/download_frd=1</a> )
Oct 31	Congress and the Courts	Chapter 12 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099863/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099863/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099863/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099863/download_frd=1</a> )
Nov 3	Interest Groups and Domestic Policy	Chapters 13 and 14 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099846/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099846/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099846/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099846/download_frd=1</a> )
Nov 8	Congress and Budget Politics	Chapter 14 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099857/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099857/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099857/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099857/download_frd=1</a> )
Nov 10	Midterm Break - No Class		
Nov 15	Congress and Foreign Policy	Chapter 15 in DOLS	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099860/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099860/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099860/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099860/download_frd=1</a> )
Nov 17	Presidential Election	Chapters 7 and 8 in Nelson	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099861/download_frd=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099861/download_frd=1)</a> ↓ ( <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099861/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099861/download_frd=1</a> )

Nov 22	Presidential Powers and White House Staff	Chapters 4 and 5 in Nelson	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509986?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509986?wrap=1)</a> ↓ <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099864/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099864/download_frd=1</a>
Nov 24	Presidents and the Bureaucracy	Chapters 13 and 14 in Nelson	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509982?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509982?wrap=1)</a> ↓ <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099829/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099829/download_frd=1</a>
Nov 29	Presidents, Interest Groups, and Political Parties	Chapters 11 and 12 in Nelson	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509986?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509986?wrap=1)</a> ↓ <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099866/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099866/download_frd=1</a>
Dec 1	Review	No Lecture. Bring your questions.	<a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509986?wrap=1">Notes (https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/2509986?wrap=1)</a> ↓ <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099865/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099865/download_frd=1</a> <a href="#">SYM Exercise</a> <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099843?wrap=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099843?wrap=1</a> ↓ <a href="https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099843/download_frd=1">https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/117212/files/25099843/download_frd=1</a>
Dec 6	No Class		

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## Course Policies, Using Turnitin, & University Policies

[Course Policies](#)

[Using Turnitin](#)

[University Policies](#)

### Course Policies

#### Policies on Make-up Exam, Missing Quizzes, and Deadline Extension

- Missed exams and essay deadline:** If you are an Arts student, review the Faculty of Arts' [academic concession page \(https://students.arts.ubc.ca/advising/academic-performance/help-academic-concession/\)](https://students.arts.ubc.ca/advising/academic-performance/help-academic-concession/) and then complete Arts Academic Advising's [online academic concession form \(https://students.air.arts.ubc.ca/academic-concession-form/\)](https://students.air.arts.ubc.ca/academic-concession-form/) so that an advisor can evaluate your concession case. If you are a student in a different Faculty, please consult [your Faculty's webpage on academic concession \(https://students.ubc.ca/enrolment/academic-learning-resources/academic-concessions/\)](https://students.ubc.ca/enrolment/academic-learning-resources/academic-concessions/), and then contact me where appropriate. I will grant academic concessions only when they approve your request. They will email me when they make a decision on your request. So, you do not need to contact me. There is no exception to this policy. Also, you should do this within two weeks of the missed exam or paper deadline.
- Missed quizzes:** Your first missed quiz will be excused automatically. However, from your second missed quiz, you need to get approval from the Arts Advising for academic concession.
- Make-up exam format (in-person exams only):** A make-up exam will consist of 10 short-answer questions only. There will be no true-false or multiple-choice questions. This is to prevent the instructor from producing two different sets of multiple-choice questions, which is likely to lead the second set too difficult or obscure.

#### Policies on Essay Submission

- Your essay should be submitted to Turnitin.com as well as in Canvas-Assignment. See below.
- Your essay should adhere to the page limits and due date. Violation of the page limits will be penalized by 1% per line. Larger or smaller font-size or margins will be penalized by 2%. Late papers will be penalized by 2% per day and per weekend. A written work will be considered late until it is submitted in both Canvas and Turnitin.com (by 11:59PM on the due date).

#### Policies on Emails

- I will reply to your email within 24 hours (except for holidays and weekends) if you ask logistical questions, such as scheduling an appointment with me.
- However, if you ask substantive questions via email—such as asking for more explanation on a concept in lecture slides—I will answer your question in class at the beginning of lecture. I will not answer your question via email. Do not expect me to answer your substantive questions via email the day before an exam. Come to my (extra) office hours. Before exams, I will hold a review session in class and extra office hours.

#### Policies on Re-grading

- You can request for re-grading your essays after 24 hours but within two weeks of receiving your grade.
- You should appeal to the TA first. If you are still not satisfied with the result, you can appeal to the instructor.

3. If you request for re-grading, your score can go up or down.

## Student Resources

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1. [UBC Keep Learning Site \(https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/\)](https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/)
2. [UBC Keep Learning Site - Get Support \(https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/support/\)](https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/support/)
3. [UBC Student's Guide to Canvas \(https://students.canvas.ubc.ca/\)](https://students.canvas.ubc.ca/)
4. [UBC Student Assistance Program \(https://students.ubc.ca/health/ubc-student-assistance-program-sap\)](https://students.ubc.ca/health/ubc-student-assistance-program-sap)
5. [Learning Commons \(https://learningcommons.ubc.ca/\)](https://learningcommons.ubc.ca/)
6. [Student Guide to Zoom \(https://keepteaching.ubc.ca/files/2020/04/zoom-student-guide.pdf\)](https://keepteaching.ubc.ca/files/2020/04/zoom-student-guide.pdf)

**Acknowledgment:** UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on in their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.