

**2023/2024**  
**The School of Policy Studies**  
**Elective Courses**

**MPA 814 Intergovernmental Policy**

(WINTER. Instructor: Kathy Brock)

This course examines how policy making and the substance of policy are affected by federalism. Attention focuses on patterns of interaction among governments, and between governments and organized interests in Canada, and in other federal or quasi federal systems. A major subject is how such patterns of interaction are affected by the structure of political institutions, the allocation of powers, and fiscal considerations.

**MPA 816 Quantitative Program Evaluation (ONLINE) TBD**

(WINTER. Instructor: Bahman Kashi)

This course focuses on program evaluation and cost benefit analysis including program theory, impact analysis and implementation analysis.

PREREQUISITE: MPA 805 or 804 or equivalent.

**MPA 817 Impact Analysis Capstone (ONLINE)**

(SUMMER. Instructor: Bahman Kashi)

This one-week intensive course explores practical issues involving cost benefit analysis, feasibility analysis, right fit evaluation design, and the structuring of innovative financing agreements. Students will gain hands on experience with analytical tools related to policy and project design, implementation, financing, monitoring and evaluation. Summer. C. Cotton/B. Kashi

PREREQUISITE: MPA 804 & MPA 816 or equivalent.

**MPA 826 Ethics in the Public Service**

(WINTER. Instructor: Kathy Brock)

This course examines ethical problems that typically arise in the formulation and implementation of public policy. It considers how conceptions of ethical problems have shifted over time; strategies for thinking about and resolving ethical issues; and the design of institutional arrangements that minimize the risk of harm from ethical lapses in the public sector.

**MPA 832 – Studies in National Security (ONLINE)**

(WINTER. Instructor: Colin Magee)

The overall objective of the course is to provide post-graduate students with an in-depth understanding of the military, its relationships with other Government of Canada Departments, and its role in achieving Canadian national goals. Objective 1: Students will have a solid

understanding of the military, with a focus on the Canadian Armed Forces, and its role in National security. Objective 2: Students will have a solid understanding about the “cultural” differences between military, civil service and civilian decision makers. Objective 3: Students will be able to recognize the challenges in Canada’s national defense strategy. The structure of the course is designed to take the students from the strategic/national level into the a more defined military perspective. Students will be able to respond to contemporary or emerging public debates about national security and the role the military and military operations could and should take. A key aspect of the course is to allow students to gain an understanding of how the military perceives security, and how it addresses security challenges. In doing so students will be better equipped to interact with military counterparts and participate in civ-mil issues. Additionally, students will be able to identify and address communication gaps between political and military leadership and potentially serve as mediators in such an environment.

### **MPA 839 Social Policy**

(WINTER. Instructor: Rachel Laforest)

This course examines the historical development of the welfare state in Canada in comparison with other western nations. It focuses on the major social security programs and their recent restructuring in response to demographic, economic and political changes at the national and international levels.

### **MPA 861 – Indigenous Governance**

(WINTER. Instructor: Daniel Brant)

Scholars such as Cornell, Curtis and Jorgensen, make the point that government is different from governance and that governance is created to undertake functions of policy making, legislating, enforcing societies rules and ensuring that these societal goals are accomplished. This course is designed to examine a wide range of governance issues including an examination of obstacles and opportunities. The role of federal, provincial and municipal governments will be examined within the context of governance issues. This course will be delivered through an Indigenous lens with the objective of understanding the epistemology of Indigenous governance. Organizations such as the United Nations, the World Bank, ISO, the First Nations Financial Management Board and numerous others, all have a definition that contains similarities of responsibilities. This course will examine these and discuss the efficacy of these respecting Indigenous perspectives.

### **MPA 876 – Instruments of Finance**

(WINTER. Instructor: Eugene Lang)

This course is an introduction to public finances in Canada, with an emphasis on the federal government. It is based on the idea that the central political function of modern government is the raising, spending and allocating of money/revenue, and that this function is governed by certain critical institutions in Canada’s Westminster system of government

**MPA 880 Canadian Foreign Policy**

(WINTER. Instructor: Barbara Martin)

Recent decades have seen tectonic shifts in international dynamics, from the end of the Cold War, to 9/11, to the increasing muscularity of China and Russia, the rise of populism, and serious challenges to the rules-based international order and its pillars of democracy, rule of law and respect for human rights. How did we get here? Since World War II, the steady process of globalization accelerated dramatically through ease of travel and technology, bringing countries, businesses and individuals closer together than ever before. It has brought huge increases in global wealth, a surge in the global middle class and lifted 1 billion people out of extreme poverty. But, as positive as the process of globalization has been, there have been downsides. As the world became more interconnected, sovereign boundaries blurred and events far away have had significant and immediate repercussions here at home - from terrorism to infectious diseases to natural disasters and environmental damage. Globalization has also spawned disaffection among those who feel left behind as industries and economies adapt to new technology, global supply chains and changing markets. Growing inequality, as wealth pools among the world's richest 1%, is often blamed on the dynamics of globalization. This has created fertile ground for populist leaders promising change through retrenchment – tariffs, border controls or abandoned environmental policies. And, the global pandemic that began in 2020 has both underscored our inter-connectedness and added new challenges to the international dynamic from preventing spread to sharing of vaccines. This course will examine how Canada's government navigates through these turbulent times to protect Canadians from terrorism or disease, to buffer our economy from external shocks, to open new markets for businesses and to manage our at times disruptive neighbour to the south. It will look at foreign policy from a practitioner's perspective, exploring Canada's foreign policy goals and how it can achieve them in the world today. It will highlight the growing inter-connectedness of domestic and international policies, and how actors across governments need to work together, and with actors outside government, to develop and implement effective policies.

**MPA 881 Government Communications**

(SUMMER. Instructor Scott Reid)

\*Updated description to follow.

**MPA 886 – Leading Change in the Public Sector**

(WINTER. Instructor: Toby Fyfe)

Public service leadership is changing as governments face an ongoing crisis of confidence. Trust in government has been falling for a decade with the rise of populism, distrust in organizations and elites, the corrosive impact of social media and permanent campaigning raising questions about the ongoing relevance of our public institutions. Governments have worked to rebuild trust by improving service delivery, creating new organizational forms such as agencies, boards and commissions (ABCs) and Crown Corporations, and instituting target-driven programs such as deliverology. The question remains: are governments adapting as quickly or as radically as required? Governments and their institutions move slowly, yet the challenges they face would

appear to demand innovation and quick action if their relevance to citizens and social cohesion is to be maintained. The program will explore the challenges facing public servants and politicians in transforming the Westminster system of government for the 21st century, and how public service leaders can work within the constraints of the system to both drive change and achieve results.

### **MPA 893 – Special Topics: Policy and EDII (ONLINE)**

(WINTER. Instructor: Martha Munezhi)

This is a course designed for graduate students who yearn for a deeper understanding of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Indigenization (EDII) issues for formulating policy, policy analysis and policy decisions. The brutal killing of an unarmed black man, George Floyd, at the hands of the police in the United States in May 2020 sparked debates about thousands of years of injustice and oppression towards visible minorities. Some of the debates focused on systemic racism. It is imperative that policy makers not only focus on formulating EDII focused policies around the time when the protests and debates are heated. Such policies should be adopted as a way of reversing the damage and challenges posed by lack of diversity and equal opportunity for underrepresented groups that has occurred for many years. The growing need to integrate EDII data in the development of public policy in healthcare, finance, education, immigration, and many other areas is making EDII training a sought-after skill in a growing number of positions. This course is an introduction to EDII topics that will be applicable in analyzing public policy and in other public administration jobs. We will discuss how policy practitioners and public administrators can incorporate EDII tools to answer questions about the world.

### **MPA 848 Immigration Policy In Canada**

**(Winter or Spring, TBD)**

This course examines the factors contributing to the development of immigration policy in Canada, the changing trends in immigration in Canada, the impact of immigration and refugee movements on public policies and programs, jurisdictional issues and the role of nongovernmental organizations.

### **Other Programs:**

#### **POLS 810 Canadian Politics**

A critical analysis of the literature on Canadian politics. Topics covered include parliamentary institutions, federalism, the courts, multiculturalism and citizenship, Aboriginal politics, women and politics, political economy, interest groups and social movements, the mass media, political parties, public opinion and voting. E. Baisley. **(Fall Term)**

#### **POLS 838 Politics of Ethnic Conflict**

This course will explore a variety of theoretical and empirical issues related to the politics of ethnic conflict. The politics of ethnic conflict encompass a wide range of issues that present distinct challenges to states and societies. Themes invested in this course include the construction of ethnic identities, sources of conflict, types of mobilization, state ethnicity relations, changes in

territorial and social boundaries, and the complex interaction between ethnicity and democracy. O. Haklai. **(Fall Term)**

#### **POLS 840 Comparative Politics of Development**

A critical survey of the main theoretical approaches to development, including modernization theory, neo-Marxism, underdeveloped theory and neo liberalism. These are considered in relation to issues of ethnicity and culture, the role of the nation state in development, technology and industrialization and the globalization of the world economy. P. Chakrabarti. **(Fall Term)**

#### **POLS 853 Topics in Political Theory**

An examination of the reorientations in contemporary political thought. Topic: Intergenerational Justice. A. Lister. **(Fall Term)**

#### **POLS 862 Topics in American Foreign Policy**

The course examines major trends in American foreign policy covering domestic as well as external variables in pre and post war administrations. Emphasis is placed on the USA's global role, the part it plays in international organizations and alliance systems, and the conflicts and controversies that characterize them. D. Haglund. **(Fall Term)**

#### **POLS 900**

This course covers approaches to the discipline, the philosophy of social science, and issues and problems in research design. This course is compulsory for doctoral students who have not already completed a similar graduate course. Doctoral students who have completed a similar course will take another course as their sixth. Students are eligible to take this course with permission from the Graduate Coordinator and Instructor. K. Hanniman. **(Fall Term)**

#### **MINE 801 Community Aspects of Mineral Resource Development (ONLINE)**

This course provides students with a thorough understanding of community issues associated with mineral resource development. It provides context and examples to demonstrate how the industry response to these issues has changed over time. The business case for a disciplined approach to community engagement and relationship building is outlined. It introduces the topics of community development, community engagement, and indigenous issues which are further explored in subsequent courses. E.A. Johnson. **(Fall term)**

#### **DEVS 801 – The Political Economy of Development**

This course is designed to familiarise students with political economy analysis. The distinguishing feature of political economy is its commitment to analyse the economy within its social, history and political context rather than seeing it as a distinct entity driven by its own set of rules based on rational and highly individualised forms of self-interest (Mackinnon and Cumbers, 2007: 14). This requires us to explore key questions including: How do political and economic realms (or, states and markets) interact to produce particular outcomes in different geographical and

temporal contexts? How and why is power articulated within these processes? What are the sources of power? And, who benefits and why and at whose expense? S. Soederberg. **(Fall Term)**

### **DEVS 811 – Social Reproduction, Care Work, and Development**

Who cares? And how and where do they do it, under what conditions, and for what purposes? While concepts like “work” and “economy” are usually associated with production or services oriented towards profit generation, a huge proportion of unpaid and paid labour worldwide is oriented towards social reproduction and care. In this seminar, we make these labours the centre of our analysis, and ask how that changes our approach to development. Social reproduction refers to the paid and unpaid labour that maintains and reproduces people and communities on a daily and intergenerational basis. We will ask how social reproduction is structured by local and transnational political economies, and how it shapes these economies, in turn. We will trace contemporary transnational flows of reproductive labour (for example, migrant support workers and childcare workers) and bodily capacities (for example, transnational surrogacy), and how they are shaping social reproduction locally and globally. We will also ask what future economies that privilege care might look like, examining the role of care in confronting racial capitalism, supporting Indigenous resurgence, and the “Just Transitions”/ “Build Back Better” movements. R. Hall. **(Winter Term)**

### **ENSC 841 - 001 Special Topics: Climate Change Science and Policy**

In December 2015, 195 countries and the European Union adopted the Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty designed to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels. This historic milestone marks a global effort to avert extreme climate change. But how did we reach this point in the first place? This course covers the journey from pioneering studies on the greenhouse effect first published in the 1800s to the adoption of the Paris Agreement almost two centuries later. The first part of the course focuses on climate change science, encompassing the empirical evidence, climate modelling, the global carbon cycle, climate feedbacks, tipping points, future projections, and impacts. The second part of the course addresses the economics and policy options to tackle climate change. The course will support you in a wide range of contexts, from your research endeavours to effective engagement in public debates and advocacy for sustainable solutions. The course welcomes a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honours students' identities, including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, and ability. **(Winter Term)**

### **POLS 801 Quantitative Data Analysis**

Introduction to quantitative data analysis, including types of data commonly used in political studies, appropriate methods for analyzing each type, and best practices in data management. Students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to be informed, critical consumers of quantitative research, laying the foundation for further study. F. Lu. **(Winter Term)**

**POLS 821 Elections**

An examination of the importance of elections to the maintenance of democratic systems. Six themes are discussed: the history and theory of democratic participation; the legal framework; campaign organization; why people vote the way they do; the manifestation of social cleavages during campaigns; and the future of electoral participation. Canadian examples are placed in a comparative context. E. Goodyear-Grant. **(Winter Term)**

**POLS 823 Political Parties**

This course examines the role of political parties in democratic politics. It focuses on approaches to studying political parties, along with classic questions and contemporary debates in the study of political parties. It pays particular attention to the relationships between political parties and historically marginalized groups. Canadian examples are placed in a comparative context. Q. Albaugh. **(Winter Term)**

**POLS 835 Comparative Indigenous Politics**

This course is a graduate level survey of major themes in Indigenous politics through a comparative analysis of selected cases. The goals are to provide a foundation of major themes and methodologies within the field that will allow students to engage in the emerging literature and diversify their methodological portfolio. D. Delaney. **(Winter Term)**

**POLS 857 Science and Justice**

The word "science" comes from the Latin scientia which means "having knowledge". What is the relation between science and normative political ideals like democracy, justice and equality? The topics covered in any given year will vary, but may include the ethical, legal and social consequences of advances in the biomedical or environmental sciences. C. Farrelly. **(Winter Term)**

**POLS 880 Gender and Politics**

This course addresses the diverse and developing field of Gender and Politics in the discipline of Political Science. The focus will vary depending on the instructor, addressing topics such as: representation; feminist methodology; identity; gender and work; gender and citizenship; the politics of the family; queer theory; intersectionality of race, gender and class; and gender and globalization. M. Little. **(Winter Term)**

**Queen's University Faculty of Arts and Science Departments**

<https://www.queensu.ca/academic-calendar/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/>

\*Visit the specific programs websites to view graduate courses.

.i.e., <https://www.queensu.ca/devs/graduate/devs-graduate-courses>,

<https://www.queensu.ca/gnds/graduate/courses>, <https://www.queensu.ca/ensc/graduate/courses>

**RMC MPA Offerings:**

<https://www.rmc-cmr.ca/en/mpa-course-offerings>