

# FOR APPROVAL

PUBLIC

# **OPEN SESSION**

ТО:	UTSC Academic Affairs Committee
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DATE:	February 1, 2024 for February 8, 2024
AGENDA ITEM:	4

# ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Minor Modifications: Undergraduate Curriculum Changes - Social Sciences, UTSC (for approval)\*

# JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) "is concerned with matters affecting the teaching, learning and research functions of the Campus (AAC *Terms of Reference*, 2021, Section 4)." Under section 5.6 of its *Terms of Reference*, the Committee is responsible for approval of "Major and minor modifications to existing degree programs." The AAC has responsibility for the approval of Major and Minor modifications to existing programs as defined by the *University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process* (UTQAP, Section 3.1).

# **GOVERNANCE PATH:**

1. UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Approval] (February 8, 2024)

# **HIGHLIGHTS:**

This package includes minor modifications to undergraduate curriculum, submitted by the UTSC Social Sciences academic units identified below, which require governance approval. Minor modifications to curriculum are understood as those that do not have a significant impact on program or course learning outcomes. They require governance approval when they modestly change the nature of a program or course.

- The Department of Human Geography (Report: Human Geography)
  - 3 program modifications
    - SCSPECIT: SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)

- SCMAJCIT: MAJOR PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)
- SCMIN1810: MINOR PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)
- 1 new course
  - CITA02H3: Studying Cities
- 2 course modifications
  - CITB01H3: Canadian Cities and Planning
  - CITC12H3: City Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making
- The Department of Political Sciences (Report: Political Sciences)
  - o 4 program modifications
    - SCMAJ2015: MAJOR PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (ARTS)
    - SCMAJPUBP: MAJOR PROGRAM IN PUBLIC POLICY (ARTS)
    - SCMIN2030: MINOR PROGRAM IN PUBLIC LAW (ARTS)
    - SCSPE2015: SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (ARTS)
  - $\circ$  3 new courses
    - POLB40H3: Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy
    - POLC30H3: Law, Politics and Technology
    - POLD82H3: Politics and Literature
  - 4 course modifications
    - POLB91H3: Introduction to Comparative Politics
    - POLD02Y3: Senior Research Seminar in Political Science
    - POLD09H3: Advanced Topics in International Security
    - POLD89H3: Global Environmental Politics

# FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no significant financial implications to the campus operating budget.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

Be It Resolved:

THAT the proposed Social Sciences undergraduate curriculum changes for the 2024-25 academic year, as detailed in the respective curriculum reports, be approved.

# **DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

- 1. 2024-25 Curriculum Cycle Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval Report: Human Geography, dated February 8, 2024.
- 2. 2023-24 Curriculum Cycle Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval Report: Political Sciences, dated February 8, 2024.



# 2024-25 Curriculum Cycle Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval February 8, 2024

# **Table of Contents**

REPORT: HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	2
3 Program Modifications	
SCSPECIT: SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)	
SCMAJCIT: MAJOR PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)	
SCMIN1810: MINOR PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)	
1 New Course	
CITA02H3: Studying Cities	
2 COURSE MODIFICATIONS	
CITB01H3: Canadian Cities and Planning	
CITC12H3: City Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making	
REPORT: POLITICAL SCIENCES	g
4 Program Modifications	g
SCMAJ2015: MAJOR PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (ARTS)	ي
SCMAJPUBP: MAJOR PROGRAM IN PUBLIC POLICY (ARTS)	
SCMIN2030: MINOR PROGRAM IN PUBLIC LAW (ARTS)	
SCSPE2015: SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (ARTS)	
3 New Courses	
POLB40H3: Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy	
POLC30H3: Law, Politics and Technology	
POLD82H3: Politics and Literature	
4 Course Modifications	
POLB91H3: Introduction to Comparative Politics	
POLD02Y3: Senior Research Seminar in Political Science	
POLD09H3: Advanced Topics in International Security	
POLD89H3: Global Environmental Politics	



# 2024-25 Curriculum Cycle Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval **Report: Human Geography** February 8, 2024

# **Report: Human Geography**

# **3 Program Modifications**

# SCSPECIT: SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

**Program Requirements:** This program requires the completion of 12.0 credits as follows:

# **1. Introduction to Social Science Thought (1.0 credit from among the following):**

ANTA01H3 Introduction to Anthropology: Becoming Human ANTA02H3 Introduction to Anthropology: Culture, Society and Language GGRA02H3 The Geography of Global Processes GGRA03H3 Cities and Environments [MGEA01H3 Introduction to Microeconomics or MGEA02H3 Introduction to Microeconomics: A Mathematical Approach] [MGEA05H3 Introduction to Macroeconomics or MGEA06H3 Introduction to Macroeconomics: A Mathematical Approach] POLA01H3 Critical Issues in Politics I POLA02H3 Critical Issues in Politics II SOCA03Y3 Introduction to Sociology

## **2.1. Foundations of City Studies (**<del>0.5</del>**1.0 credit):** CITA01H3/(CITB02H3) Foundations of City Studies CITA02H3 Studying Cities

# **3.**2. Core courses (1.5 credits as from the following):

CITB01H3 Canadian Cities and Planning CITB03H3 Social Planning and Community Development CITB04H3 City Politics CITB08H3 Economy of Cities

# 4.3. Research Methods (2.0 credits):

GGRA30H3 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Empirical Reasoning STAB23H3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences (or equivalent) and 1.0 credits from the following: GGRB30H3 Fundamentals of GIS I GGRB03H3 Writing Geography GGRC32H3 Essential Spatial Analysis GGRC31H3 Qualitative Geographical Methods: Place and Ethnography GGRC42H3 Making Sense of Data: Applied Multivariate Analysis

# 5.4. City Studies Applications (3.5 credits from among the following):

CITC01H3 Urban Communities and Neighbourhoods Case Study

CITC02H3 Placements in Community Development

CITC03H3 Housing Policy and Planning

CITC04H3 Current Municipal and Planning Policy and Practice in Toronto

CITC07H3 Urban Social Policy

CITC08H3 Cities and Community Development

CITC09H3 Introduction to Planning History: Toronto and Its Region

CITC12H3 City Structures and City Choices: Local Government, Management, and PolicymakingCity Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in

## Urban Policy Making CITC14H3 Environmental Planning CITC15H3 Money Matters: How Municipal Finance Shapes the City CITC16H3 Planning and Governing the Metropolis CITC17H3 Civic Engagement in Urban Politics CITC18H3 Transportation Policy Analysis

# 6.5. Approaches to Cities (1.52.0 credits from among the following)\*:

GGRB02H3 The Logic of Geographic Thought GGRB05H3 Urban Geography GGRB13H3 Social Geography GGRC02H3 Population Geography GGRC10H3 Urbanization and Development GGRC11H3 Current Topics in Urban Geography GGRC12H3 Transportation Geography GGRC13H3 Urban Political Geography GGRC27H3 Location and Spatial Development GGRC33H3 The Toronto Region GGRC40H3 Megacities and Global Urbanization GGRC43H3 Social Geographies of Street Food GGRC48H3 Geographies of Urban Poverty POLB56H3 Critical Issues in Canadian Politics POLB57H3 The Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights POLC53H3 Canadian Environmental Policy PPGB66/PPGC66H3/(POLC66H3) Public Policy Making PPGC67H3/(POLC67H3) Public Policy in Canada SOCB44H3 Sociology of Cities and Urban Life \*Note: these courses may have prerequisites that are not included in this program

# **7.6.** City Studies Workshop (1.0 credit):

CITD05H3 City Studies Workshop I CITD06H3 City Studies Workshop II

# 8.7. Advanced Applications (1.0 credit):

CITD01H3 City Issues and Strategies CITD10H3 Seminar in Selected Issues in City Studies CITD12H3 Planning and Building Public Spaces in Toronto CITD30H3 Supervised Research Project GGRD14H3 Social Justice and the City

# **Description of Proposed Changes:**

Removed the 'Introduction to Social Thought' section Added CITA02H3 (New proposed course) as part of the core courses Instead of 1.5 credit, students are now required to take 2.0 credits from 'Approaches to Cities' section CITC12H3 proposes a new title which has been updated here too

# **Rationale:**

These changes to program requirements are motivated by two main considerations: first, this year we are creating a second A-level course, CITA02H3 Studying Cities which is designed to provide a solid introduction to university study skills, the philosophical foundations of research, major paradigms of knowledge production, and methodological approaches relevant to the Programs in City Studies. As we now will have two A-level Foundations courses, the former set of foundations courses (dating to the start of City Studies in 2001) are now obsolete. The combination of CITA01H3 and CITA02H3 will provide a stronger and more targeted foundation year for City Studies students than the previous model which relied on first year courses from GGR, POL, ANT, SOC.

This increase in the required credits in 'Approaches to Cities' from 1.5 FCE to 2.0 FCE is in response to the creation of CITA02H3, the pairing of this course with CITA01H3 as the new 'Foundations' 1.0 FCE requirement, and the elimination of the previous 'Foundations' requirement consisting of a broad range of other possible A-level courses in other disciplines. The City Studies Committee feels strongly that this new approach will provide a much stronger foundation for undergraduate success in City Studies programs than the former arrangement, which dates to the establishment of City Studies in 2001, when there was only one CIT course, CITD01H3.

CITC12H3 has a new title, hence, updating the program for coherence.

Impact: No impact on existing students. Existing students may continue to follow the requirements from the year they joined the program.

**Consultations:** DCC Approved: September 20, 2023 ANT consulted: January 12, 2024 MGE consulted: January 12, 2024 POL consulted: January 12, 2024

SOC consulted: January 12, 2024

Resource Implications: None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# SCMAJCIT: MAJOR PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

Program Requirements

This program requires students to complete a total of 7.0 credits as follows:

**-1. Introduction to Social Science Thought (1.0 credit from among the following):** ANTA01H3 Introduction to Anthropology: Becoming Human ANTA02H3 Introduction to Anthropology: Culture, Society and Language GGRA02H3 The Geography of Global Proces **GGRA03H3** Cities and Environments [MGEA01H3 Introduction to Microeconomics or MGEA02H3 Introduction to Microeconomics: A Mathematical Approach] [MGEA05H3 Introduction to Macroeconomics or MGEA06H3 Introduction to Macroeconomics: A Mathematical Approach] POLA01H3 Critical Issues in Politics I POLA02H3 Critical Issues in Politics II SOCA03Y3 Introduction to Sociology

## 2.1. Foundations of City Studies (0.51.0 credit):

CITA01H3/(CITB02H3) Foundations of City Studies

CITA02H3 Studying Cities

# **3.**2. Core courses (**1.0**1.5 credits from among the following):

CITB01H3 Canadian Cities and Planning CITB03H3 Social Planning and Community Development **CITB04H3** City Politics CITB08H3 Economy of Cities

# 4.3. Methods (1.0 credit as follows):

STAB23H3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences and 0.5 credit from among the following: GGRA30H3 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Empirical Reasoning

GGRB30H3 Fundamentals of GIS I GGRC31H3 Qualitative Geographical Methods: Place and Ethnography GGRC42H3 Making Sense of Data: Applied Multivariate Analysis

## 5.4. City Studies Applications (at least 2.0 credits from among the following):

CITC01H3 Urban Communities and Neighbourhoods Case Study: East Scarborough CITC02H3 Placements in Community Development CITC03H3 Housing Policy and Planning CITC04H3 Current Municipal and Planning Policy and Practice in Toronto CITC07H3 Urban Social Policy CITC08H3 Cities and Community Development CITC09H3 Introduction to Planning History: Toronto and Its Region CITC10H3 Selected Issues in City Studies CITC12H3 City Structures and City Choices: Local Government, Management, and Policy MakingCity Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in **Urban Policy Making** CITC14H3 Environmental Planning CITC15H3 Money Matters: How Municipal Finance Shapes the City CITC16H3 Planning and Governing the Metropolis CITC17H3 Civic Engagement in Municipal Politics CITC18H3 Urban Transportation Policy Analysis CITD01H3 City Issues and Strategies CITD05H3 City Studies Workshop I CITD06H3 City Studies Workshop II CITD10H3 Seminar in Selected Issues in City Studies CITD12H3 Planning and Building Public Spaces in Toronto

CITD30H3 Supervised Research Project

#### 6.5. Approaches to Cities (at least 1.5 credits from among the following):

ANTC18H3 Urban Worlds [EESA05H3 Environmental Hazards or EESA06H3 Introduction to Planet Earth] EESD20H3 Geological Evolution and Environmental History of North America GGRB02H3 The Logic of Geographic Thought GGRB05H3 Urban Geography GGRB13H3 Social Geography GGRB28H3 Geographies of Disease GGRC02H3 Population Geography GGRC10H3 Urbanization and Development GGRC11H3 Current Topics in Urban Geography GGRC12H3 Transportation Geography GGRC13H3 Urban Political Geography GGRC27H3 Location and Spatial Development GGRC33H3 The Toronto Region GGRC40H3 Megacities and Global Urbanization GGRC43H3 Social Geographies of Street Food GGRC48H3 Geographies of Urban Poverty **GGRD09H3** Feminist Geographies GGRD14H3 Social Justice and the City HISC58H3 Delhi and London: Imperial Cities, Mobile People POLB56H3 Critical Issues in Canadian Politics POLB57H3 The Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights POLC53H3 Canadian Environmental Policy PPGB66H3/(PPGC66H3)/(POLC66H3) Public Policy Making PPGC67H3/(POLC67H3) Public Policy in Canada SOCB44H3 Sociology of Cities and Urban Life SOCC26H3 Sociology of Urban Cultural Policies

# **Description of Proposed Changes:**

Removed the 'Introduction to Social Thought' section Added CITA02H3 (New proposed course) as part of the core courses Changed the B-level core course requirement from 1.0 credits to 1.5 credits CITC12H3 proposes a new title which has been updated here too Updated titles of WSTB12, B20, C14.

#### **Rationale:**

These changes to program requirements are motivated by two main considerations: first, this year we are creating a second A-level course, CITA02H3 Studying Cities which is designed to provide a solid introduction to university study skills, the philosophical foundations of research, major paradigms of knowledge production, and methodological approaches relevant to the Programs in City Studies. As we now will have two A-level Foundations courses, the former set of foundations courses (dating to the start of City Studies in 2001) are now obsolete. The combination of CITA01H3 and CITA02H3 will provide a stronger and more targeted foundation year for City Studies students than the previous model which relied on first year courses from GGR, POL, ANT, SOC.

The rationale for increasing the requirement for B-level Core Courses from 1.0 to 1.5 FCE relates to our goal of strengthening training in research methods. Each B-level course will provide an introduction to one area of concentration and a specific related set of research methods tailored to each area of concentration. The B-level Core Courses in this way will provide an essential introduction to our areas of concentration and research methods in City Studies. Breadth of this introduction to diverse methods of knowledge production and mobilization is a key pedagogical goal.

The title of CITC12H3 has been updated, hence, updating the calendar for program too for coherence.

The updated titles to WSTB12, WSTB20, and WSTC14 were initiated by the Dept. of Historical & Cultural Studies.

The focus on research methods in the B-level core courses is to embed methods training in each course in a way that is directly related to the course content and assignments. And to make explicit in our syllabi and website explanations of each course what research methods will be developed in each course. And that within each 'area of concentration' a sequence of increasingly challenging assignments will be developed from the B to C to D levels that will encourage students to gain mastery of different research methods. In this way, City Studies research methods will be linked to the course content and assignments in meaningful ways.

The impacts on current students will be primarily to create more visibility and awareness of the role of research methods in each class and set of assignments. Future students who are using the new Program Requirements the planned sequences of B-C-D courses will provide enhanced opportunities for more advanced research projects. Those sequences will be rolled out sequentially over the next 3 years.

# Impact:

No impact on existing students. Existing students may continue to follow the requirements from the year they joined the program.

**Consultations:** DCC Approved: September 20, 2023 ANT consulted: January 12, 2024 MGE consulted: January 12, 2024 POL consulted: January 12, 2024 SOC consulted: January 12, 2024

Resource Implications: None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# SCMIN1810: MINOR PROGRAM IN CITY STUDIES (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

**Program Requirements** The program requires the completion of 4.0 credits as follows:

**1. Foundations (<del>0.5</del>1.0 credit):** CITA01H3/(CITB02H3) Foundations of City Studies CITA02H3 Studying Cities

**2.** Core Courses (1.5 credits from the following): GGRB05H3 Urban Geography

CITB01H3 Canadian Cities and Planning CITB03H3 Social Planning and Community Development CITB04H3 City Politics CITB08H3 Economy of Cities

**3.** Applications (2.01.5 credits at the C- or D-level, from the following): CITC01H3 Urban Communities and Neighbourhoods Case Study: East Scarborough CITC03H3 Housing Policy and Planning

CITC04H3 Current Municipal and Planning Policy and Practice in Toronto

CITC07H3 Urban Social Policy

CITC08H3 Cities and Community Development

CITC10H3 Selected Issues in City Studies

CITC12H3 City Structures and City Choices: Local Government, Management, and Policy MakingCity Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making

CITC14H3 Environmental Planning

CITC15H3 Money Matters: How Municipal Finance Shapes the City

CITC16H3 Planning and Governing the Metropolis

CITC17H3 Civic Engagement in Urban Politics CITC18H3 Urban Transportation Policy Analysis CITD01H3 City Issues and Strategies CITD10H3 Seminar in Selected Issues in City Studies CITD12H3 Planning and Building Public Spaces in Toronto GGRC10H3 Urbanization and Development GGRC11H3 Current Topics in Urban Geography GGRC12H3 Transportation Geography GGRC13H3 Urban Political Geography GGRC27H3 Location and Spatial Development GGRC33H3 The Toronto Region GGRC40H3 Megacities and Global Urbanization GGRC43H3 Social Geographies of Street Food GGRC48H3 Geographies of Urban Poverty GGRC50H3 Geographies of Education GGRD14H3 Social Justice and the City

#### **Description of Proposed Changes:**

Added CITA02H3 (New proposed course) as part of the A-level core courses Reduced from 2.0 FCE to 1.5 FCE for Application course requirements CITC12H3 proposes a new title which has been updated here too

#### **Rationale:**

These changes to program requirements are motivated by two main considerations: first, this year we are creating a second A-level course, CITA02H3 Studying Cities which is designed to provide a solid introduction to university study skills, the philosophical foundations of research, major paradigms of knowledge production, and methodological approaches relevant to the Programs in City Studies. As we now will have two A-level Foundations courses, the former set of foundations courses (dating to the start of City Studies in 2001) are now obsolete. The combination of CITA01H3 and CITA02H3 will provide a stronger and more targeted foundation year for City Studies students than the previous model which relied on first year courses from GGR, POL, ANT, SOC.

This decrease in the required credits in 'Applications' from 2.0 FCE to 1.5 FCE is in response to the creation of CITA02H3, the pairing of this course with CITA01H3 as the new 'Foundations' 1.0 FCE requirement, and the elimination of the previous 'Foundations' requirement consisting of a broad range of other possible A-level courses in other disciplines. The City Studies Committee feels strongly that this new approach will provide a much stronger foundation for undergraduate success in City Studies programs than the former arrangement, which dates to the establishment of City Studies in 2001, when there was only one CIT course, CITD01H3.

CITC12H3 has a new title, hence, updating the program for coherence.

Consultations: DCC Approved: September 20, 2023

**Resource Implications:** None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# 1 New Course

# CITA02H3: Studying Cities

Impact on Programs: This Proposal triggers modifications in the unit's programs(s)

# **Description:**

An introduction to the philosophical foundations of research, major paradigms, and methodological approaches relevant to Programs in City Studies. This course is designed to increase awareness and understanding of academic work and culture, enhance general and discipline-specific academic literacy, and create practical opportunities for skills development to equip students for academic success in City Studies.

# Breadth Requirements: Social & Behavioural Sciences

**CNC Allowed:** Y

# Credit Value: fixed: 0.5

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to

(1) describe the various foundational philosophical concepts relevant to scholarly inquiry and knowledge production, with a particular focus on the study of cities;

(2) explain and appreciate how ontological, epistemological and methodological differences in urban research have shaped the evolution and current state of City Studies;

(3) critically evaluate scholarly research on cities;

(4) formulate research questions and articulate their relevance for the advancement of existing knowledge;

(5) demonstrate facility in basic research design and strategy appropriate for a first-year course and in preparation for research assignments at the second-year level.

## **Topics Covered:**

- Philosophical Foundations & Research Paradigms (e.g., Ontology, Epistemology; Critical Positivism, Interpretivism, Critical Research)
- Methodological Approaches (e.g., Quantitative vs Qualitative, Ethnography, Participatory Research, Policy Research)
- Academic Research & Culture (e.g., the nature of scholarship, developing a research question, referencing, citation practices, academic integrity)
- Academic Skills (e.g., critical thinking, critical reading, paraphrasing, note-taking, oral and written communication; reference management)

# Methods of Assessment:

The midterm test (15%, learning outcomes 1-3) and final exam (35%, learning outcomes 1-3) will support the acquisition of a basic understanding of the philosophy of science, research paradigms, and methodological approaches relevant to the study of cities. Students will have to recall and describe relevant information from course readings and demonstrate their understanding by selecting, identifying and classifying scholarly interventions in City Studies.

There will be a series of in-class quizzes (10%, learning outcome 3) to incentive the ongoing engagement with class readings throughout the term. These quizzes will test students' basic comprehension of the weekly readings and will focus on enhancing their basic understanding and appreciation of the variety of urban-focused scholarship.

There will be two written assignments, an annotated bibliography (15%, learning outcomes 3-5) and a research proposal (15%, learning outcomes 3-5). These assignments will provide students with the opportunity to enhance bibliographical research skills, critical reading, paraphrasing, referencing, developing a research question within a particular theoretical and conceptual framework situating and justifying the research question within the context of the relevant literature. The proposal assignment will be accompanied by an oral assignment (10%, learning outcomes 3-5), a 5-minute asynchronous video-recorded "elevator pitch" presentation about the research proposal.

## **Consultation:**

This new course proposal was developed by the Department of Human Geography - City Studies Committee in response to our External Review of 2020-21 and formed part of the deliberations of the Departmental Curriculum Renewal project initiated by the Departmental Curriculum Committee during 2022-23. It was discussed at two curriculum retreats in winter 2023 and refined by the City Studies Committee in summer 2023.

No consultations were conducted outside the unit as we do not anticipate any impacts on other units apart from the need for a large lecture theatre for classes.

Course code approved by the RO: September 21, 2023 DCC Approved: September 20, 2023

#### **Resources:**

This course will be taught by one of our regular faculty, Professor Ahmed Allahwala. This course will require TA support and will be covered by the department's existing TA budget.

No ancillary or lab fees will be required.

Overlap with Existing Courses: We foresee no significant overlap with other courses.

Estimated Enrolment: more than 200

Instructor: Ahmed Allahwala

Proposal Status: Under Review

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# 2 Course Modifications

# CITB01H3: Canadian Cities and Planning

#### **Description:**

After reviewing the history of urban and regional planning in Canada, this course considers alternative ideologies, models of public choice, the role of the planner, the instruments of planning, tools for the analysis of planning, and planning in the context of the space economy.

After critically examining the history of urban planning in Canada, this course explores contemporary planning challenges and engages with planning's 'progressive potential' to address social justice issues and spatialized inequality through an examination of possible planning solutions.

## **Prerequisites:**

Any 4.0 credits.

[CITA01H3 and CITA02H3] or [CITA01H3 and CITA02H3 as co-requisites with permission]

#### Learning Outcomes:

- By the end of this course, students will be able to:
- Understand urban planning processes and explain the history of planning in Canada;
- Explain and apply different planning theories, concepts and approaches;
- Describe and illustrate the role of planning in shaping socio-spatial landscapes;
- Critically analyze urban planning issues and public participation methods;
- Build on existing research, writing, and critical thinking skills.

## **Rationale:**

The course description has been revised to better reflect the topics and content that will be discussed.

Prerequisites now include CITA01H3 and CITA02H3 because those are the foundation courses for all City Studies courses.

CITA01H3 will be offered each Fall semester, and CITA02H3 each Spring semester. We hope in future also to offer both also sequentially as compressed 6week online courses in the Summer semester as another entry point to CIT programs. The goal of making both courses prerequisites for CITB-level courses is to ensure that students complete the A-level courses early in their degree. Currently too many students take them later in their degree. However, a significant number of our students switch into City Studies in their third year, and in such cases will need to catch up with both their A-level and B-level required courses. In this special case we believe that it makes sense to allow students to take a CITA-level and CITB-level at the same time, with permission. This route would only be for students who are farther along in their degrees and switching to City Studies. The intention is to allow the case where they may have taken one already, and the other could act as a co-req.

#### **Consultation:**

During the departmental retreat and recent departmental council meeting, faculty were encouraged to review the online calendar description of their courses and, if required, submit appropriate changes.

DCC Approved: September 20, 2023

# Resources: None

**Estimated Enrolment:** 125

Instructor: Julie Mah

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# CITC12H3: City Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making

## Title:

# City Structures and City Choices: Local Government, Management, and Policymaking

City Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making

# **Description:**

This course examines the structure of local government, how local Government is managed, how policy decisions are made. Viewing Canadian cities in comparative perspective, topics include the organization and authority of the mayor, council, civic bureaucracy, and special purpose bodies, and their roles in the making and implementation of public policies; ethical and conflict of interest dilemmas; collective bargaining; and provincial oversight of municipal affairs.

Local governments are constantly making policy decisions that shape the lives of residents and the futures of cities. This course focuses on how these decisions get made, who has power to make them, and their impact on urban citizens. We will address how challenges in cities are understood by city council, staff, and the public, and how certain "policy solutions" win out over others. In the process, we will draw from both classical and contemporary theories of local government as well as the latest research on urban policy making. We will also be learning field research methods to study policy making as it happens on the ground in cites.

## **Prerequisites:**

8.0 credits, including at least 1.5 credits at the B-level from City Studies, Human Geography, Economics for Management Studies, Management, Political Science, or Sociology.

8.0 credits, including CITB04H3 and at least 1.5 other credits at the B-level from City Studies, Human Geography, Economics for Management Studies, Management, Political Science, or Sociology.

## Learning Outcomes:

-Learning history of fieldwork in urban studies and public policy.

-Writing research field notes.

-Conducting policy reviews.

-Observing and analyzing city meetings.

-Constructing and revising research questions for field studies.

-Learning to triangulate between different sources of data.

# Methods of Assessment:

Midterm Exam: 25%

-The midterm will help to ensure that students understand the history of research on urban public policy and methods of data collection.

#### Critical Reading Report/Proposal: 25%

-This assignment will help students to learn how to engage with prior research to craft a research question.

#### Policy Field Research Report: 35%

-This report will show that they have learned to engage with fieldwork methods including writing fieldnotes, observational analysis, and constructing a policy review

#### Participation: 15%

-Ensures that students are in class and engaging with the course material.

# **Rationale:**

The name change for this course reflects the teaching approach I've brought to the material over the past several years. The central focus of the course remains the same – understanding how urban public policy is formed and how it addresses the problems and challenges facing Canadian cities. I've put an emphasis on field research – which means that students are asked to engage with policy problems as they happen on the ground in Toronto. For example, students go out into the city and look at the potential impacts of the new Scarborough Subway Extension on the community.

Myself alongside my colleagues in City Studies, have been thinking about ways to integrate different courses and give students more direct experience to research. This course builds directly on what they learn in CITB04H3. In CITB04H3 they learn the basics of how city hall functions and some basic field work methods. In CITC12H3 they will expand upon this training to carry out more substantive field work and produce a policy report that will be presented to city hall.

#### **Consultation:**

I have been in contact with my colleagues in City Studies about the name change, especially Julie Mah and Andre Sorensen. My thinking also builds upon a series of intensive meetings the City Studies faculty had last year about reshaping the City Studies program to give students more research experience. DCC Approved: September 20, 2023

# Resources: None

**Estimated Enrolment:** 60

Instructor: Zackary Hyde

Version Start Session: Fall 2024



# 2024-25 Curriculum Cycle Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval **Report: Political Sciences** February 8, 2024

# **Report: Political Sciences**

# **4 Program Modifications**

# SCMAJ2015: MAJOR PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

**Program Requirements** Students must complete at least 8.0 credits in Political Science as follows:

**1. Introduction to Political Science (1.0 credit):** POLA01H3 Critical Issues in Politics I POLA02H3 Critical Issues in Politics II

# 2. Political Theory (1.0 credit):

POLB72H3 Introduction to Political Theory 0.5 credit from among the courses listed in the Political Theory Area of Focus Table

# 3. Canadian Politics (1.0 credit):

POLB56H3 Canadian Politics and Government Critical Issues in Canadian Politics POLB57H3 The Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights

4. At least two of the following International Relations and/or Comparative Politics (1.0 credit):

POLB80H3 Introduction to International Relations I

POLB81H3 Introduction to International Relations II

POLB90H3 Comparative Development in International Perspective POLB91H3 Introduction to Comparative Politics Comparative Development in Political Perspective

# 5. At least two of the following from Research Methods (1.0 credit):

POLB40H3 Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy [STAB23H3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences or equivalent] POLC78H3 Political Analysis I

# 6. Applications (2.5 credits):2.5 credits in POL or PPG courses of which at least 2.0 must be at the C- and/or D-level

# 7. Advanced Applications (0.5 credit) At least 0.5 credit in POL or PPG courses at the D-level

# **Description of Proposed Changes:**

- 1. Title change in POLB56H3 from Critical Issues in Canadian Government to Canadian Politics and Government"
- 2. Title change in POLB91H3 from Comparative Development in Political Perspective to "Introduction to Comparative Politics"
- 3. Addition of POLB40H3 Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy under Methods
- 4. Addition of a more descriptive category labeling in program requirements (International Relations, Comparative Politics, Research Methods)

# **Rationale:**

1. Title change in POLB56H3 better reflects the subject and breadth of the course – and is intended to better highlight the value of taking the course for students.

The rationale for the name change in POLB91H3 is that it reflects the need to incorporate a broader introduction to comparative politics.
 POLB40H3 added to Methods to equip students with essential skills in data analysis, statistics, and programming, addressing a gap identified through surveys of current students and alumni.

4. Adding a more descriptive category labeling in program requirements makes the labeling consistent for the Major program as well as between Specialist and Major Program

# Impact:

None

# **Consultations:**

Approved by the DCC meeting on October 2, 2023

# **Resource Implications:**

None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# SCMAJPUBP: MAJOR PROGRAM IN PUBLIC POLICY (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

Program Requirements

Students must complete a total of 8.0 credits as follows:

1. 1.0 credit at the A- or B-level in Anthropology, City Studies, Geography, International Development Studies, Political Science, or Sociology Note: at least 0.5 credit at the A-level in Political Science is recommended. We also recommend interested students take introductory courses in disciplines like City Studies, Economics for Management Studies, Environmental Science, Health Studies, International Development Studies, and Sociology that may reflect their particular substantive interests.

2. Economics for Public Policy (1.0 credit): [MGEA01H3 and MGEA05H3] or [MGEA02H3 and MGEA06H3]

Canadian Politics (1.0 credit)
 POLB56H3 Canadian Politics and Government Critical Issues in Canadian Politics
 POLB57H3 The Canadian Constitution and Charter of Rights

4. Fundamentals of Public Policy (1.0 credit) PPGB66H3/(PPGC66H3) Public Policy Making PPGC67H3 Public Policy in Canada

5. Statistics 0.5 credit from: MGEB11H3 Quantitative Methods in Economics I PPGB11H3 Policy Communications with Data STAB22H3 Statistics I
STAB23H3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences STAB57H3 An Introduction to Statistics

6. Methods 0.5 credits from:
POLB40H3 Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy
GGRA30H3 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Empirical Reasoning
PPGB11H3 Policy Communications with Data
POLC11H3 Applied Statistics for Politics and Public Policy
POLC78H3 Political Analysis I

7. Applications of Public Policy (3.0 credits in Public Policy courses,\* from the following list or other courses with the approval of the supervisor of studies; of these, 2.0 credits must be at the C- or D-level and an additional 0.5 credits at the D-level).

Urban Public Policy **CITB04H3** City Politics CITC04H3 Current Municipal and Planning Policy and Practice in Toronto CITC07H3 Urban Social Policy CITC12H3 City Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making and City Choices: Local Government, Management, and CITC15H3 Money Matters: How Municipal Finance Shapes the City CITC16H3 Planning and Governing the Metropolis CITC18H3 Urban Transportation Policy Analysis Health Policy HLTB40H3 Health Policy and Health Systems HLTC42H3 Emerging Health Issues and Policy Needs HLTC43H3 Politics of Canadian Health Policy HLTC44H3 Comparative Health Policy Systems IDSB04H3 Introduction to International/Global Health MGEC34H3 Economics of Health Care Environmental Policy EESC13H3 Environmental Impact and Assessment Auditing EESC34H3 Sustainability in Practice EESD13H3 Environmental Law, Policy and Ethics ESTB04H3 Addressing the Climate Crisis

ESTC36H3 Knowledge, Ethics and Environmental Decision-Making

ESTD19H3 Risk POLC53H3 Canadian Environmental Policy

POLD89H3 Global Environmental Politics

Public Administration MGEB31H3 Public Decision Making MGEB32H3 Economic Aspects of Public Policy MGEC31H3 Economics of the Public Sector: Taxation MGEC32H3 Economics of the Public Sector: Expenditures MGEC37H3 Law and Economics MGEC38H3 The Economics of Canadian Public Policy MGEC54H3 Economics of Training and Education MGEC91H3 Economics and Government MGSC03H3 Public Management MGSC05H3 The Changing World of Business-Government Relations Politics and Public Policy POLC12H3 Global Public Policy and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) POLC13H3 Program Evaluation POLC36H3 Law and Public Policy POLC54H3 Intergovernmental Relations in Canada POLC57H3 Intergovernmental Relations and Public Policy POLC65H3 Political Strategy POLC69H3 Political Economy: International and Comparative Perspectives POLC83H3 Applications of American Foreign Policy POLC87H3 Great Power Politics International Cooperation and Institutions POLC93H3 Public Policies in the United States POLC98H3 International Political Economy of Finance

POLD50H3 Political Interests, Political Identity, and Public Policy

POLD52H3 Immigration and Canadian Political Development

POLD67H3 The Limits of Rationality

POLD87H3 Rational Choice and International Cooperation

POLD90H3/IDSD90H3 Public Policy and Human Development in the Global South

PPGD64H3 Comparative Public Policy

PPGD68H3 Capstone: The Policy Process in Theory and Practice

\* Many of these courses have prerequisites that are not requirements in the Major Program in Public Policy, please plan accordingly. In addition, we recommend taking methods courses from within your disciplinary Major program.

## **Description of Proposed Changes:**

1. Title change in POLB56H3 from Critical Issues in Canadian Government to "Canadian Politics and Government"

2. Addition of POLB40H3 Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy under Methods

3. We moved PPGB11H3 from Statistics to Methods in program requirements.

4. CITC12H3 has a new title for the course: City Structures, Problems, and Decisions: Field Research in Urban Policy Making. This course is one of the courses under Urban Public Policy in the Major in Public Policy program.

5. Title change in POLC87H3 to "Great Power Politics"

#### **Rationale:**

1. Title change in POLB56H3 better reflects the subject and breadth of the course – and is intended to better highlight the value of taking the course for students.

2. POLB40H3 added to Methods to equip students with essential skills in data analysis, statistics, and programming, addressing a gap identified through surveys of current students and alumni.

3. PPGB11H3 belongs to the group of courses in Methods in program requirements. It was put under Statistics by mistake.

4. The title change in CITC12H3 has been approved at CIT departmental meeting.

5. The new course title in POLC87H3 better reflects its content. The international context has changed and international institutions and the research program it sparked from the mid 1980s forward is less relevant to international relations today. On the other hand, the relations to the US, between the major powers, as well as their relations to smaller powers is largely relevant.

# Impact:<br/>None Consultations:<br/>DCC approved: October 2, 2023 Resource Implications:<br/>None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# SCMIN2030: MINOR PROGRAM IN PUBLIC LAW (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

# **Program Requirements**

Students must complete 4.0 credits, of which at least 1.0 credit must be at the C- and/or D-level.

# 1. Core Courses as follows (2.0 credits):

POLB30H3 Law, Justice and Rights POLB56H3 Canadian Politics and Government Critical Issues in Canadian Politics POLB57H3 The Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights POLC32H3 The Canadian Judicial System

2. Public Law Electives (1.5 credit from the following):

POLC30H3 Law, Politics, and Technology in Applications

POLC33H3 Politics of International Human Rights POLC34H3 The Politics of Crime POLC36H3 Law and Public Policy POLC38H3 International Law POLC39H3 Comparative Law and Politics POLC56H3 Indigenous Politics and Law POLD30H3 Legal Reasoning POLD38H3 Law and Global Business POLD42H3 Advanced Topics in Public Law POLD44H3 Comparative Law and Social Change POLD45H3 Constitutionalism POLD46H3 Public Law and the Canadian Immigration System

**3.** 0.5 credit from requirement 2 above or an appropriate course from another discipline, including at the UTSC, UTM and St. George campuses, as approved by the Public Law Program Advisor.

# **Description of Proposed Changes:**

1. Title change in POLB56H3 from Critical Issues in Canadian Government to "Canadian Politics and Government"

2. The new course has been added to 2. Public Law Electives (1.5 credit from the following): POLC30H3 Law, Politics, and Technology in Applications

# Rationale:

1. Title change better reflects the subject and breadth of the course – and is intended to better highlight the value of taking the course for students.

2. POLC30H3 is proposed as a part of the new program a Major Program in Public Law (potential launch in fall 2025) and as an expansion of Public Law Minor.

Impact: None

## **Consultations:**

The new course POLC30H3 Law, Politics, and Technology in Applications and the new title for POLB56H3 have been approved at DCC meeting on October 2, 2023.

# **Resource Implications:**

None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# SCSPE2015: SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (ARTS)

# **Completion Requirements:**

# **Program Requirements**

Students must complete at least 12.0 full credits in Political Science including:

# **1. Introduction to Political Science (1.0 credit):**

POLA01H3 Critical Issues in Politics I POLA02H3 Critical Issues in Politics II

# 2. Political Theory (1.0 credit):

POLB72H3 Introduction to Political Theory 0.5 credit from among the courses listed in the Political Theory Area of Focus Table

# 3. Canadian Politics (1.0 credit):

POLB56H3 Canadian Politics and Government Critical Issues in Canadian Politics POLB57H3 The Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights

# 4. International Relations and Comparative Politics (2.01.0 credits):

POLB80H3 Introduction to International Relations I POLB81H3 Introduction to International Relations II

# 5. Comparative Politics (1.0 credit):

POLB90H3 Comparative Development in International Perspective POLB91H3 Introduction to Comparative Politics Comparative Development in Political Perspective

# **5**6. At least two of the following from Research Methods (1.0 credit):

POLB40H3 Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy [STAB23H3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences or equivalent] POLC78H3 Political Analysis I

# 67. Applications (5.0 credits):

5.0 credits in POL or PPG courses at the C- and/or D-level

# **78.** Advanced Applications (1.0 credit)

At least 1.0 credit in POL or PPG courses at the D-level

# **Description of Proposed Changes:**

- 1. Title change in POLB56H3 from Critical Issues in Canadian Government to "Canadian Politics and Government"
- 2. Title change in POLB91H3 from Comparative Development in Political Perspective to "Introduction to Comparative Politics"
- 3. Addition of POLB40H3 Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy under Methods

#### **Rationale:**

1. Title change better reflects the subject and breadth of the course – and is intended to better highlight the value of taking the course for students.

2. The rationale for the name change in POLB91H3 is that it reflects the need to incorporate a broader introduction to comparative politics.

3. POLB40H3 added to Methods to equip students with essential skills in data analysis, statistics, and programming, addressing a gap identified through surveys of current students and alumni.

4. Addition of a more descriptive category labeling in program requirements (International Relations, Comparative Politics, Research Methods)

#### Impact: None

# **Consultations:**

Approved by the DCC meeting on October 2, 2023

# **Resource Implications:**

None

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# 3 New Courses

# POLB40H3: Quantitative Reasoning for Political Science and Public Policy

## **Description:**

This course introduces students to tools and foundational strategies for developing evidence-based understandings of politics and public policy. The course covers cognitive and other biases that distort interpretation. It then progresses to methodological approaches to evidence gathering and evaluation, including sampling techniques, statistical uncertainty, and deductive and inductive methods. The course concludes by introducing tools used in advanced political science and public policy courses.

**Prerequisites:** Any 4.0 credits

Exclusions: POL222H1, SOCB35H3

## Breadth Requirements: Quantitative Reasoning

## **CNC Allowed:** Y

# Credit Value: fixed: 0.5

## **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students who complete POLB40 should:
- 1. Recognize the cognitive biases that commonly affect judgements about politics and public policy.
- 2. Appreciate the importance of models, evidence, and quantified uncertainty in political science and public policy.
- 3. Have knowledge of common types of models and their most significant underlying assumptions, applications, and limitations.
- 4. Have knowledge of different data structures and tools that are used to test models against evidence.
- 5. Have knowledge to critically assess flawed arguments by recognizing blatant problems of argumentation.

6. Have knowledge to critically evaluate information sources and the quality of evidence by appreciating specific ways in which data can be manipulated to fit a model or support a claim.

- 7. Be able to carry out basic data analysis using Python, R, and Excel and interpret the results.
- 8. Have knowledge of best practices in research ethics, transparency, and reproducibility.
- 9. Have knowledge of best practices in data visualization and knowledge translation.

## **Topics Covered:**

- 1. Biases, Fallacies, Misinformation, and Disinformation
- 2. Statistics and Probability
- 3. Data Management, Analysis, and Interpretation
- 4. Deductive and Inductive Approaches to Political/Policy Research
- 5. Data Visualization and Presentation

# Methods of Assessment:

- A series of small assignments (related to Learning Outcomes)
- Midterm (25%) related to learning outcomes (1-5): testing ability to recognize and classify bias and problems in vignettes of arguments.
- -Two small assignments (30%): The first assignment is related to learning objectives (3,4) and the second related to learning objectives (7,8,9).
  - In assignment 1, students will create a scientific poster of a paper of their choosing from a large selection and present it in tutorial.
  - In assignment 2, students will create and describe in writing a graph based on a finding in data from a curated repository.
- Final exam (35%) related to Learning Outcomes 1-9.
- -Tutorial Participation (10%) related to learning outcomes 1-9 and especially 7.

# **Rationale:**

Technology has made it easier for people, governments, and organizations to access and share information about politics and public policy. However, without strategies for making sense of information, including avoiding bias and other distortions, information is likely to manipulate and misinform rather than educate and enlighten.

The rationale for this course is to prepare students for more advanced courses in political science and public policy. Some students are intimidated by statistics and formal modeling and unclear about the connection to political science and public policy. In support of the external review conducted in 2021, a survey of current students in political science indicated that data and statistics was ranked last among the substantive topics students wished they had more opportunity to study during their degree. In the same survey among alumni, however, data/statistics ranked first among substantive topics as an area where alumni wished they had more opportunities to study during their undergraduate degree. A primary goal of this course within the program is to provide students with the motivation and confidence for additional courses in computational and quantitative social science and policy research.

This new course is designed for political science and public policy majors, specialists, and co-op students.

Substantively, the course shares similarities with POL222H1F; SOCB35H3. Four distinctive elements of POLB40H3 are (1) the focus on avoiding political manipulation, including with data and statistics; (2) data management and version control; and (3) the introduction of Python and R; and (4) the introduction of formal models to students assumed to have no previous experience with models and little background in mathematics. POLB40H3 aims to increase student interest and capacity to undertake more advanced courses in this area in Political Science and Public Policy, some of which are currently undersubscribed.

## **Consultation:**

DCC approved: September and October, 2023. The DCC discussed an issue in a recent program change to Public Policy and decided on the need for a new second-year course focused on data and statistics for students in political science and public policy. A subcommittee of the DCC met in October to discuss the content for this course.

RO approved: October 17, 2024

# **Resources:**

The course will be taught by regular faculty and covered by the existing budget. Students in the course will use lab space already available to the department and thus requires no additional equipment or infrastructure. TA Support will be covered by the department's existing budget.

# Overlap with Existing Courses: POL222H1F, SOCB35H3

Estimated Enrolment: 60-100

# Instructor: Christopher Cochrane, Renan Levine

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# POLC30H3: Law, Politics and Technology

#### **Description:**

Today's legal and political problems require innovative solutions and heavily rely on the extensive use of technology. This course will examine the interaction between law, politics, and technology. It will explore how technological advancements shape and are shaped by legal and political systems. Students will examine the impact of technology on the legal and political landscape, and will closely look at topics such as cybersecurity, privacy, intellectual property, social media, artificial intelligence and the relationship of emerging technologies with democracy, human rights, ethics, employment, health and environment. The course will explore the challenges and opportunities that technology poses to politics and democratic governance. The topics and readings take a wider global perspective – they are not confined only on a Canadian context but look at various countries' experiences with technology.

**Prerequisites:** POLB30H3 and POLB56H3

Recommended Preparation: POLC32H3, POLC36H3

**Enrolment Limits: 60** 

Breadth Requirements: Social & Behavioural Sciences

#### **CNC Allowed:** Y

Credit Value: fixed: 0.5

## **Learning Outcomes:**

The course will have an interactive approach and requires continuous engagement from students. Students will be encouraged to follow real-time developments in law, politics and technology in Canada and other countries and be able to make a connection between real life developments and the content of the course. They will also be stimulated to explain those developments by applying the knowledge acquired in readings, lectures, and tutorials. Students will be required to truly engage with the readings and develop sharp critical thinking on how technology, law and politics affect one another. Readings will cover content from a variety of regions and countries.

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Gain familiarity and foundational knowledge on the role of technology in politics and government decision-making.
- 2. Have a proper understanding of the philosophical arguments in favor or against the expansion of technology and the historical struggles for the government
- to keep up with this development for the purpose of regulation and protecting individual rights and public interests.
- 3. Evaluate the role of law and regulation in shaping the development and deployment of technology.
- 4. Examine the challenges and opportunities that technology poses to democratic governance.

5. Analyze the nature of law and its limits for governing the development of technology and critique the application of regulatory and case law on complex policy situations.

6. Identify and analyze emerging legal and regulatory issues in the technology sector.

- 7. Interpret common constitutional issues presented in public policy controversies and their ethical implications for regulating technology.
- 8. Improve their writing skills and develop their ability to provide persuasive reasons to support their arguments.
- 9. Have the ability to work individually and collaboratively and to use appropriate technology in their research.
- 10. Be able to make oral arguments in front of their peers and defend their positions on legal and political matters

# **Topics Covered:**

Introduction to law, politics and technology The role of law and regulation Privacy and Cybersecurity Intellectual property Regulation of emerging technologies (AI) Technology and human rights Democracy and technology The future of work – Automation Technology and Ethics Technology and health Technology and Environment Future implications of technological advancements

# Methods of Assessment:

1. Attendance and participation (related to learning outcomes 1, 2 and 10)

This class has tutorials and has a mandatory attendance and participation component.

Students are expected to come to class, be prepared (having done the required readings for the week), and participate (ask questions, engage in debates, etc). Just attending tutorials will not grant students full marks – they are also expected to actively participate.

2. Research Proposal (related to learning outcomes 2-8)

The goal of the proposal is to help students in the early stages of writing their final paper and get feedback on how to improve moving forward. This proposal will be followed by an extended proposal for additional feedback. Students will be required to submit a proposal between 750-1000 words. In the proposal students should include:

# A title that describes the research;

An outline of the research (including an introduction and description of the topic);

An overview of the relevant literature consulted for the research; A tentative thesis statement and a bibliography.

3. Extended paper proposal (related to learning outcomes 2-8)

After receiving feedback from the paper proposals, students will be required to reflect on the feedback and comments received and address the concerns raised by their TA by resubmitting an improved version of the proposal, which should be 1000-1200 words long.

4. Case Study (related to learning outcomes 3, 5, 6 &7)

Students will explore in more depth one of the topics that are introduced as case studies in weeks 5, 6, 7 and 9 (respectively: "Regulating AI," "Technology and free speech," "Technology and regulation of electoral campaigns" and "Ethical issues in autonomous vehicles". Students will choose one of these four case studies and write a reflection piece on how they envisage the future on these topics and how they will affect the law, politics and democratic governance.

5. Research Paper (related to learning outcomes 2-8)

The major writing assignment for this course is a 2500–3000-word research paper. The paper should include the following elements:

-An introduction of the topic and the issue/problem/question to analyze

-How technology, law and politics affect each other in the given essay topic. What is their relationship and how it plays out in different political and legal issues? Students are required to engage the relevant statutory law or case law that applies.

-Key actors involved, or stakeholders, and define their respective position

-Student's position on the legal solutions/outcomes (consider the pros and cons)

A bibliography

6. Final exam (related to learning outcomes 1-7)

Assessment Scheme:

1. Attendance and participation 10%

- 2. Research paper proposal 10%
- 3. Extended paper proposal 5%
- 4. Case study 17%
- 5. Research paper 25%
- 6. Final exam 33%

## **Rationale:**

This course is being proposed to expand the current Public Law Minor Program and to add more courses to its curriculum as we prepare to develop into a Major Program. Politics and law are dramatically affected by technological advancements, and a course that explores the relationship between technology, law and politics is not offered in our Program. Other undergraduate Programs in other Universities have introduced a similar course many years ago, and our Political Science Program would benefit from this addition.

This proposal extends the Public Law course offering into a new domain by addressing how technology affects the workings of law and politics. Doing so helps to fill a gap in the current course offerings in Public Law, which have focused on legal institutions, constitutional law and the role of the courts in shaping our legal system. By familiarizing students with the role of technology in law and politics, this course will help students understand the legal and political implications of the new emerging technologies.

Further, the course builds on other courses already offered in the program, such as POLB30 (Law, Justice and Rights), POLC32 (The Role of the Courts in the Canadian Legal System) and POLC36 (Law and Public Policy). This course will present students with an opportunity to explore how technology informs and shapes legal and political choices and how, in return, these choices determine the extent to which technology expands and develops.

# Consultation:

POLC30H3 was approved on September 22, 2023, by the Office of the Registrar. DCC approved: October 2, 2023

Consultations on the development of this course have been undertaken inside the academic unit. Specifically, professors teaching in the Public Law Minor were consulted on expanding the offered courses in anticipation of developing a Public Law Major in the future. The relationship between technology, politics and the law was one area that we identified as fruitful for development.

#### **Resources:**

We anticipate that this course will be taught by regular faculty. We will require approximately 90-100 hours of TA support, with funding allocated from our existing Departmental budget. We do not anticipate any additional equipment or ancillary fees.

# **Overlap with Existing Courses:**

There are no other courses offered in Public Law or in Political Science at USTC that cover the topics of this course.

# **Estimated Enrolment:** 60

Instructor: Irma Spahiu

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# POLD82H3: Politics and Literature

#### **Description:**

Examines political dynamics and challenges through exploration of fiction and other creative works in conjunction with political science literature. Topics and area of focus will vary depending on the instructor, but could include such subjects as climate change, war, migration, gender, multiculturalism, colonialism, etc.

Prerequisites: 1.5 credits at the C-level in POL courses

**Enrolment Limits: 25** 

Breadth Requirements: Social & Behavioural Sciences

## Credit Value: Fixed: 0.5

# **Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. use fictional work to expand their understanding of political phenomena;

2. identify relevant political dynamics in fictional work and use ideas and themes in fictional work (in addition to empirical political science materials) to advance arguments about political phenomena in a variety of formats;

3. appreciate the role of storytelling and narrative in understanding political issues and in developing and pursuing action to address political issues;

4. think globally and comparatively about pressing contemporary issues through both empirical political science readings and fictional works;

5. design and execute a major project that integrates empirical research and storytelling/fictional perspectives in some way.

# **Topics Covered:**

Topics covered will depend on the instructor. For instance, the course topic could be climate change and explore both technical/political scenarios of current and future climate action as well as fictional works exploring climate change (this was the topic for the Fall POLD41 topics course upon which this proposal is based).

Politics and Literature could cover any conceivable topic in the political science curriculum.

The subtitle of the course to be specified by instructor (e.g. Politics and Literature: Climate Imaginaries)

## Methods of Assessment:

Methods of assessment will depend on the instructor. As an example, for the climate imaginaries course (POLD41 Fall 2022), the methods of assessment included:

-Course journal where students responded to weekly prompts and wrote short reflections - 20% (learning outcomes 1, 2, 4)

-Participation in class discussion – 15% (learning outcomes 1-4)

-A group memoir assignment where students engaged in empirical research to build a world of 2050 and developed stories of their life in that world -55% (learning outcomes 1-5)

-A course reflection essay where students explored the use of fiction in a political science course -10% (learning outcomes 1-4)

#### **Rationale:**

This course has two distinctive elements. First, it is flexible like a topics course (the specific topic will be up to the instructor) while also retaining a common substantive core regardless of which topic is chosen—an exploration of political phenomena and dynamics through examining the intersection of empirical political studies and fictional work. The flexibility of the topic means that the course can serve all PS students who have D-level course requirements and the course can fit in any of the program streams.

Second, this intersection will provide political science students with an additional, important tool in their analytic repertoire for making sense of the (political) world around them and for grasping new ways to approach political phenomena and action through storytelling and narrative. While many political science courses incorporate creative materials (movies, novels, and other creative works), no course in our curriculum focuses on the intersection of creative expression and political dynamics. The novelty of the approach and accessibility of fiction and creative work will present not only an additional skill for our students, but also an opportunity to grow student interest in the political science program.

While a Politics and Literature course is novel for our program (and for UofT—neither UTM, not UTSG have such a course), it is a fairly common course in many universities' political science curricula. A quick search finds a Politics and Literature class in political science programs at Duke University, University of Calgary, Carleton University, San Diego University, University of North Carolina and many more.

Finally, this course offers opportunities for interdisciplinary team teaching should instructors and departments be interested. The Climate Imaginaries course that this proposal is based upon was taught as a POLD41 topic in Fall 2022 and was co-taught in conjunction with a course in English (very successfully given the student performance and evaluations). To be clear, Politics and Literature would not have to be co-taught, but it does provide an opportunity to do so and to build links between Political Science and humanities departments.

#### **Consultation:**

The course code POLD82H3 was approved by the Office of the Registrar on August 1, 2023.

DCC approved: October 2, 2023

#### **Resources:**

The course will be taught by regular faculty and no TA support is necessary. The course will not require equipment/infrastructure or laboratory fees.

# **Overlap with Existing Courses:** None

## **Estimated Enrolment:** 25

Instructor: Matthew Hoffmann

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# 4 Course Modifications

# **POLB91H3: Introduction to Comparative Politics**

# Title:

Introduction to Comparative Politics Comparative Development in Political Perspective

# Learning Outcomes:

- By the end of this course, students will learn:
- 1. how to read social science and other texts in a critical manner
- 2. the basic debates and concepts in comparative politics
- 3. how to apply social science concepts to real-world cases

# **Rationale:**

The course title change reflects the need to shift the course to incorporate a broader introduction to comparative politics. The new course title, Introduction to Comparative Politics, will better reflect the broader Learning Objectives of the course, which are the following:

By the end of this course, students will learn:

1. how to read social science and other texts in a critical manner

2. the basic debates and concepts in comparative politics

3. how to apply social science concepts to real-world cases

# **Consultation:**

DCC approved: October 2, 2023

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# POLD02Y3: Senior Research Seminar in Political Science

#### **Description:**

This course provides an opportunity to carry out individual research on a Political Science topic. After class readings on the topic under study, research methods and design, and research ethics, students will propose and carry out their own research project. The seminar provides opportunities to present and discuss their unfolding research, as well as to present the findings of their research.

This course provides an opportunity for students to propose and carry out intensive research on a Political Science topic of the student's choosing under the supervision of faculty with expertise in that area. In addition to research on the topic under study, class readings and seminar discussions focus on the practice of social science research, including methods, design, ethics, and communication.

#### **Prerequisites:**

A minimum 3.3 CGPA in Political Science courses and permission of the instructor; Restricted to students in the 4th year of the Specialist in Political Science program. Open to 4th Year students with a CGPA of at least 3.3 in the Specialist and Major programs in Political Science or Public Policy or from other programs with permission of the instructor.

## **Breadth Requirements:**

Social & Behavioural Sciences

**Enrolment Limits:** 

# <del>10-</del>15

Rationale:

The new description more accurately captures the operation of the course. Students work with the course instructor as well as a supervising faculty member in their subject area of interest. The seminar should be open to more students and, in particular, all research-oriented 4th year students with an interest in a Political Science topic, whether from Public Policy or other areas of political science.

This course belongs to the Social and Behavioral Sciences breadth category and we are adding that designation accordingly.

We increased enrollment from 10 to 15 in anticipation of increased demand for the course, as it is now accessible to a wider range of students beyond those in specialized program.

#### **Consultation:**

DCC approved: October 2, 2023

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# POLD09H3: Advanced Topics in International Security

## **Description:**

This course explores the internationalization of ethnic conflict and the international drivers of civil war. It covers diaspora politics, contagion and demonstration effects, regional security complexes, separatism and irredentism, and the use of sanctions and international interventions. The class involves discussions, problem solving exercises, and teamwork.

This seminar course investigates the most urgent topics in the field of International Security, including American hegemonic decline, rising Chinese power, Russian military actions in Eastern Europe, great power competition, proxy wars, and international interventions. The readings for this course are drawn from the leading journals in International Relations, which have been published within the past five years. The major assignment for this course is the production of an original research paper on any topic in international security, which would meet the standard of publication in a reputable student journal. Area of Focus: International Relations

# Learning Outcomes:

Students who take POLD09 should be able to:

1. Have knowledge of how great power competitions can trigger major wars and proxy wars.

- 2. Identify and interpret patterns in international conflict.
- 3. Interpret state behaviour and accurately predict major events in international affairs.
- 4. Engage in productive and respectful discussions of major world events, including violent conflict.

5. Develop strong foundational literacy in the most pressing scholarly debates in security studies, published in leading academic journals over the past five years.

- 6. Critically analyze the scholarly literature in security studies.
- 7. Develop and refine an original puzzle and hypothesis on a topic in international security.
- 8. Produce an original piece of research, which engages with the contemporary scholarly literature, and has potential for publication.
- 9. Present original research in a conference-style format, and receive critical feedback from a discussant.
- 10. Serve as a discussant in a scholarly conference setting.

#### Methods of Assessment:

The methods of assessment are designed to align with each of the learning objectives indicated above. They include:

Tests: 40% (2 in-class tests at 20% each). These tests focus specifically on the assigned readings, and are related to learning objectives 1, 2, 5, and 6. Research paper proposal: 10%. Related to learning objective 7.

Research presentation: 10%. Related to learning objective 9.

Participation: 10%. Related to learning objectives 3, 4, and 10.

Final paper: 30%. Related to learning objective 8.

#### **Rationale:**

This course has evolved over the past five years, such that the original description is now terribly out of date and no longer reflects the content of the course. The outdated description is also causing a reduction in enrollment numbers.

The updated course description more accurately describes the course content.

Methods of assessment and learning outcomes have been updated to reflect the changes to the updated course description.

Departmental meeting: October 2, 2023

Version Start Session: Fall 2024

# POLD89H3: Global Environmental Politics

## Jointly Offered with Course(s):

## POL2213H - Global Environmental Politics

# **Description:**

Examines the challenges faced by humanity in dealing with global environmental problems and the politics of addressing them. Focuses on both the underlying factors that shape the politics of global environmental problems - such as scientific uncertainty, North-South conflict, and globalization - and explores attempts at the governance of specific environmental issues.

Area of Focus: International Relations; Public Policy

## **Rationale:**

1. Added Public Policy as an Area of Study

2. POLD89 will be taught in conjunction with POL2213 offered by UTSG. No changes will be made to the undergraduate course (POLD89). This 4th year seminar would meet in conjunction with a graduate course (POL2213) that has the same title and content. This is a standard practice in the graduate Department of Political Science.

3. The assignment expectations will be adjusted accordingly to take into account the different levels and course loads of students in the class. It should be noted that this course has long been offered as a joint undergraduate-graduate course in past years. The only difference in the current proposal is that UTSC undergraduates will have access to the course at their home campus.

## **Consultation:**

DCC approved: October 2, 2023 UTSG approval: January 10, 2024

## **Estimated Enrolment:**

15 undergraduate and 10 graduate students

# Instructor:

Matthew Hoffmann

Version Start Session: Fall 2024