

Summer 2004
KENTUCKY CANADIAN STUDIES CONSORTIUM
<http://www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/KCSA>

NORTH AMERICAN POLITICS
UNITED STATES AND CANADA

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North American Politics will examine two nations born from the American Revolution and sharing the longest undefended border in the world. The course will look north to our largest trading partner as it looks south at us: a country ten times its population whose culture exercises an hydraulic effect on its way of life. To explore these two distinct, but intimately-related post-industrial democratic republics which share the North American continent, this course will compare their political cultures, their constitutions and courts, their national political lives and institutions, their major social policies, and their political and economic relationships.

The course will begin with an analysis of their national myths and political cultures. Second, it will compare their constitutions and the role of their courts in defining their federal unions and the fundamental rights of their citizens. Third, it will examine the role of political parties in contesting elections and in exercising governmental power. Fourth, it will compare three major social control policies: health care, tobacco, and guns. Fifth, it will explore their economic and political relationships with a focus on energy and post-9/11 foreign and defense policies. Lastly, the course will compare issues of race and language, and their consequences for Canadian national unity and the United States.

North American Politics is a Canadian Studies Online Program course taught from Morehead State University, using the MSU Blackboard server and library reserves, and taken by students at 5 Kentucky Canadian Studies Consortium (KCSC) institutions: Morehead State University (MSU), Eastern Kentucky University (EKU), Georgetown College, University of Kentucky (UK), and Western Kentucky University (WKU). This course has a different course prefix and number at each KCSC institution. At MSU, it is GOVT 329 and IST 329; at EKU, POL 405; at Georgetown, POS 470; at UK, PS 491; and at WKU, GOVT 460. Information on other CSOP courses is available at the Kentucky Canadian Studies Association site: <http://www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/KCSA>

I created North American Politics with assistance provided by a 2003 Morehead State University International Studies Teaching Grant and a 2003-04 Canadian Studies Program Enhancement Grant. To take this internet course, you must have basic computer skills and a computer with an internet connection in order to access the MSU Blackboard course site and MSU's electronic library reserve reading site, and to write and email me your assignments. In sum, you will use the internet, along with traditional information sources, to achieve the objective of this course: a critical comparative analysis of the politics of two democratic post-industrial nations which inhabit the North American continent.

READINGS

David M. Thomas, ed., *Canada and the United States: Differences That Count, 2nd ed.*, Broadview Press, 2000.
ISBN: 1-55111-252-3, \$26.95.

Wayne C. Thompson, *Canada 2003*. 19th ed., Stryker-Post Publications, 2003. ISBN: 1-887985-48-4. \$13.50.

You may purchase these texts from the Morehead State University Bookstore, 606-783-2081 or <http://www.morehead-st.edu/units/bookstore>, which will ship book orders the day they are received. If you encounter difficulties with the MSU Bookstore, you may also purchase the texts at Barnes and Noble online <http://www.bn.com> which promises to ship the Thomas in 24 hours and Thompson in 2-3 days.

Five readings, identified by an asterisk (*) in the "Assignments" section, are available in pdf files in a "Course Documents" folder on the Blackboard course site. Use the "preview" mode and Adobe Acrobat Reader to access them.

COURSE QUESTIONS

If you have questions about **course content**, contact me at w.green@morehead-st.edu.

If you have technical questions about **Blackboard**, contact the MSU Distance Learning Help Desk at 606-783-2082 or Julia Lewis, MSU's Blackboard Administrator, at 606-783-5415 or j.lewis@morehead-st.edu.

If you have questions about **library reserves**, contact Quintin Banks at 606-783-2238 and q.banks@morehead-st.edu.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Six Module Assignments. You will study North American Politics in 6 modules. Each module will contain an overview, list of readings, and an assignment. The assignments will require you to critically analyze the readings and then use the readings to write clear and concise essays. In writing the essays, you will be asked to imagine that you have been asked by a newspaper editor to write a series of 6 essays for the newspaper's editorial/opinion page. Your editor will give you the following instructions. First, you will rely only on the readings in each module assignment. Second, you will develop your own structure and argument in writing the essays. Third, you will follow the newspaper's

guidelines in writing your essays: the modules' formatting, composition; quotation and citation rules; plagiarism policy, honor pledge; assignment submission instructions; and deadlines. Fourth, your first 3 essays (for Modules 1, 2, and 3) will have a common set of writing and submission instructions and a common deadline; and your second 3 essays (for Modules 4, 5, and 6) will have a common set of writing and submission instructions and a common deadline.

2. Modules 1, 2, and 3. These 3 modules are located in 1 MSU Blackboard "Assignment" folder. You will submit all 3 modules together and by 1 deadline determined by your college or university. The deadlines are listed below.

A. National Origins and Cultural Foundations (Module 1)

Wayne Thompson, "Culture," 2-11, in his *Canada 2003*.

Tamara Seiler, "Melting Pot and Mosaic: Images and Realities," 97-114, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Mebs Kanji and Neil Nevitte, "Who are the Most Deferential: Canadians of Americans?," 121-36, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

David Taras, "Swimming Against the Current: American Mass Entertainment and Canadian Identity," 192-207, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

B. National Constitutions and Courts: Federalism and Civil Liberties (Module 2)

Wayne Thompson, "Constitution," 64-66, "Law and the Courts," 77-79; and "Federalism and the Provinces," 80-81, in his *Canada 2003*.

R.P. Kearns, "Two Nations Under Law," 359-74, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Christopher Manfredi, "Rights and the Judicialization of Politics in Canada and the United States," 301-15, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Francois Rocher, "American and Canadian Federalism," 262-80, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

*William G. Buss, "A Comparative Study of the Constitutional Protection of Hate Speech in Canada and the United States," 89-118, in Kenney, Reisinger, and Reitz, *Constitutional Dialogues in Comparative Perspective*, 1999.

C. National Political Institutions (Module 3)

Wayne Thompson, "Parties and Elections," 108-18, and "Governmental Structure," 66-77, in his *Canada 2003*.

Michael Martinez, "Turning Out or Tuning Out: Electoral Participation in Canada and the United States," 211-26, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Jennifer Smith, "The Grass is Always Greener: Prime Ministerial vs. Presidential Government," 229-44, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Roger Gibbins and Peter McCormick, "A Tale of Two Senates," 248-60, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Module 1, 2, and 3 Deadlines

June 11 is the deadline for Georgetown College students

June 18 is the deadline for Morehead State U, Eastern Kentucky U, and Western Kentucky U students

June 25 is the deadline for University of Kentucky students

3. Modules 4, 5, and 6. These 3 modules are located in 1 MSU Blackboard "Assignment" folder. You will submit all 3 modules together and by 1 deadline determined by your college or university. The deadlines are listed below.

A. National Public Policies (Module 4)

Wayne Thompson, "Culture," 8-9; "Strong State Role," 148, "Health and Welfare," 149-50, and "Current Economic Situation," 150-51, in his *Canada, 2003*.

Robert Evans, "Two Systems in Restraint: Contrasting Experiences With [Health Care] Cost Control in the 1990s," 21-49, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

David Perry, "What Price Canadian? Taxation and Debt Compared," 52-66, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

Leslie A. Pal, "Between the Sights: Gun Control in Canada and the United States," 68-86 in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

B. International Political and Economic Relations (Module 5)

Wayne Thompson, "Economy," 135-51, "Foreign Policy," 119-29, and "Defense Policy," 129-34, in his *Canada 2003*.

Christopher Kirkey, "Canada – U. S. Political Relationship," 284-95, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

*Paul Bradley and G. Campbell Watkins, "Canada and U.S.: Seamless Energy Border," C.D. Howe Institute, 2003.

*Danielle Goldfarb, "Thinking the Unthinkable: Security Threats, Cross Border Implications, and Canada's Long-Term Strategies," C.D. Howe Institute, 2004.

C. Race, Language, and National Unity (Module 6)

Wayne Thompson, "Quebec," 89-96, and "The Quiet Revolution in Quebec," 50-62, in his *Canada 2003*.

Richard Iton, "The Backlash and the Quiet Revolution: The Contemporary Implications of Race and Language in the United States and Canada," 141-57, in Thomas, *Canada and the United States*.

*Carol L. Schmidt, "Language and Identity Politics in Canada," 101-22, in her *The Politics of Language*, 2001.

* Keith Banting, "If Quebec Separates: Restructuring North America," 159-78, in Weaver, *The Collapse of Canada*, 1992.

Module 4, 5, and 6 Deadlines

June 25 is the deadline for Georgetown College students

July 2 is the deadline for Morehead State U, Eastern Kentucky U, and Western Kentucky U students

July 8 is the deadline for University of Kentucky students

4. Unit of Study on North American Politics (Georgetown MAT Students Only)

Georgetown College Master of Arts in Teaching students will also write a Unit of Study on a North American Politics topic taken from this course. In writing the Unit of Study, you will use either the Kentucky Department of Education's "Standards-Based Unit of Study" which you will find at <http://www.kde.state.ky.us/KDE/Instructional+Resources/Curriculum+Documents+and+Resources> or your school district's standards for writing a Unit of Study. To guide your writing of the Unit of Study, the assignment will include formatting, composition, quotation, and citation rules; a plagiarism policy and honor pledge; assignment submission instructions; and a deadline.

Unit of Study Deadline: July 1

ASSIGNMENT COMPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS

In the Module 1, 2, and 3 instructions and in the Module 4, 5, and 6 instructions, you will find

- 1) a module assignment writing guide on the use the SQ3R Method and on productive coursework practices,
- 2) composition rules, 3) quotation rules, and 4) citation rules.

These instructions will also include the plagiarism rules, honor pledge, and late assignment rules described below.

1. Plagiarism Rules.

A. Honor Pledge. At the end of the Module 1, 2, and 3 assignments and at the end of the Module 4, 5, and 6 assignments, you will provide a statement certifying that you have not violated the plagiarism policy in writing the assignments. If you do not include this statement, you will receive no grade for these assignments.

B. Plagiarism Policy. Plagiarism is the use of the words or the ideas of another person as though they were one's own. In accordance with KCSC college or university rules prohibiting plagiarism, you are required to individually author your assignments and to acknowledge the words and writings of other persons which you use.

GRADING CRITERIA

1. Module Grading Criteria

When you submit your module assignments, they must be final drafts, free of all errors. I will not permit you to rewrite your assignments, nor will I allow extra credit assignments. Your grade on each assignment will be based on the clarity, conciseness, and thoroughness of your answer to the essay question, your observance of all the assignment instructions, and your submission of the assignments by their deadlines. I will grade down essays which answer their own questions, use personal political opinions and patriotic language, and merely describe and/or summarize the readings. I will also grade down essays which make formatting, composition, quotation, and citation mistakes.

2. Grades and Comments

After I grade your assignments, I will send you an email in which I will provide you with your grades. Your grades may be followed by numbers keyed to a grading code which will explain the deficiencies in your essays. I will make general comments about all the essays. You will use the grading code and general comments to review your essay, even if you are pleased with your grade. You may email me if you have questions about your grade.

3. Course Grade

The course grade for MSU, ECU, WKU and UK undergraduates will be based on 6 assignments, each of equal value: 1/6th of your course grade. The course grade for Georgetown College Master of Arts in Teaching students will be based on 7 assignments, the 6 undergraduate assignments and a Unit of Study for classroom use, each of equal value: 1/7th of your course grade.

4. Module and Course Grading Scale

I will use a plus/minus scale to grade your assignments: A+=4.3, A=4.0, A-=3.7, B+=3.3, B=3.0, B-=2.7, C+=2.3, C=2.0, C-=1.7, D+=1.3, D=1.0, D-=.7 I will use this scale to calculate MSU, ECU, WKU, and UK student course grades by averaging their 6 assignment grades. I will use this scale calculate Georgetown student course grades by averaging their 6 assignment grades and their Unit of Study grade.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

You will assist me in assessing the North American Politics course and in making any alterations in the course the next time I teach it by completing a course information questionnaire as part of your final assignment.

INTERNET LEARNING AND COMPUTER SKILLS AND REQUIREMENTS: Deleted

MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY DISTANCE LEARNING ADA DISABILITY STATEMENT

The MSU Distance Learning disability statement is available at http://www.moreheadstate.edu/units/distance/ADA_DP_policy.doc. If you have an ADA question or related need, contact Haiyan Zhou, Office of Distance Learning, Ginger Hall 408, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351. 606-783-2082. h.zhou@moreheadstate.edu or Debra Reed, Disability Guidance Counseling Services Coordinator, Allie Young, 214 Morehead State University, Morehead KY 40351. 606-783-5188. d.reed@moreheadstate.edu

NORTH AMERICAN POLITICS

Module 7

Unit of Study on North American Politics

OVERVIEW

Canadians and Americans look at each other across a common border, drive across it for business and pleasure, and in the process, compare themselves with each other. Your study of these two nations began in Module 1 with a broad sketch of our northern neighbor's culture and how intertwined with and distinct it is from ours. In Module 2, you explored the Canadian and U.S. constitutions and the constitutional role of their courts in deciding questions of federalism and individual rights; in Module 3, the Canadian and U.S. electoral systems, political parties and national governments; in Module 4, their health care, taxes, and gun control policies; in Module 5, their economic, defense, and foreign policy relationships, and in Module 6, their issues of race, language, and national unity.

Your study of these two North American neighbors has been framed by a fundamental question: why compare? In writing your essays, you have relied on Seymour Martin Lipset's observation that "[n]ations can be understood only in comparative perspective Looking intensely at Canada and the United States sheds light on both of them ... [and allows us] to isolate the factors responsible for the differences between them." (*Continental Divide*, xiii) You have also replied upon Thomas Mann's observation that comparisons "allow us to distinguish ourselves from others and discover who we are, in order to become all that we are meant to be." (*Joseph and His Brothers*, np) Now you will allow your students to participate in a common voyage of discovery by preparing an Unit of Study on North American Politics.

ASSIGNMENT TOPIC

Your study of the cultures, constitutions, governments, social policies, international political and economic relations, and national unity issues of the two North American neighbors has prepared you to write a Unit of Study which will include the following information. It will be

1. based on a subject of your choice drawn from this course,
2. designed to be used for 10 class sessions (2 weeks),
3. specify the grade level and course in which it will be taught
4. employ a Unit of Study format either used by you and/or your school district or based on the Kentucky Department of Education's Standard's-Based Unit of Study, and
5. address the following questions:
 - A. What is the subject matter of the unit?
 - B. What are the goals and objectives of the unit? (i.e. What do you want the students to learn in studying the subject?)
 - C. What resource materials (e.g. web sites, video, pictures, newspapers) will the students use?
 - D. What are the assigned readings for the students?
 - E. What are the class assignments and activities for the students?
 - F. How will you evaluate what the students have learned?

ASSIGNMENT RESOURCES

1. How to Find the Kentucky Department of Education's Standard's-Based Unit of Study.
 - A. Go to the Kentucky Department of Education web site: <http://www.education.ky.gov>
 - B. In the Search box at the top right of the page, enter: How to Develop a Standards-Based Unit of Study
 - C. At the next page (Search Results), click on the link to "How to Develop a Standards-B...."
 - D. At the next page, click on and open the pdf file of "How to Develop a Standards-Based Unit of Study."
2. Where to find web resource materials?

Wayne Thompson, *Canada 2003*, "Web Sites and Bibliography of Key English Language Books," pp. 152-60.

William Green, "Canadian Internet Assignments." In an Appendix to this module, I have attached, my Canadian Politics seminar internet assignments which may provide you with some resource and class assignment ideas.

Kentucky Canadian Studies Association web site, <http://www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/KCSA> At the home page, click and examine the web sites at the "Canadian Resource Links."

Module 7 Instructions

Formatting, Composition, and Submission Instructions
Deleted

DEADLINES

Your Module 7 assignment is due by
9:00 a.m., Friday, July 2.

APPENDIX

Canadian Politics Internet Assignments William Green

Constitution Internet Assignment.

Go to: <http://polisci.nelson.com/constitution.html> Then scroll down to, click on, and summarize the following items

1. Constitutional Amendment 1999 (Nunavut)
2. Clarity Act (You will be taken to another site where you will have to click on "Clarity Act.")

Canadian Supreme Court and Charter of Rights and Freedoms Internet Assignment.

Log on to the Canadian Supreme Court web site: http://www.scc-csc.gc.ca/home/index_e.html

1. Summarize the information available at this site.
2. Click on "About the Court," then "Justices of the Court," "Current Justices," and choose Chief Justice Beverly McLoughlin and summarize her legal and political experience and service on the court.
3. Click on "Judgments," then on "Link to Judgments," and then at the next page the web link www.lexum.umontreal.ca/scs-scc/en/index.html. Once you are at this link, scroll down to "Judgments of the Supreme Court of Canada," select the year 1992, volume 1. Then scroll down to *R. v. Butler* and click on "html" or "text" and then brief the case.

Language Politics Internet Assignment.

The Alliance Quebec (AQ) speaks for the other side of the Quebec coin.

Log on to the AQ web site: <http://www.alliancequebec.ca>.

At the bottom of the main page, under the heading Language, click on E for English

1. What is Alliance Quebec? Use the link "About Us" on the left side of the main page.
2. What are AQ's positions on education, employment equity, and health and social services? Use the links under the heading "Our Issues" on the left side of the main page.
3. In what activities was AQ been involved in 2003? Use the "Press Releases" link on the left side of the main page, then click on "2003."
4. What do I say in my AQ speech "Looking From the outside In," about Quebec language rights? Use "Spring 2003" under the "AQ Magazine" heading on the right side of the main page.

Provincial Government Internet Assignment.

Select 4 provincial governments and their capital cities in the following manner

1. Choose 1 of the maritime provinces: New Brunswick <http://www.gnb.ca> Newfoundland <http://www.gov.nf.ca> Nova Scotia <http://www.gov.ns.ca> or Prince Edward Island <http://www.gov.pe.ca>
2. Choose both Quebec <http://www.gouv.qc.ca> and Ontario <http://www.gov.on.ca>.
3. Choose 1 of the western provinces. Manitoba <http://www.gov.mb.ca> Saskatchewan <http://www.gov.sk.ca> Alberta <http://www.gov.ab.ca> or British Columbia <http://www.gov.bc.ca>

With each of your selections, summarize the main provincial issues and provincial-national issues discussed at the site, summarize the basic features of life in the provincial capital, and make a copy of each the 4 provincial home pages.

Media Internet Assignment I

Compare newspaper coverage in 4 different regions by selecting 3 daily newspapers in 3 different provinces

1. In the West (Alberta), select the *Edmonton Journal*: <http://www.herald.ns.ca/cgi-bin/home/homepage>
2. In Ontario, select the *Toronto Star*: <http://www.thestar.com>
3. Quebec, select the *Montreal Gazette*: <http://www.canada.com/montreal>
3. In the East (Nova Scotia), select *The [Halifax] Herald*: <http://www.herald.ns.ca/cgi-bin/home/homepage>

With each of your 4 selections examine a) the front page, b) the editorial page, and c) the letters to the editor. Then answer the following question: Do you find any different news agendas or different perspectives in these provinces?

Media Internet Assignment II

I picked a variety of media sites: national television and radio sites; national, capital city, and English language Quebec newspapers sites, and a national news magazine site for you to explore.

1. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Television: <http://www.cbc.ca/television>
2. CBC Radio Canada: <http://www.cbc.radio-canada.ca>
3. Globe and Mail: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com>
4. National Post: <http://www.nationalpost.com>
5. Ottawa Citizen: <http://www.canada.com/ottawa/ottawacitizen>
6. Montreal Gazette: <http://www.canada.com/montreal>
7. Maclean's: <http://www.macleans.ca>

For each site, choose and summarize a different national news item for all sites but the *Ottawa Citizen* and *Montreal Gazette*. For the *Ottawa Citizen*, chose a capital city news item and for the *Montreal Gazette*, a Quebec news item

Interest Group Internet Assignment.

I picked 4 from the zillions of private organizations: economic organizations which span Canada from the Atlantic (salmon) to the Center (chemicals) to the Prairies (cattle) to the Pacific (BC forests). Visit all 4 sites and for each summarize 1 government-related group activity.

1. Atlantic Salmon Federation: www.asf.ca and the links: "Issues" and "Take Action."
2. Canadian Chemical Producers Association: www.ccpa.ca and the link "Our Position On."
3. Canadian Cattleman's Association <http://www.cattle.ca> and the link "Newsroom."
4. Council of Forest Industries: www.cofi.org and the link "Issues."

Gender Diversity Internet Assignment.

I picked 4 women's organizations: 1 research center, 1 election-oriented organization, and 2 law-related organizations. For each of the organizations below, write a summary as directed.

1. Research Center on Women and Politics: www.crfp-rcwp.uottawa.ca, click on "objectives and activities," and summarize them.
2. Canadian Women Voters Congress: www.canadianwomensvoterscongress.org, click on the "Campaign School," and summarize the site.
3. Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF): www.leaf.ca, click on "Legal Work," then on "Decisions 2003," and then summarize 1 decision.
4. National Association of Women and the Law: www.nawl.ca, click on "Lobby Activities" and summarize 1 activity.

Political Party Internet Assignment.

I chose the 4 major parties for you to examine:

1. Liberal Party: <http://www.liberal.ca>
2. Conservatives Party: <http://www.conservative.ca>
3. Bloc Quebecois: <http://www.blocquebecois.org>
4. New Democratic Party: <http://www.ndp.ca>

For each of these parties, summarize the party's a) history, b) leadership, c) parliamentary caucus, d) national organization, and e) its policy positions. For the Bloc Quebec site, use Lycos translator: <http://translation.lycos.com> Lycos may not translate the whole site. It may translate a page at a time. So you may have to do a separate translation for each page you use at the Bloc site

National Government I: Prime Minister and Ministries Internet Assignment.

1. Log on to the Prime Minister's web site: <http://www.pm.gc.ca>.
 - A. At the home page on the left side, click on Speech from the Throne. At the next page, summarize the Governor-General speech and the Prime Minister's reply to it.
 - B. At the home page on the left side, click on "New Team" and identify all the members of the Prime Minister's cabinet and then choose 1 minister and summarize his/her biography.
 - C. At the home page on the left side, click on "Democratic Reform" and summarize the reforms
 - D. At the home page on the left side, click on "Changes in Government" and summarize the changes.
2. Log on to the Government of Canada web site: <http://canada.gc.ca>
At the home page on the left side, click on "Government Departments and Agencies." At the next page, scroll down, click on the federal government agency of the minister you chose in 1.B. Then summarize 3 of its current activities.

National Government II: Parliament Internet Assignment.

Log on to the Parliament web site: <http://www.parl.gc.ca>

1. At the home page, click on "About Parliament." At the next page, click on all the pictures to find out the history and major features of the place you will be interning this summer
2. At the home page, click on "Chamber Business." At the next page under Latest Debates, click on the latest House of Commons debate and summarize it.
3. At the home page, click on "Senators and Members" link. On the left side of the next page, under "Members" click on "Current." Then click on "Alphabetical List." Finally, scroll down and choose an MP and print off his / her page. Then find out all you can about his / her committee assignments and riding.

Foreign Policy Internet Assignment.

I picked 3 web sites. For each write a summary as directed.

1. Foreign Affairs Canada: <http://www.fac-aec.gc.ca/menu-en.asp>. Click on "Foreign Policy" and at the next page summarize 1 of the "Features."
2. International Trade Canada: <http://www.itcan-cican.gc.ca/menu-en.asp>. Click on "Canada's Trade and Economic Policy" and at the next page summarize 1 of the "Trade Negotiations and Agreements."
3. Department of Defense: <http://www.forces.gc.ca>. Click on 1 of the "Features" and summarize it.

