

**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAS  
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

Course (MA/PhD)	: PhD
Course No.	: AW651N
Course Title	: Political Economy of Canada
Course Type (Core/Optional)	: Optional
Credits	: 4 (Four)
Course Teacher	: Dr. Sneha Bhagat
Semester	: Winter Semester
Contact Hours	: 4 per week

**Course Objectives**

The course outlines the principal structural elements of the Canadian political economy and examines the importance of factors such as resources, social class, and International Trade. It focuses on the structure and organisation and the interrelationships between the State, Labour, and the Capital in Canada. The course also outlines the history of the domestic Political Economy and its linkages to the International Political Economy through the World Trade Organisation and NAFTA.

**Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course, the students would be able to understand the dynamics of Canadian political economy. The course would also help to analyse the Canadian political economy as a way to examine Canadian state formation and Canadian economic development. The course would also help to answer some of the major questions like how Canada emerged as a major industrial capitalist country? What is the impact of neoliberalism on Canada? How has Canada experienced globalisation? How the variables of markets, power, and class have played out through Canadian economic history?

**Evaluation Methods**

Class Participation (10%); Sessional Work (Term Paper and Mid-term Examination (40%) End-term Examination (50%)

**Course Content**

**1) Introduction to Canadian Political Economy**

- a) Political Economic Theory: Old and New Debates
- b) Liberal Political Economy
- c) Socialist Political Economy

d) Staples Political Economy

## **2) The Political Economy Tradition in Canada**

a) The Staples Approach—old and new

b) Harold Innis and his ideas on development and under- development

c) Post-Innis traditions in Canadian political economy and their critique

## **3) Structure and Organisation of Capital**

a) The Role of Capital in a Capitalist Economy

b) The Development of Capital

c) Fragmentation or Consolidation?

## **4) Canada's Domestic Political Economy**

a) Canadian Welfare State: Mechanisms & Challenges

b) Process of Development: Race, Ethnicity and Migration

c) Political Economy of Indigenous Peoples

d) Ecological Political Economy

## **5) Canada in International Political Economy**

a) The International Economic Order and Canada

b) From GATT to the World Trade Organisation

c) Economic Continentalism—Constraints and Choices: pre-NAFTA and NAFTA

d) Canadian Regionalism: Theories, Resource Endowment and Regional Imbalances

## **Readings**

Anderson, F.J. (1985), *Natural Resources in Canada: Economic Theory and Policy*, Toronto: Methuen.

Appleton, Barry (1994), *Navigating NAFTA: A Concise User's Guide to the North American Free Trade Agreement*, Scarborough, Ont.: Carswell.

Arblaster, Anthony (1984), *The Rise and Decline of Western Liberalism*, Oxford: Basil Blackwell.

Avakumovic, Ivan (1978), *Socialism in Canada*, Toronto: McClelland & Stewart.

Baker, Isabella (1989), *The Political Economy of Gender*, in Clement and Williams (eds.).

Bladen, Vincent W. (1956), *An Introduction to Political Economy*, Toronto: University of

Toronto Press.

- Brewis, T.N. (1968), *Growth and the Canadian Economy*, Toronto: McClelland & Stewart.
- Brodie, Jamie (1990), *The Political Economy of Canadian Regionalism*, Toronto: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.
- Buckley, Kenneth (1958), "The Role of Staple Industries in Canada's Economic Development", *Journal of Economic History*, 18: 439-450.
- Carroll, William K. (1988), "The Political Economy of Canada", in J.Curtis and L. Tepperman (eds.) *Understanding Canadian Society*, Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson.
- Cadsby, Charles Bram and Kenneth Woodside (1993), "The Effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement on the Canada-United States Trade Relationship", *Canadian Public Policy*, 19(4): 450-462.
- Christian, William (1977), "Harold Innis as Political Theorist", *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 10: 21-42.
- Clarkson, Stephen (2001), "The Multi-Level State: Canada in the Semi-Periphery of both Continentalism and Globalization", *Review of International Political Economy*, 8(3): 501-527.
- Coates, Ken (1992), *Aboriginal Land Claims in Canada: A Regional Perspective*, Toronto: Copp Clark Pitman.
- Drache, Daniel (1982), "Harold Innis and Canadian Capitalist Development", *Canadian Journal of Political Science and Social Theory*, 6: 35-60.
- Drache, Daniel. 1978. "Rediscovering Canadian Political Economy." in Daniel Drache and Wallace Clement (eds.) *A Practical Guide to Canadian Political Economy*, Toronto: James Lorimer & Company: pp. 1-53.
- Easterbrook, W.T. and Aitken, Hugh (1988), *Canadian Economic History*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Gertler, Meric. (2001), "Urban Economy and Society in Canada: Flows of People, Capital, and Ideas", *Isuma: Canadian Journal of Policy Research*, 119-130.

- Haddow, Rodney (2014), "Power Resources and the Canadian Welfare State", *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 47(4): 501-527.
- Innis, Harold, A. et al. (1933), *Problems of Stable Production in Canada*, Toronto: Ryerson.
- MacDonald, Fiona. (2011), "Indigenous Peoples and Neoliberal "Privatization" in Canada: Opportunities, Cautions and Constraints", *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 44 (2): 257-273.
- Naylor, R.T. (2006), *Canada in the European Age, 1453-1919*, Montreal: McGillQueen's University Press.
- Norrie, K. et al. (2002), *A History of the Canadian Economy*, Toronto: Nelson.
- Wallace, Iain (2002), *A Geography of the Canadian Economy*, Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- Panitch, Leo (1981), "Dependency and Class in Canadian Political Economy", *Studies in Political Economy*, 6: 7-33.
- Stilwell, Frank (2002), *Political Economy: The Contest of Economic Ideas*, Melbourne: Oxford University Press.
- Watkins, M.H. (1963), "A Staple Theory of Economic Growth", *Canadian Journal of Economic and Political Science*, 29: 141-158.
- Watkins, M.H. (1977), "The Staple Theory Revisited", *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 12: 83-95.
- Watkins, M.H. (1982), "The Innis Tradition in Canadian Political Economy", *Canadian Journal of Political and Social Thought*, 6: 12-34.
- Watkins, M.H. (1997), "Canadian Capitalism in Transition", in Clement 1997.