



## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

### *SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS*

#### **POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME POLS 414: POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION 30 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2 2014**

### **Important dates**

**Trimester dates:** 14 July to 16 November 2014

**Teaching dates:** 14 July to 17 October 2014

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 August to 7 September 2014

**Last assessment item due:** 17 October 2014

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### **Class times and locations**

Lectures: Monday, 9:00 am – 11:50 am  
Venue: EA 201

### **Names and contact details**

Hilde Coffé

[hilde.coffe@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:hilde.coffe@vuw.ac.nz)

Phone: 463 6681

Murphy Building, Level 5, Room 535

Office Hours: Monday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

### **Communication of additional information**

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

## Prescription

Some argue that we are in the midst of a crisis of democracy with a decreasing number of people involved in politics. Others claim that the democratic process is actually improving with more people becoming politically engaged. We study different types and levels of political participation across generations and social groups.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing the course should be able to:

1. Be familiar with the literature regarding political participation and representation.
2. Know theories of political participation and representation.
3. Write a paper related to the issue of political participation and representation.
4. Give presentations.

## Teaching format

POLS 414 is taught in one 150-minute interactive lecture per week. A Lecture Programme will be available on Blackboard.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- Submit all assignments specified for this course on or before the specified dates (subject to provisions as are stated for late submissions of work.
- Sit the in-class test

## Workload

This course has been designed on the assumption that students will devote approximately 300 hours to it throughout the trimester. This is an average of 21 hours per week across the 14 weeks of trimester and includes attendance of classes, preparing for lectures, working on assignments and preparing in-class test.

The 300 hours can be divided approximately as follows:

- 30 hours attending classes and individual meetings to discuss essay
- 72 hours lecture preparation
- 28 hours essay proposal
- 140 hours essay writing
- 30 hours test preparation

## Assessment

The final grade will be based on a combination of:

- One essay proposal (10%)
- One essay (50%)
- One two-hour in-class test (30%)
- Homework, reading, presentation and active participation during the lectures.
- Although not a mandatory course requirement, participation is strongly recommended and is worth 10% of the final grade.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	One essay proposal (500 words)	10%	1, 2	12 August 12pm
2	One in-class test (2 hours)	30%	1, 2	22 September
3	One essay (7,000 to 8,000 words)	50%	1, 2, 3	17 October 12pm

### Essay proposal

Around 500 words – to be submitted no later than 12.00 pm, **12 August 2014**.

In their essay proposal, students will introduce the topic they plan to study in their essay. It will offer the students the opportunity to formulate appropriate research questions and reflect on the theories they will use.

### Essay

Between 7,000 and 8,000 words – to be submitted no later than 12:00 pm, **17 October 2014**.

The essay affords students the opportunity to write an original paper on a topic associated with political participation and representation.

### In-Class Test

**22 September 2014**

The 2-hour in-class test will test the knowledge of students about the topics discussed during the lecture programme.

### Active participation and Presentation (Learning Objectives 1, 2 and 4)

Active participation during the lectures will allow students to think critically about articles (see reader). Students are responsible for reading the articles before the class for which it is assigned. Assessment will be based on students' attendance, their active participation in discussions, and the quality of their presentation of required readings.

### Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted in hard copy through the School office essay drop-off point, Murphy Room 518 and electronically through Blackboard. The hard copy should be handed in together with a completed cover sheet which is available from the office.

When marked, assignments will be returned to you in tutorials. Marked assignments and tests will be available from the Office, MY 518, between 2.00-3.00 pm.

### Extensions and penalties

#### Extensions

The course expects students to submit their assignments on time. Requests for extensions should be made with the lecturer in person with proper documentation **before** the due date. Extensions are normally given only to those with a medical certificate, or of other evidence of forces beyond your control.

#### Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days**. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical

certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

## Set texts

A list of required readings will be provided on Blackboard at the start of trimester. All required readings will be accessible online via VUW Library E-Reserves.

Students must read all the literature to prepare for the lectures. Lectures will explain these readings, place them in context, and clarify questions students may have.

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:
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## Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course. Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)