

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

POLS 206 – NEW ZEALAND POLITICS: POWER, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY



TRIMESTER 2 2010
12 July to 13 November 2010

COURSE OUTLINE



Course Coordinator: Dr John Wilson
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Administrator: Adrienne Nolan
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Trimester Dates

Teaching dates: 12 July 2010 to 15 October 2010
Mid-trimester break: 23 August to 5 September 2010
Examination/Assessment period: 22 October to 13 November 2010

Note: Students who enrol in courses with examinations should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

Class Times and Locations

Lectures:

Tuesday, 2.10 – 3.00 pm, Hugh Mackenzie LT104
Thursday, 2.10 – 3.00 pm, Hugh Mackenzie LT104

Tutorials:

Tuesday, 3.10 – 4pm, Von Zedlitz 108
Tuesday, 4.10 – 5pm, Easterfield 004
Thursday, 3.10 – 4pm, Von Zedlitz 710
Thursday, 4.10 – 5pm, Easterfield 026

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Course delivery

The course will be delivered through two (50-minute) lectures and through one (50-minute) tutorial per week. The tutorials are based on the lecture topics and take the format of general discussion structured around the assigned reading. Students are expected to participate in the general discussion. Students will also – as is explained below – have to attend three different types of sessions at Parliament in order to write a Tutorial Report.

Communication of additional information

Whenever it's necessary to do so, additional information about POLS 206 will be posted as announcements on the POLS 206 Blackboard website. As soon as they have been finalised, relevant details from the end-of-year exam timetable will also be placed on this site. It is, of course, essential that all students consult Blackboard and check their emails regularly, preferably at least once a day.

Course content

An outline of the structure and lecture topics of the course can be found at the end of this outline.

Course Aims

This course has a focus on those political features that are distinctly New Zealand in character – its constitutional arrangements (including the Treaty of Waitangi), its system of government, its electoral system (including the Māori electorates), and its political parties. A sub-theme is the examination of New Zealand's political features in terms of power, equality, and diversity. Other topics include the evolution of New Zealand's sovereignty, popular sovereignty, and what New Zealand politics might look like in the future.

Learning objectives

Students passing the course should be able to describe, and have a thorough understanding of:

- the evolution of the key constitutional structures of the New Zealand political system;
- the main features of the New Zealand system of government;
- the history and nature of the main political parties;
- the relevance of the Treaty of Waitangi and the significance of biculturalism and multiculturalism for New Zealand;
- how the concepts of power, equality and diversity can be used to evaluate New Zealand's political features;
- the facts and the arguments in the POLS 206 set text (namely, the 5th edition of Raymond Miller, ed., *New Zealand Government and Politics*).

Graduate attributes

As with all POLS and INTP courses, the aims and objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of critical thinking, creative thinking, communication and leadership.

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, it is expected that students will devote 15 hours per week to POLS 206. This includes two lecture hours per week; tutorials when scheduled; time spent attending a range of Parliamentary sessions; and nine to 12 hours per week of additional study.

Readings

Essential text

It is expected that all students will purchase the POLS 206 textbook, which is Raymond Miller (ed.), *New Zealand Government and Politics* (Auckland: Oxford University Press, 5th edition, 2010).

Textbooks can be purchased from Vicbooks located on the top floor of the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. Opening hours are 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday to Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays), and 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on Saturday. Phone: 463-5515.

Students will NOT be required to purchase a set of course readings from the Student Notes Distribution Centre. Additional readings will be posted to Blackboard.

Recommended readings

- Constitutional Arrangements Committee, *Inquiry to Review New Zealand's Existing Constitutional Arrangements* (Wellington: House of Representatives, I.24A, 2005). This report can be found on Parliament's website at: http://www.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/575B1B52-5414-495A-9BAF-C9054195AF02/15160/DBSCH_SCR_3229_2302.pdf
- John Wilson, *New Zealand Sovereignty: 1857, 1907, 1947, or 1987?*, Parliamentary Research Paper, 2007/04, 28 August 2007. <http://www.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/54A39A34-32AA-4C23-AD7B-73BAB5624651/61708/RP0705.pdf>
- John McSorley, *The New Zealand Constitution*, 2000/1, 03 October 2005. <http://www.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/AC9829DF-32D8-4569-A672-FFEFA2BC6278/6641/2005Constitutionupdate1.pdf>
- New Zealand Parliament, Fact Sheets (various). <http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/AboutParl/HowPWorks/FactSheets/>
- John Wilson, *Final Results for the 2008 New Zealand General Election*, Parliamentary Research Paper, 2008/05, 24 December 2008. <http://www.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/5C49DDB6-5058-47AA-BA07-2955B47F8005/96299/FinalResults2008GeneralElection1.pdf>

- John Wilson, *The Origins of the Maori Seats*, Parliamentary Research Paper, 2003/09, 11 November, 2003. <http://ourhouse.parliament.nz/NR/rdonlyres/0D2A2AF3-B405-4E77-9059-40992DC7981F/178501/OriginsoftheMaoriSeatsPDFversion1.pdf>
- Richard Shaw and Chris Eichbaum, *Public Policy in New Zealand: Institutions, Processes and Outcomes*, 2008, 2nd ed., Auckland: Pearson/Prentice Hall.
- Geoffrey Palmer and Matthew Palmer, 2004, *Bridled Power: New Zealand's Constitution*
- Richard Mulgan and Peter Aimer, 2004, *Politics in New Zealand* (Fourth Edition), Auckland University Press, Auckland.

Assessment requirements

The course will be assessed on the following basis:

- A tutorial report (about three pages long), which is worth 10% of the overall grade awarded to students.
- Two essays, each of about 2,000 words, will each count for 25% of the overall grade awarded to students.
- A 3-hour end-of-year examination, which will contribute 40% to students' overall grades. (Note: This will not be an open-book exam, and the examination will be held sometime during the period from 22 October to 13 November 2010.)

The purpose of the tutorial report and of the other two written assignments is to ensure that students have an in-depth, detailed and accurate understanding of key components of New Zealand's political system. The aim of the examination is to assess the ability of students to integrate and use the knowledge they acquire during the course when tackling specific questions or statements.

Penalties and Extensions

Your tutorial report and your essays must be submitted by their due dates. Extensions will be granted only to those who meet the University's aegrotat rules (e.g., students with a medical certificate, a family bereavement, or critical personal circumstances beyond their control). If you are having troubles let your tutor or Dr Wilson know – confidentiality is guaranteed. Please note:

- Requests for extensions must be received **before** the due date of an assignment.
- Late essays must be handed directly either to Dr Wilson or to a Political Science and International Relations Administration Assistant who will record on the essays the date and time they were received.
- Essays not handed in by the due date or by the date of an agreed extension may have their mark out of 100 reduced by 5 percentage points for the first day and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days.
- Essays handed in more than 8 days late after due date or after the date of an extension may not be marked, although it may be accepted for mandatory course requirements.
- Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies).

Mandatory course requirements

POLS 206 has the following mandatory requirements:

- Submission of TWO essays and ONE tutorial report , by the due dates;
- Attendance of at least THREE Parliamentary meetings / sessions and – in their tutorial reports – submit evidence that they did so;
- Attendance at 5 of the 7 scheduled tutorial sessions (you are strongly encouraged to attend all tutorials);
- Sit the course examination.

To pass POLS 206 a student must meet the mandatory requirements and achieve at least a total of 50% over all the assessment.

A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for the course, will receive a K grade for the course, while a course mark of less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (namely, a D or an E).

Assignments

POLS 206 ESSAYS

You will be required to write TWO essays for POLS 206, each of about 2,000 words.

- The first essay topics are at the end of this outline.
- The first essay is due by 5pm, Friday 20th August.
- The second essay is due by 5pm, Friday 8th October.

Essays must be delivered both electronically by email to me and by putting a printed copy in the POLS 206 essay box in the Political Science and International Relations' foyer.

Please note that your essays must make careful, deliberate, and reasonably extensive use of authoritative written sources. Unnecessary and / or overuse of the Internet will be penalised. Essay writing and essay style guides will be posted to Blackboard.

Tutorial Report

You are required to attend at least THREE different Parliamentary meetings including:

- one question time,
- one debate (general debates; Urgent debates; First, Second, or Third Reading debates; or In-Committee debates); AND
- a select committee meeting.

You must then produce a tutorial report (@1,000 words) analysing what happened in the Parliamentary sessions you attended, commenting on the general tone of the session, on the ways in which accountability to parliament is being upheld or abused, and outlining how the sessions could have been improved or reformed. Note, too, that it is expected that you will attend Parliament for at least an hour on each occasion.

As you can see from the House sitting programme, Parliament is not sitting the first week of the trimester and there are, in fact, only eight Parliamentary sitting weeks left before your tutorial report is due in on Friday 24 September, so you are strongly urged to start planning your visits to Parliament straight away and also to start your visits as soon as possible.

There will be SEVEN tutorial sessions in total.

There will be NO tutorials in the first week of class (12th – 16th July).

There will be FOUR tutorial sessions in the period 19th July to 13th August.

There will be NO tutorials in the period 16th August to 24th September.

There will be THREE tutorial sessions in the period 27th September to 15th October.

2010 Parliamentary Calendar and House of Representatives Sitting Programme

House sitting days shaded New Zealand holidays boxed



July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
²⁴ / ₃₁	25	26	27	28	29	30

November						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Assignment Cover Sheets

All Political Science and International Relations Programme assignments must be handed in together with a signed Assignment Cover Sheet. Students are required to submit both hard copies and electronic copies of all their POLS 206 all assignments.

Return of assignments

Essays and tests will be returned during tutorials, within three weeks of the due date. If students fail to attend the relevant tutorial, they may pick up their essay from the Programme Office on the fifth floor between the hours of 2 and 3pm on Monday to Friday.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx

2010 LECTURE SCHEDULE & READINGS		
Date	Lecture Topics	Readings / Hyperlinks *
Week 1 Tue 13 July Thur 15 July	Introduction Introduction to POLS 206 Sovereignty – When did <u>NZ</u> Politics Begin? When Might it End?	* Txt = Miller (ed.), <i>New Zealand Government and Politics</i> , 5 th ed. 2010; others on BlackBoard Txt: 2.1, 2.2, 2.6 Wilson (2007) ; Txt:2.4, Constitutional Arrangements Committee (CAC 2005, pp. 37-69)
Week 2 Tue 20 July Thur 22 July	The Constitutional Framework The Constitution – Features And Role The Constitution – Establishment and Amendment	CAC (pp 82 - 119); McSoriley (2000) ; txt: 3.2 CAC (pp 82 - 119); Txt: 3.1; Hart (2003)
Week 3 Tue 27 July Thur 29 July	The Parliamentary Framework I Parliamentary vs. Presidential Systems of Government The NZ Parliament (Legislature)	What is Parliament? Role of Parliament Txt: (3.5, 3.6); Ganley 2001; The Speaker in History The Legislative Process
Week 4 Tue 3 August Thur 5 August	The Parliamentary Framework II The Executive Branch The Role of the Prime Minister in NZ	Txt: 4.1, 4.4; Mulgan (1989) Txt: 4.3; Palmer (2006)
Week 5 Tue 10 August Thur 12 August	The Electoral System Legislative Elections: FPP & MMP The Maori Electorates	Wilson (2008) ; Txt: (3.7, 5.1, 5.5) Wilson (2009) ; Txt: (7.5, 8.1); Geddis (2006)
Week 6 Tue 17 August Thur 19 August	The Party System The National Party The Labour Party	Txt (7.1, 7.3); Wood (1989) Txt: (7.2); Gustafson (1989)
Friday 20 th August	1ST ASSIGNMENT DUE (20 AUGUST)	
Mon 23 Aug – Sun 5 Sept	Mid Trimester Break	

2010 LECTURE SCHEDULE & READINGS (cont'd)		
Week 7	The Party System (cont'd)	
Tue 7 September	The Green Party	Txt 7.4 (Wilson); Rainbow (1992)
Thur 9 September	The ACT Party; The Māori Party	Txt: (7.5, 7.6, 8.1); Hide (2003)
Week 8	Government	
Tues 14 September	Forming & Managing Government In NZ	Parliament & The General Election ; Txt: (4.2); Boston & Ladley, 2006
Thur 16 September	Government and the Policy Process in NZ	Shaw & Eichbaum (2008a); Malone (2009)
Week 9	Popular Sovereignty	
Tue 21 September	Referendums and Plebiscites	Txt: (8.4); Harris et al (1992)
Thur 23 September	Interest Groups / Social Movements / NGOs	Txt: (8.5, 8.6,); Shaw & Eichbaum (2008b)
Friday 24 September	TUTORIAL REPORT DUE	
Week 10	New Zealand's Political Futures	
Tue 28 September	Aotearoa or Xīnxīlán: Bicultural or Multicultural?	Txt: (2.5, 8.1); Robinson (2002); Durie (2003)
Thu 30 September	Brown or Green?: Economic Growth vs. Sustainability	Txt: (2.3); Brown (2002); Byrne & Glover (2002)
Week 11	New Zealand's Political Futures (cont'd)	
Tue 5 October	God Save the President: A NZ Republic?	Txt: 3.4; Rose (2009); Becoming Citizens, Not Subjects
Thu 7 October	NZ – the Seventh State of Australia?	Australian Parliament (2006);
Friday 8th October	2nd ASSIGNMENT DUE	
Week 12	Course Conclusion	
Tue 12 October	Globalisation: NZ Sovereignty Revisited	Patman (2005); Schwartz (1994); Garrett (1998)
Thur 14 October	Revision / Exam briefing / Course evaluation	

POLS 206 – First Essay Questions – 2010

(2000 words; 25% of final mark -- due 5pm, Friday 20 August)

- 1. Propose an independence day, or days, for New Zealand by outlining New Zealand's path to sovereignty in terms of it gaining its territorial, legislative, executive, constitutional, and judicial independence.**
- 2. What do you consider to be the main strengths and weaknesses of New Zealand's constitutional arrangements? To what extent have the weaknesses that you identify (if any) been addressed in the period since 1996? Use examples to illustrate your argument.**
- 3. Evaluate the claim that New Zealand should adopt a fully codified constitution, including an assessment of the implications for the status of the Treaty of Waitangi in New Zealand's constitutional arrangements under both scenarios.**
- 4. Richard Mulgan has described New Zealand in the past as "an elective dictatorship". To what extent is this still true?**
- 5. Contrast New Zealand's experience under the first-past-the-post electoral system with its experience under the current mixed member proportional electoral system and evaluate both electoral systems in terms of power, equality, and diversity.**
- 6. Some commentators argue that the Maori seats are a system of separate representation and should be abolished. Evaluate the significance of the Maori seats in New Zealand's democracy; state the extent to which they are a "separate form of representation", and whether you agree that they should be abolished.**
