



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME POLS 353: GROWING PAINS: NEW ZEALAND POLITICS 1975 to Present 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Study period: 19–23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to 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.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, 1.10-3.00pm

Venue: New Kirk, KKLT301

Workshop: Please see the Academic Timetable 2015 www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables

Name and contact details

Course Coordinator: Jon Johansson

Room No: MY 507

Phone: 4636424

Email: jon.johansson@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Friday, 11.00 am-noon

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 workshop programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course will focus on fundamental questions associated with contemporary New Zealand politics, the country's political culture, its leadership, and changes that followed since the advent of MMP. This course also offers students opportunities for empirical research and exposure to the parliamentary setting.

Course content

This course will focus on fundamental questions associated with New Zealand politics, both before and after the introduction of MMP. The initial focus will be on understanding the politics that led to advent of the new electoral system. A major aspect of this will be to look at the political and policy stasis under Sir Robert Muldoon, the Fourth Labour Government's 'revolution,' led by David Lange and Sir Roger Douglas, before analysing the Bolger Government, Ruthanasia, and the lead up to electoral reform. The attention will then focus on domestic politics post-MMP. This will also incorporate an in-depth look at recent elections and the evolving political landscape since our last election. A particular focus of the course will be to look at New Zealand's political culture and to examine what changes, if any, have occurred since the electoral system change. Prime ministerial leadership will also be canvassed during the course and unresolved issues and policy dilemmas in New Zealand politics will be a highlight of the latter part of POLS 353. A detailed programme of intended lectures is set out at the end of the course outline.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- 1 understand the patterns of politics that have flowed in NZ since 1975 to present
- 2 gain an appreciation of the politics that led to the introduction of MMP
- 3 write a detailed and quality research proposal and paper on an aspect of NZ politics.

Teaching format

This course is taught in one two-hour lecture per week. The course is delivered over 12 weeks of lectures. There is also one weekly class workshop for POLS 353, focusing on students' research work. The lectures are an essential aspect of the course and the primary means in which the course content is delivered. Lectures will combine visual material, lectures, and group discussion. Students are expected to attend classes regularly, take part in class discussion, and keep up with the readings.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester, approximately 13 hours a week across the trimester. This total includes the following:

- weekly attendance at lectures, and workshop; (3 hours)
- completion of all set weekly readings for tutorials; (2 hours)
- research and writing for assessment tasks. (8 hours)

Assessment

1. **Essay: 60%** in-term work (consisting of one research proposal, worth 10% of the overall grade and one research paper between 3,500-5,000 words, worth 50% of the overall total grade);
2. **40%** final three-hour examination conducted by the Faculty. The examination period will from 23 October to 14 November 2015.

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Research Proposal (500-1,000 words)	10%	1, 2 & 3	10 August
2 Research Paper – (3,500-5,000 words)	50%	1, 2 & 3	25 September
3 Examination (3 hours)	40%	1 & 2	TBA

Submission and return of work

All assignments are due before 5.00pm on the due date.

Submission: All work submitted for assessment must be dropped off in HARD COPY at the School Office (MY518) in the slots provided with an essay cover sheet. You must ADD the name of your course co-ordinator and the course code. We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any assessable work for checking in Turnitin.com (see www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)

Graded essays will be returned to you in class in the first instance, and then returned to the School Office, MY 518, where they can be collected between the hours of 2.00-3.00 pm, Monday to Friday. We will notify students via Blackboard when graded essays are available (generally between 2-3 weeks after the date submitted).

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Late submission of **assignments** will **not be accepted** unless the student makes an appointment as soon as practically possible with the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted). The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook. (See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

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. Extensions on deadlines for written work will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.

Set texts

Jon Johansson. 2009. *The Politics of Possibility: Leadership in Changing Times*. Wellington: Dunmore.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop the day after placing an order online.

Recommended reading

A separate sheet detailing a selected recommended reading list will be posted on Blackboard, and further recommended readings will be made available during the course.

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:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course, but includes the lecturer providing students with an additional hour of time in which students can talk about their research work. The course, too, continues to provide archival footage of New Zealand politics, something previous students in POLS 353 have welcomed. Student evaluations will be sought at the end of POLS 353. Student feedback on University courses may be found at: 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
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: 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
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz