

POLITICAL SCIENCE 593
SEMINAR FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE CANADIAN
PARLIAMENTARY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM, MAY/JUNE 2009

Spring Quarter, 2009

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NOTE: Students going to Ottawa as participants in the CPIP will be enrolled by the Office of International Affairs for 15 hours of International Studies 697; 5 hours will eventually revert to pass/fail credit for Political Science 593 [this course]; 10 hours will be graded by Professor James Baker for work done in Ottawa under his supervision and will revert to credit in each student's major Department, if the student asks and the Department approves. [Pol. Sci. does approve.]

Purpose of course: to continue to analyze the political system of Canada. The seminar will build on material already covered in Political Science 590.03, which all students took in winter 2009.

Class meetings: This seminar will meet once a week for the first six weeks of the quarter on Mondays from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. The meeting on March 30 will be held in Derby Hall 1039. Meetings on April 6, 13, 20, and 27; and May 4 will be held in Derby Hall 2174 [the library of the Department of Political Science].

Book required for purchase [paperback, ordered only by SBX, shelved under Pol. Sci. 593]

Edward Grabb & James Curtis, Regions Apart: The Four Societies of Canada and the United States (Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press, 2005. **ISBN: 0195416910**)

Note that the reserve list for 590.03 in winter 2009 will also continue to be held on reserve in Sullivant Hall under the Political Science 593 number.

Work in the course

There are three components to the work in the course [cleverly designated as A, B, C].

A. Each student will prepare a written profile of the MP or Senator to whom he/she has been assigned. The profile will also be presented orally in class for discussion. The written profile should be submitted to me at least an hour or so before the scheduled discussion so that I can copy it for distribution to all class members. Either e-mail or hard copy submission is fine.

In organizing material on your Member include at least the following information:

1. Basics on the individual: Name, age, family, party.
2. Basics on the riding: name of riding, map of riding locating it in its province. Socio-economic information on the riding: population, leading employers, urban/suburban/rural mix, ethnic mix, linguistic mix; major media [especially newspapers] in the riding, etc. A useful website to get you started: <http://www.sfu.ca/~aheard/elections/ridings.html>
3. Pre-parliamentary education and experience:
 - Education
 - Occupation; positions/employers
 - Political experience—formal offices; party activism; community activism
4. Election results [both successful and unsuccessful] for all runs for Parliament by this individual: year; percent of vote and percent of vote for opponents by party.
5. Election results for runs for other offices—provincial or municipal [if any].
6. Positions in Parliament [e.g., member of cabinet; parliamentary Secretary, critic positions, committee memberships]
7. Staff size and organization for the MP in parliamentary offices both in Ottawa and in the riding. Location of riding office(s).
8. Information on the member's website: address, content, etc.
9. Information on the member's newsletter.
10. Other items you think relevant. Be inventive.

B. Second, each week the class will discuss current political developments in Canada. Each student should follow those developments for himself/herself. At minimum, look for relevant stories in the Globe and Mail and in the Toronto Star. Also start looking at the major paper or papers in your member's riding on a daily basis to get a feel for local issues your member will need to follow. And, of course, feel free to add other papers and magazines. The Ottawa Citizen is an obvious choice, for example. Watch as many Question Periods as you can on CPAC [2:15 on Mon-Thurs and 11:15 on Friday; reruns at 9 in the evening every day]. There will be coverage by CPAC of other interesting relevant material. Also check political news on commercial television [CTV; Global].

C. Third, we will read and discuss the Grabb & Curtis book. We will discuss specific chapters that will be assigned for each weekly meeting after the first one. Students will be assigned responsibility for leading the discussion on specific chapters, but everyone needs to be prepared to join the discussion every week.