



**The University of Western Ontario  
HISTORY 3226F**

**Canadian Political Leadership  
Fall 2018**

**Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Location TBA**

**Instructor: Professor Keith Fleming**

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 1208

Email: [kfleming@uwo.ca](mailto:kfleming@uwo.ca)

---

**Course Description:**

This course focuses on leadership styles of the most influential, innovative, and frequently controversial prime ministers and provincial premiers from the 1860s to the present. Emphasis is placed on the interplay of character, circumstance, pragmatism and principle in governing a nation as ethnically diverse and regionally fragmented as Canada.

***Prerequisite(s):***

1.0 History course at the 2200 level or above

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

***Antirequisite(s):***

History 3297F/G taken in 2009 or 2010

**Course Syllabus:**

Political leadership in Canada is not exercised exclusively by elected officials. Non-elected bureaucrats, judges, interest groups, media representatives, and citizen activists can also be influential leaders by shaping public opinion at all levels of government. Yet the leaders in post-Confederation Canadian history who have been invested with the greatest decision-making authority are the prime ministers and provincial premiers. They are the focus of History 3226G. Specifically, the course considers the leadership styles and attributes of some of Canada's most noteworthy government leaders. Many of the prime ministers and provincial premiers to be studied were renowned for their leadership successes and innovations. The records of some of the others were far more controversial. Regardless, the careers of each of the political leaders we study will be treated as a unique combination of character and circumstance, pragmatism and principle. To that end, substantial attention is paid to the social, economic and political challenges and opportunities each leader faced while in government, and how collectively they altered our understanding of leadership as the nation evolved. The course begins with a consideration of theoretical perspectives for assessing political leadership in a country as ethnically diverse and

regionally fragmented as Canada. It then highlights the careers of a select and highly diverse group of political leaders who played a central role in shaping Canada, for better or worse, between 1867 and 2015.

Each student will write a **scholarly book review** (7-8 typewritten pages in length) of Christopher Dummitt, *Unbuttoned: A History of Mackenzie King's Secret Life* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2017). A paper copy of the completed book review must be submitted **in class** on **October 31<sup>st</sup>**. In addition, an identical electronic copy of the written assignment must be submitted by the due date and time to turnitin via the course OWL website.

Each student must submit a formal and brief (1-2 page typewritten) essay proposal no later than **Wednesday 17 October 2018**, and proposals must be approved by **Wednesday 24 October 2018**. Students who fail to meet either of these deadlines will not be permitted to submit an essay, and will receive a grade of "0" on the assignment. Approved essay topics cannot subsequently be changed without the instructor's prior consent.

Each student will write a **research essay** (13-15 typewritten pages in length) on the leadership styles and attributes of an individual prime minister or premier. Essay topics will be assigned by the instructor in consultation with each student. Essays must place the leader's decision-making within the context of the principal social, economic, and political influences of the time. A paper copy of the completed research essay must be submitted **in class** on **November 28th**. In addition, an identical electronic copy of the written assignment must be submitted by the due date and time to turnitin via the course OWL website.

Each student, in consultation with the instructor, will identify and present (approximately ten minutes) to the seminar several primary sources that effectively demonstrate the principal themes of one of the weekly sessions. The types of sources to be consulted could include, but are not limited to, government documents, speeches, newspaper articles, personal diaries, excerpts from novels, advertisements, photographs and other illustrations, radio and television broadcasts. The student's findings will be submitted in a **formal report** of approximately 5 pages in length due one week after the presentation. Two useful sources to be consulted as starting points for this assignment are Cornelius Jaenen and Cecilia Morgan, eds., *Material Memory: Documents in Pre-Confederation History* (Addison Wesley Longman, 1998) and Jeffrey Keshen and Suzanne Morton, *Material Memory: Documents in Post-Confederation History* (Addison Wesley Longman, 1998).

There will be a three-hour **final examination** during the December examination period covering all seminars and required readings for the entire course.

### **Course Materials:**

The course readings are available either in digital format at the Western Libraries site for History 3226G:

<https://ares.lib.uwo.ca/ares/ares.dll?SessionID=H194638149X&Action=6&Type=60&Form=60&Value=47993> or on two-hour reserve at D.B. Weldon Library.

The book for review J Christopher Dummitt, *Unbuttoned: A History of Mackenzie King's Secret Life* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2017) is available for purchase at the University Book Store.

A useful supplementary source for studying the history of Canada's prime ministers is Michael Bliss, *Right Honourable Men: The Descent of Canadian Politics from Macdonald to Chrétien* (HarperCollins, 2004).

## Methods of Evaluation:

Book Review (due October 31 <sup>st</sup> )	15%
Research Essay Proposal (due October 17 <sup>th</sup> )	5%
Research Essay (due November 28 <sup>th</sup> )	25%
Primary Source Presentation and Report	10%
Seminar Participation	20%
Final Examination	25%

A **late penalty** of 5% for the first day and 2% per day thereafter (weekends included) will be assessed against all written work submitted after the due date.

Students are expected to attend and participate actively in all seminar discussions, thereby demonstrating their comprehension of the assigned readings. Sample discussion questions will be posted on the course OWL website before each class to assist students in preparing to participate meaningfully in the seminar. All students will be assigned a participation grade on a 10-point scale following each seminar. Failure to attend a seminar will result in a score of “0” for that class. Merely attending a seminar without participating in the discussion will result in a score of “2” for that class. The assignment of a participation grade from “3” to “10” will be determined by the quality of the student’s contributions to discussion during any given seminar.

In instances when absence from class is unavoidable, students are expected, when possible, to inform the instructor in advance of their pending absence.

Non-illness absences from seminars are unacceptable. Any student attending fewer than nine of the twelve scheduled seminars (an absence rate of approximately 25%) for non-illness reasons will be assigned a failing grade for seminar participation.

In every instance where a student seeks accommodation for course work (including book review, essay proposal, essay, primary source presentation and report, and final examination) due to illness or non-illness, documentation for such accommodation is required. Such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean’s office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean’s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

Students can find the University’s Policy on Accommodation for Illness at ([http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)).

## Course Schedule and Readings:

### Session One: Wednesday 12 September 2018

#### Introduction to History 3226G

### Session Two: Wednesday 19 September 2018

#### Topic: Contemporary Perspectives on Canadian Political Leadership

#### Readings:

Jonathan Malloy, "Prime Ministers and their Parties in Canada," in Paul Strangio, Paul 'T Hart, and James Walter, eds., *Understanding Prime-Ministerial Performance: Comparative Perspectives* (Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 151-171.

Stephen Azzi and Norman Hillmer, "Evaluating Prime-Ministerial Performance: The Canadian Experience," in Paul Strangio, Paul 'T Hart, and James Walter, eds., *Understanding Prime-Ministerial Performance: Comparative Perspectives* (Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 242-263.

Stephen Azzi and Norman Hillmer, "Ranking Canada's best and worst prime ministers" *Macleans*, October 7, 2016.

<http://www.macleans.ca/politics/ottawa/ranking-canadas-best-and-worst-prime-ministers/>

### **Session Three: Wednesday 26 September 2018**

**Topic: Sir John A. Macdonald, 1867-1873; 1878-1891**

#### **Readings:**

J.K. Johnson and P.B. Waite, "Macdonald, Sir John A." *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XII (1891-1900).

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/macdonald\\_john\\_alexander\\_12E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/macdonald_john_alexander_12E.html)

Michel Ducharme, "Macdonald and the Concept of Liberty," in Patrice Dutil and Roger Hall, eds., *Macdonald at 200: New Reflections and Legacies* (Dundurn, 2014), pp. 141-169.

J.R. Miller, "Macdonald as Minister of Indian Affairs: The Shaping of Canadian Indian Policy," in Patrice Dutil and Roger Hall, eds., *Macdonald at 200: New Reflections and Legacies* (Dundurn, 2014), pp. 311-340.

### **Session Four: Wednesday 3 October 2018**

**Topic: Sir Wilfrid Laurier, 1896-1911**

#### **Readings:**

Réal Bélanger, "Laurier, Sir Wilfrid," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XIV (1911-1920).

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/laurier\\_wilfrid\\_14E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/laurier_wilfrid_14E.html)

Jeffrey Simpson, "Sir Wilfrid Laurier: Grits on High" in *Spoils of Power: The Politics of Patronage* (Collins, 1988), pp. 98-122.

### **Session Five: Wednesday 17 October 2018**

**Topic: Sir Robert Borden, 1911-1917**

#### **Readings:**

Robert Craig Brown, "Borden, Sir Robert Laird," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XVI (1931-1940).

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/borden\\_robert\\_laird\\_16E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/borden_robert_laird_16E.html)

John English, "Political Leadership in the First World War," in David MacKenzie, ed., *Canada and the First World War: Essays in Honour of Robert Craig Brown*, (2005), pp. 76-95.

\*\*\*\*\* **ESSAY PROPOSAL DUE TODAY** \*\*\*\*\*

**Session Six: Wednesday 24 October 2018**

**Topic: William Lyon Mackenzie King, 1921-1926; 1926-1930; 1935-1948**

**Readings:**

H. Blair Neatby, "King, William Lyon Mackenzie," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XVII (1941-1950).  
[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/king\\_william\\_lyon\\_mackenzie\\_17E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/king_william_lyon_mackenzie_17E.html)

J.L. Granatstein, *Canada's War: The Politics of the Mackenzie King Government, 1939-1945* (1975), pp. 333-381.

**Session Seven: Wednesday 31 October 2018**

**Topic #1: Maurice Duplessis, 1936-1939, 1944-1959**

**Readings:**

Michel Sarra-Bournet, "Duplessis, Maurice Le Noblet," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XVIII (1951-1960).

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/duplessis\\_maurice\\_le\\_noblet\\_18E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/duplessis_maurice_le_noblet_18E.html)

Susan Mann Trofimenkoff, *The Dream of Nation: A Social and Intellectual History of Quebec* (Gage, 1983), pp. 266-281.

[http://books1.scholarsportal.info.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/viewdoc.html?id=/ebooks/ebooks0/gibson\\_crkn/2009-12-01/1/400902](http://books1.scholarsportal.info.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/viewdoc.html?id=/ebooks/ebooks0/gibson_crkn/2009-12-01/1/400902)

**Topic #2: William Aberhart, 1935-1943**

**Readings:**

David Elliott, "William Aberhart, 1935-1943," in Bradford J. Rennie, ed., *Alberta Premiers of the Twentieth Century* (Canadian Plains Research Center, 2004), pp. 125-146.

D.R. Elliott, "Antithetical Elements in William Aberhart's Theology and Political Ideology," in *The Canadian Historical Review* (Vol. 59, No. 1, 1978), pp. 38-58.

[https://journals-scholarsportal-info.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/pdf/00083755/v59i0001/38\\_aeiwatapi.xml](https://journals-scholarsportal-info.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/pdf/00083755/v59i0001/38_aeiwatapi.xml)

\* \* \* **BOOK REVIEW DUE TODAY** \* \* \*

**Session Eight: Wednesday 7 November 2018**

**Topic #1: Joey Smallwood, 1949-1972**

**Readings:**

James K. Hiller, "Smallwood, Joseph Roberts [Joey] (1900-1991)," in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 2007).

<http://www.oxforddnb.com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/view/article/54662>

Sean T. Cadigan, *Newfoundland and Labrador: A History* (University of Toronto Press, 2009), pp. 235-259.

**Topic #2: Tommy Douglas, 1944-1961****Reading:**

Thomas H. McLeod and Ian McLeod, "T.C. Douglas, 1944-1961," in Gordon L. Barnhart, ed., *Saskatchewan Premiers of the Twentieth Century* (Canadian Plains Research Centre, 2004), pp. 161-212.

**Session Nine: Wednesday 14 November 2018****Topic: John Diefenbaker, 1957-1963****Readings:**

Denis Smith, "Diefenbaker, John George," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XX (1971-1980).

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/diefenbaker\\_john\\_george\\_20E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/diefenbaker_john_george_20E.html)

Bob Plamondon, *Blue Thunder: The Truth about the Conservatives from Macdonald to Harper* (Key Porter Books, 2009), pp. 213-264.

**Session Ten: Wednesday 21 November 2018****Topic: Pierre Trudeau, 1968-1979; 1980-1984****Readings:**

John English, "Trudeau, Pierre Elliott," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XXII (1991-2000).

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/trudeau\\_pierre\\_elliott\\_22E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/trudeau_pierre_elliott_22E.html)

Michael Bliss, "Guarding a Most Famous Stream: Trudeau and the Canadian Political Tradition," in Andrew Cohen and J.L. Granatstein, eds., *Trudeau's Shadow: The Life and Legacy of Pierre Elliott Trudeau* (Random House, 1998), pp. 11-19.

Andrew Cohen, "Trudeau's Canada: The Vision and the Visionary," in Andrew Cohen and J.L. Granatstein, eds., *Trudeau's Shadow: The Life and Legacy of Pierre Elliott Trudeau* (Random House, 1998), pp. 309-328.

Bob Plamondon, *The Truth About Trudeau* (Great River Media, 2013), pp. 329-344.

**Session Eleven: Wednesday 28 November 2018****Topic: René Lévesque, 1976-1985****Readings:**

Pierre Godin, "Lévesque, René," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XXI (1981-1990).  
[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/levesque\\_rene\\_21E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/levesque_rene_21E.html)

Graham Fraser, *PQ: René Lévesque and the Parti Québécois in Power* (1984), pp. 190-240.  
[http://books1.scholarsportal.info.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/viewdoc.html?id=/ebooks/ebooks0/gibson\\_crkn/2009-12-01/1/400670#tabview=tab1](http://books1.scholarsportal.info.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/viewdoc.html?id=/ebooks/ebooks0/gibson_crkn/2009-12-01/1/400670#tabview=tab1)

René Lévesque, "For an Independent Quebec," in Michael D. Behiels, ed., *Quebec Since 1945: Selected Readings* (1987), pp. 265-273.

\* \* \* **ESSAY DUE TODAY** \* \* \*

### **Session Twelve: Wednesday 5 December 2018**

**Topic: Brian Mulroney, 1984-1993**

#### **Reading:**

Bob Plamondon, *Blue Thunder: The Truth about the Conservatives from Macdonald to Harper* (Key Porter Books, 2009), pp. 315-349.

Michael Hart, "Free Trade and Brian Mulroney's Economic Legacy," in Raymond B. Blake, ed., *Transforming the Nation: Canada and Brian Mulroney* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2007), pp. 61-79.

Ian Peach, "Building or Severing the Bonds of Nationhood?: The Uncertain Legacy of Constitution Making in the Mulroney Years," in Raymond B. Blake, ed., *Transforming the Nation: Canada and Brian Mulroney* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2007), pp. 80-112.

#### **Additional Statements**

##### ***Academic Offences:***

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ( <http://www.turnitin.com> ).

##### ***Accessibility Options:***

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:  
[www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

### ***Medical Issues***

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

[https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf)

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links to the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: [http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical\\_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)

### ***Plagiarism:***

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot



avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

### ***Scholastic Offences***

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

[www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### ***Support Services***

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### ***Use of Electronic Devices***

No electronic devices will be allowed during the final examination.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or e-mail [vangelen@uwo.ca](mailto:vangelen@uwo.ca).