

**POLI 110**  
**INVESTIGATING POLITICS:**  
**AN INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC POLITICAL ANALYSIS**

2021-2022  
Term 1

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30pm-1:50pm  
GEOG 100

+ Weekly Tutorial starting in Week 2

**Professor Alan M. Jacobs** ([alan.jacobs@ubc.ca](mailto:alan.jacobs@ubc.ca))

Office: BUCHANAN C318

Office Hours:

- In-person (BUCH C318): Wednesdays, 1:00pm-2:00pm
- Online: Fridays, 2:00pm-3:00pm
- Or by appointment

**Teaching Assistants**

Nicholas Phin: [nphin123@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:nphin123@mail.ubc.ca)

Cindy Robin: [cjrobin@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:cjrobin@mail.ubc.ca)

Daniel Rojas Lozano: [daniel.rojaslozano@ubc.ca](mailto:daniel.rojaslozano@ubc.ca)

Camila Scheidegger Farias: [csfarias@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:csfarias@mail.ubc.ca)

**TA Office hours:** TBA

**Land Acknowledgement**

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. The land on which we are learning has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the

This course prepares students to engage with the field of political science by introducing them to the basic logic and tools used by political scientists to understand and explain the political world. The course will teach students how political scientists ask answerable questions; how we define key political concepts; how we formulate hypotheses and theories about political dynamics; how we measure the phenomena we want to study; how we think about and assess relationships of cause-and-effect; and how we report our findings to the world. We will consider these issues by examining how political scientists have investigated major questions in domestic and international affairs, such as why ethnic diversity sometimes leads to civil war, whether

international intervention can bring about democracy, and how we can determine which country has the best healthcare policies.

## **YOUR IMMEDIATE TO-DO CHECKLIST**

Many details of the course are explained below. Before going any further, however, we provide a checklist of the things that you want to be sure you have done before the end of Week 1 to ensure that you are ready to fully participate in the course.

- Read this syllabus carefully and ask any questions you have (in person or via email)
- Access the course readings: purchase POLI 110 course pack from UBC Bookstore or find the readings via the “Library Online Course Reserve” link in Canvas
- Purchase a notebook (see laptop/device policy below)
- Sign up for Top Hat at <https://tophat.com/>, and enroll in course (join code: 264566) (free to you)
- Register for a discussion (tutorial) section (**tutorials begin in Week 2**)
- Ensure that Student Services has your current email address on file
- Make sure you have a system set up to automatically, frequently back up your computer files

## **CLASS MEETINGS**

Your attendance at **lectures** is mandatory. Attendance will be taken via TopHat. While much of teaching in these sessions will be lecture-based, you also will be regularly asked questions in class that require a response via TopHat. Your participation in these in-class question-and-answer sessions will determine your “Lecture participation” grade.

The course also includes a **weekly tutorial, starting in Week 2**, led by your teaching assistant in which your attendance and participation is required. See the section below on “Grading and Assessed Coursework” for further details on the grading of tutorial attendance and participation.

## **COVID-19 Safety**

You are required to wear a non-medical mask during our class meetings, for your own protection and the safety and comfort of everyone else in the class. For our in-person meetings in this class, it is important that all of us feel as comfortable as possible engaging in class activities while sharing an indoor space. Non-medical masks that cover our noses and mouths are a primary tool for combating the spread of COVID-19. Further, according to the provincial mandate, masks are required in all indoor public spaces including lobbies, hallways, stairwells, elevators, classrooms, and labs. There may be students who have medical accommodations for not wearing a mask. Please maintain a respectful environment (see [UBC Respectful Environment Statement](#)).

## **Virtual lecture attendance**

It is expected that all students who are able to travel to Canada will be living in the Lower Mainland and will attend POLI 110 lectures in person. However, POLI 110 lectures will be livestreamed over Zoom in order to accommodate students who are unable to attend lectures in person. Accommodation is envisioned for two principal reasons: (1) medical reasons, such as illness, COVID-like symptoms, or the need to self-isolate (e.g., in case of a suspected exposure to COVID) or (2) the inability to travel to Canada (e.g., because of COVID-related restrictions or delays in processing student visas). Students unable to attend lectures in person will be expected to attend virtually via Zoom. The Zoom link can be found on the course's Canvas site. You will be prompted to register when you click "Join" for the lecture you are attending in Zoom.

Like those attending in person, Zoom attendees **will be expected to use Top Hat in real time**, both when attendance is taken and during Top Hat activities for participation credit.

### **Lecture recordings**

All Zoom lectures will be recorded and posted to the Zoom section of the course's Canvas site. The purpose of the recordings is to help students review material in preparation for homework assignments and exams. Watching the Zoom recording will not count toward attendance or participation credit, which students can only receive by using Top Hat in real time during lectures.

## **REQUIRED READINGS AND TOP HAT**

**1. Custom Coursepack or Library Online Course Reserve:** There are two ways in which you can access the required readings for the course. You may purchase a custom coursepack at the UBC Bookstore. Alternatively, you can find the readings in electronic form on the Library Online Course Reserve system, which you can access from the POLI 110 Canvas site.

**2. Readings Available Electronically:** As listed below in the detailed syllabus, some required readings for the course are electronically available either on the **Course Website** (see section below on the Course Website), through the **UBC Library Online Catalogue**, or simply through a **link on the web**. It is your responsibility to download all readings from the appropriate location.

**3. Top Hat:** Part of your mark for the course will be based on your attendance and participation in lecture using Top Hat. We will begin use of Top Hat in **Week 2**. To use Top Hat, you must bring your own laptop, tablet, or phone (easier with a smartphone, but even flip phone can be used) to each lecture. If this will be a problem, please contact Professor Jacobs immediately.

Students attending lecture virtually will be able and required to use Top Hat for attendance and participation in precisely the same way that those attending in person will use it.

## **GRADING AND ASSESSED COURSE WORK**

### **A. Midterm (20%) and Final Examinations (25%)**

There are two exams. The exams will test you on material in the lectures, tutorials, and readings for the weeks that they cover (as indicated here):

**1. Midterm Exam.** This midterm will assess material covered in Topics 2 through 6, as indicated on the syllabus, and will be worth **20% of your overall mark**.

**2. Final Exam (Date and Time to be Set by Registrar).** The Final Exam will be worth **25% of your overall grade**.

For those unable to take an exam in person, there will be an option to take the exam at the same time but remotely. Documentation will be required to take the exam remotely.

### **B. Lecture attendance and participation via Top Hat (15%)**

Lecture attendance will be taken via Top Hat. Also, in most lectures, you will be asked to answer one or more questions using Top Hat. **15% of your mark** for POLI 110 will depend on a combination of your attendance and your participation in lectures. Your mark does **not** depend on whether you get the answers right. The questions are exercises to provoke discussion and learning. However, to get credit for participation at a given lecture, you must be present at the lecture or watching online in real time and input responses to all questions using your own device (phone, tablet, or computer) during the designated time interval for each question. Each student is permitted 2 unexcused missed lectures. (See below for policy on missed class sessions.)

**If you are sick or need to self-isolate, it is important that you stay home.** Complete a self-assessment for COVID-19 symptoms here: <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>. You can still get full marks for attendance and participation by watching the livestream of the lecture and using Top Hat to indicate your attendance and to participate in activities. You do not need to seek a concession or provide a reason for attending class online.

For some of the Top Hat exercises, you will be asked first to discuss the question with 2-3 people sitting near you (or, if you're at home, to give the question some thought on your own) and only

then to register your answer with Top Hat.

Lecture attendance and participation will each be marked, separately, on the following principle (with attendance and participation calculated after dropping up to 2 unexcused absences):

- 100% attendance = A+ (90) for lecture attendance
- 100% Top Hat participation = A+ (90) for lecture participation
- Each lecture absence = loss of 4 points from lecture attendance grade
- Each lecture without Top Hat participation = loss of 4 points from lecture participation grade
- A lecture absence automatically counts as missed Top Hat participation for that lecture

**If I (the instructor) am feeling ill**

If I am unwell, I will not come to class. I will make every reasonable attempt to communicate plans for class as soon as possible (by email, on Canvas, etc.). It is likely that I will deliver the lecture online, and our classroom will still be available for you to sit in and attend an online session.

## **Very-limited-use policy on laptops and devices in lecture and tutorial**

A great deal of research suggests that learning suffers when we are exposed to the distractions of the internet. We want to create an environment in POLI 110 in which learning can be maximized and distractions minimized. We thus want to use technology where it can help the most – such as for Top Hat activities, online activities during tutorial, or virtual participation when needed – but avoid it when it can become a distraction, such as when the instructor is lecturing.

**Starting with the second lecture and for all tutorials, laptops and devices may not be used by in-person attendees during class EXCEPT when we are taking attendance or doing an online activity (e.g., on Top Hat).** Notes should be taken with pen and paper; in fact, research shows that we learn *more* when we take notes in longhand than when we type them on a laptop.

For those attending lectures or tutorials virtually, we ask that you close all windows and applications except for Zoom.

For some of the scientific evidence showing detrimental effects of laptops and other devices on learning in higher education, see:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0272775716303454>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131506001436>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131512002254>

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0956797614524581>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0272775716307129>

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01443410.2018.1489046>

Accommodation will be made for students with medical or Centre for Accessibility documentation indicating that they need to use a laptop or other device for note-taking.

## **C. Weekly Tutorial Attendance and Participation, starting WEEK 2 (15%)**

Attendance and active participation in the **weekly tutorial** led by your teaching assistant is required and will be worth a total of **15% of your overall grade**. You will be allowed **one unexcused absence from tutorial** during the term. (See policies on missed class sessions below.) Except for the two tutorial sections designated as “Online,” all tutorials will be held in-person.

**In general, you must attend YOUR tutorial session to get attendance credit;** this is the tutorial session for which you are officially registered. You will be counted as absent if you attend a different tutorial session instead of the one you are registered in. (Exceptions for

emergency situations are covered below under “Missed Class Sessions.”)

Tutorials will address and expand upon the topic that was covered the *previous* week in lecture. Prior to each tutorial, you must have carefully read all **required readings** for the previous week’s topic.

Tutorials are **discussion-based**. Your Tutorial Attendance and Participation mark will be based not just on whether you show up to tutorial but also whether you actively participate in discussions in a constructive manner. Your participation should reflect solid preparation – having attended lectures, done the required readings, thought about the material and done your best to understand it, and made a serious effort on the homework assignment (if one was assigned for that week). Note that constructive participation can include not only providing thoughtful answers to questions posed by your TA but also *asking questions* about material that you have struggled to understand. This means that, before coming to tutorial, you should think carefully about what you do not understand about the concepts and issues covered in lectures and readings and try to formulate your questions as clearly as you can.

**\*\*\*NOTE:** If a **statutory holiday** falls on the regular meeting day of your tutorial section, **you must still attend tutorial that week on a different day**. To receive credit for attending a tutorial session that is not your own, you must **fill in the “Alternative Tutorial Attendance Form” and have the TA of the alternative session sign and submit it to your own TA**. You can find this form under “Modules” on the course Canvas site.**\*\*\***

Tutorial attendance will each be marked on the following principle (with attendance calculated after dropping up to 1 unexcused tutorial absence):

- 100% attendance = A+ (90) for attendance grade
- Each tutorial absence = loss of 8 points from tutorial attendance grade
- A tutorial absence automatically also counts as no participation for that tutorial session

Tutorial participation will be marked based on both how regularly you participate in tutorial discussions and on the quality of that participation. We do not expect each student to make several comments in each session. However, achieving a high participation mark will typically mean participating at least once or twice in each session. The quality of comments or questions (do they reflect solid preparation, thoughtful engagement with the material, etc.) is as important as the quantity of participation.

**If you are sick or need to self-isolate, it is important that you stay home.** If you miss your tutorial session for any reason, you should try to attend an alternative session in **the same week** (assuming that it is safe and feasible for you to do so). If you will be attending an alternative session, you should email the TA for that alternative section to ask permission to attend their session. You must also **fill in the “Alternative Tutorial Attendance Form”** (found under “Modules” on the course Canvas site) and have the TA of the session you’re attending sign the form; you then submit the form to your own TA to get credit for attendance.

**If your TA is feeling ill**

If your TA is unwell, they will not come to class. Your TA will make every reasonable attempt to communicate plans for tutorial as soon as possible (by email, on Canvas, etc.). Your TA may run the tutorial online, and the tutorial classroom will still be available for you to sit in and attend an online session.

## **Tutorials begin in Week 2 of the semester.**

### **D. Homework Assignments (4 x 6.25% = 25%)**

There will be 4 Homework assignments. All Homework assignments are due **Monday at 9am**, the week after they are distributed. They must be submitted electronically to **both turnitin.com and Canvas**.

The Homework assignments are intended to help you work through the material presented in lecture and in course readings by **applying key concepts, arguments, and methods to real-world political issues**.

For each assignment, you will choose one topic discussed in one of the following 5 collections of articles about current social and political issues on The Conversation website. The articles under each topic provide a wealth of information about a major political or policy issue in the world today. You are welcome to choose different topics for different homework assignments, or to use the same topic repeatedly: it is entirely up to you. You must draw on the material at any of the following 5 links:

Labour Unions

<https://theconversation.com/ca/search?q=labour+unions&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=year&date from=&date to=>

Indian Residential Schools

<https://theconversation.com/ca/search?q=indian+residential+schools&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=year&date from=&date to=>

Black Lives Matter

<https://theconversation.com/us/search?q=black+lives+matter&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=year&date from=&date to=>



Afghanistan

[https://theconversation.com/us/search?q=afghanistan&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=year  
&date\\_from=&date\\_to=](https://theconversation.com/us/search?q=afghanistan&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=year&date_from=&date_to=)

2021 Canadian Federal Election

[https://theconversation.com/ca/search?q=federal+election&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=  
month&date\\_from=&date\\_to=](https://theconversation.com/ca/search?q=federal+election&sort=relevancy&language=en&date=month&date_from=&date_to=)

**\*\*\* ALL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO TURNITIN.COM AND ON CANVAS, OR THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE MARK.** You will shortly receive information about how to submit homework to turnitin. \*\*\*

<b>KEY TO ASSESSED COURSE COMPONENTS</b>		
<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Date/ Due Date</b>	<b>Percentage of Overall Grade</b>
Tutorial attendance and participation	<b>Weekly (Weeks 2-13)</b>	15%
Lecture attendance and participation via Top Hat	<b>All lectures</b>	15%
Homework (4 assignments)	<b>Monday, 9am, the week after assignment is distributed</b>	25% (6.5% each)
Midterm exam	<b>Oct. 21, during class time</b>	20%
Final Examination	<b>Exam Period: Date and Time to be Set by Registrar</b>	25%

## **MISSED CLASS SESSIONS, LATE ASSIGNMENTS, AND MISSED EXAMINATIONS**

### **General policies on absence and late assignments**

#### **Absence from Lecture or Tutorial**

Each student is allowed 2 unexcused lecture absences and 1 unexcused tutorial absence without any mark deduction; there is no need to provide a reason to your TA or instructor for absences within this limit. However, missing additional lectures or tutorials will result

in a deduction from your lecture participation or tutorial attendance/participation mark, unless you request and receive an **in-term concession from your TA**.

### **Late Homework Assignments**

Late assignments will incur penalties unless an in-term concession has been requested and received from your TA in a timely manner. Each Homework assignment is worth 5 points of your total course grade:

- The loss of half credit for assignments turned in within the first 24 hours after the time they are due
- No credit for assignments turned in more than 24 hours late

### **Missed examinations**

If you miss an examination, you will result in a grade of zero unless an in-term concession has been requested and received. As noted above, there will be opportunities for those who are unable to take an exam in-person to take the exam remotely.

### **Accommodation**

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Center for Accessibility. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let me know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you expect to require accommodation on any of these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with me before the course drop date.

### **Academic concessions**

An [in-term concession](#) is an exception to or variance in the timing or nature of a specific course requirement, provided because of an **unanticipated** circumstance that interferes with a student's ability to accomplish academic coursework or attend class. Students who need an in-term concession, such as additional time for an assignment or being excused from attending class, must **contact their TA via email as soon as the problem arises**. This usually means **before the assignment due date or the missed class**. Requests for a concession made after an assignment's due date may not be considered. Please include with your request a Student Self-Declaration form, found on the [Arts Advising website](#). If you require a second in-term concession, your TA may direct you to Arts Advising for adjudication of your request.

**Concessions are generally reserved for unforeseeable events that are outside a student's control.** Having **multiple papers due in the same week** is not grounds for a concession. When you know of such situations ahead of time, it is your responsibility to organize your work for this course so that you can turn in the assignment on time. This may mean getting an early start on a paper. In general, a valid request for concession will fall into one of three categories:

- **Conflicting responsibilities:** if a non-academic responsibility interferes with your ability to fulfill course requirements in a timely manner. This includes the need to care for a family member; religious observance, representing UBC, BC, or Canada in a competition or performance; military service; court proceedings). Normally, we expect that you will choose your courses in a way that makes it possible to fulfill your academic commitments and other responsibilities that you know that you have. Thus, concessions for conflicting responsibilities will usually be limited to situations in which the new responsibilities arose after you had enrolled in the course. You should, of course, also make sure that the responsibilities that you have to each of your courses do not conflict with one another.
- **Medical reasons:** if an acute medical condition or the emergence/change in a chronic medical condition, including both physical and mental health, interferes with your ability to fulfill course responsibilities in a timely manner. Note that students who need to stay at home because of mild symptoms that might be COVID-related will generally be expected to attend class online. Medical reasons for not attending class online would include more severe symptoms that make it difficult to concentrate, focus on a computer screen, or do academic work. Remember also that, if you miss your tutorial, the first thing you should try to do is attend an alternative tutorial session in the same week (fill in the “Alternative Tutorial Attendance Form”), when it is safe and feasible to do so and with the permission of the TA leading the alternative section.
- **Compassionate reasons:** relating to a traumatic event experienced by you, a family member, or a close friend.

**Extensions will usually not be granted for work lost due to computer crashes or the loss of a computer file.** The reason for this is that there are simple and free ways of regularly and automatically backing up your work. **I recommend that all students subscribe to a free, automatic online backup service.** These services will ensure that your files are backed up to a remote server at least once a day, and often continuously or every time you hit “Save”. Thus, even if your computer dies, there is no reason you should not be able to retrieve a quite current copy of your work.

**IMPORTANT: All accommodations or concessions must be recorded in writing via email. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that there is an email record of any accommodation or concession they have received. Thus, even if you and your TA have had a face-to-face conversation about an extension, you must send the TA an email confirming the concession.** This simply ensures that we have a record of any individualized arrangements that have been made.

Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss) and should also retain all their marked assignments in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standings.

### **Meeting with me**

I am very happy to meet to discuss any issues or concerns that arise over the course of the term. This includes further discussion of substantive topics in the course, problems you may be having completing requirements, or concerns you have about the way the course is being run. If you cannot make it to my office hours, please see me after class or email me to make an appointment at another time. For issues that can be dealt with electronically, email is usually the fastest way to reach me, and I tend to respond quickly.

Read the university calendar so that you are aware of no-penalty drop dates, requirements for medical authorization (to defer an exam, for example) and other procedures that may affect you:

### **Important term dates**

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/>

## **CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM**

Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. The University considers plagiarism to be the most serious academic offence that a student can commit. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to the presentation or submission of the work of another person, without citation or credits, as the student's own work. Whether intentional or accidental, instances of plagiarism will have serious academic consequences.

In my experience, many students who believe they know what plagiarism is do not actually have a clear understanding of where the line between proper and improper use of sources lies. I thus strongly encourage you to read the UBC library's excellent online resources at <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/resource-guides/avoiding-plagiarism/>.

If you have any doubts about how and when to properly acknowledge another person's work, please discuss these with the course instructor.

Punishment for cheating or plagiarism will include a grade of zero and other disciplinary action. Please refer to the University policies on cheating and plagiarism for examples of what constitutes academic misconduct and the extent of disciplinary action that could be taken.

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959>

## **Turnitin.com**

It is the official policy of the Department of Political Science that all written course work be submitted to turnitin.com to check for possible signs of plagiarism (unless there are exceptional reasons why an assignment should be exempted).

**All Homework assignments for this course must be uploaded to turnitin.com by the due date. Assignments not submitted to turnitin.com will not be marked.** Before submitting, you must first visit [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) to register for a username and password that will allow you to use the system. We will distribute enrollment details (section IDs and passwords) for each tutorial section shortly.

Please be assured that “originality” results from turnitin.com will never by themselves be used as proof of plagiarism. Instructors merely use these results, along with their own knowledge of writings in the field, to help identify *possible* cases of plagiarism that they should look at more closely. **No student can ever be accused of plagiarism solely on the basis of turnitin.com “originality” scores.**

## **COMMUNICATION WITH TEACHING STAFF**

For any questions or concerns about the course as a whole, please contact your TA or the course instructor via e-mail or stop by the TA’s or Professor Jacobs’ office hours. Any questions about the material covered in lectures may be directed to the course instructor or to your TA. Questions about the tutorial should be directed to your TAs, whose email addresses are listed on the first page of this syllabus. As discussed above, requests for an excused absence from lecture or tutorial, or for an assignment extension, should be addressed to your TA.

Emails with course announcements, details on required readings and other important information will often be sent to registered students via the Student Services system. It is your responsibility to make sure that the email address you have registered with UBC is valid and to check your email at this address regularly so that you do not miss these announcements.

## **COURSE WEBPAGE AND EMAILS**

There is a course webpage for POLI 110 on UBC’s Canvas System. You can log in at [canvas.ubc.ca](http://canvas.ubc.ca) with your CWL username and password. I will use this page to post important course documents (readings, syllabus, assignments, lecture slides etc.) throughout the term.

# **COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS**

## **PART I: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL SCIENCE**

### **Topic 1 (Sept. 9): Course Structure, Requirements, Objectives and Introduction**

#### **Reading**

Course syllabus – read carefully

[SEPT 16: LECTURE PRE-RECORDED BECAUSE OF YOM KIPPUR. WATCH AT HOME.](#)

### **Topic 2 (Sept. 14 & 16): What is Social Science?**

#### **Reading**

Neuman, pp 2-7 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)

## **PART II: CAUSALITY IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **Topic 3 (Sept. 21 and 23): Types of Questions and Claims (Prescriptive/Descriptive/Causal)**

#### **Reading**

“Distinguishing between Normative and Empirical Statements,” on Canvas (under Modules)

### **Topic 4 (Sept. 28): Causal Claims: What’s Causality?**

#### **Reading**

“Causality: Counterfactuals, Deterministic Claims, and Probabilistic Claims”: on Canvas (under Modules)

[NO CLASS SEPT. 30 – NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION](#)

## **Topic 5 (Oct. 5 and 7): Types of Causal Claims**

### **Reading**

- (1) “General and Specific Knowledge in the Social Sciences”: on Canvas (under Modules)
- (2) For Next Week’s Tutorial - Wikipedia entry: [Causes of the French Revolution](#)
- (3) For Next Week’s Tutorial - Wikipedia entry: [Russian Revolution](#): ONLY the section on “Background,” including its 3 subsections

## **Topic 6 (Oct. 12 and 14): Causal Logics**

### **Reading**

- (1) “Causal Logics”: on Canvas (under Modules)
- (2) For next week’s tutorial: *Rwanda: How the Genocide Happened* (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/1288230.stm>)

## **PART III: STUDYING CAUSALITY EMPIRICALLY**

## **Topic 7 (Oct 19): From Concepts to Variables**

### **Reading:**

- (1) Hoover and Donovan, pp. 24-27 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves);
- (2) Manheim and Rich, pp. 27-30 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves);
- (3) Johnson and Jocelyn, pp. 27-30 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)

**\*\*\* OCT 21, 12:30-2:00pm: MIDTERM EXAMINATION, COVERING TOPICS 1-6\*\*\***

### **Topic 8 (Oct. 26): From Variables to Measures**

#### **Readings:**

- (1) Johnson and Joslyn, pp. 49-53 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)
- (2) Hoover and Donovan pp. 18-24 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)

### **Topic 8 (Oct. 28, Nov. 2 and 4): Challenges of Measurement and Sampling**

#### **Readings:**

- (1) Manheim and Rich: pp. 91-95 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)
- (2) “Measurement Error”: on Canvas (under Modules)

### **Topic 10 (Nov. 9): Covariation as a Means of Assessing Causation**

#### **Reading:**

- (1) White, pp. 61-65 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)

**NOV. 11: NO LECTURE BECAUSE OF MIDTERM BREAK.**

**WEEK OF NOV. 8-12: NO TUTORIALS BECAUSE OF MIDTERM BREAK**

### **Topic 11 (Nov. 16 and 18): Why Covariation Doesn’t Always Mean Causation: Spuriousness, Reverse Causation, and Randomness**

#### **Reading:**

- (1) Neuman, pp. 98-99 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)
- (2) For Next Week’s Tutorial: Levitt and Dubner (*Freakonomics*), pp. 161-176 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)



**Topic 12 (Nov. 23, 25, 30): Qualitative Study of Causation: Process Tracing and Reasoning with Evidence**

**Reading**

Arthur Conan Doyle's "Silver Blaze" (online at this [link](#))

Neuman, pp. 68-74; 78-82 (Custom Course Pack/Library Online Course Reserves)

For Next Week's Tutorial: TBD

**Topic 13 (Dec. 2 and 7): Spillover Time/Conclusion**

**No readings**