

Creation date: March 31, 2021

Revision date:

## SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

### Course Code, Number, and Title:

POLI 2265: Surveillance and Terror: The Politics of Totalitarianism

### Course Format:

[Course format may vary by instructor. The typical course format would be:]

Lecture 4.0 h + Seminar 0.0 h + Lab. 0.0 h

**Credits:** 3.0

**Transfer Credit:** For information, visit [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca)

### Course Description, Prerequisites, Corequisites:

This course will introduce students to the main features of totalitarian forms of government, as these are articulated in political theory. The course will emphasize the differences between totalitarianism and authoritarianism and will explore the intersecting propaganda, surveillance, and terror systems employed by the totalitarian regimes.

Prerequisite(s): A minimum "C-" grade in one of the following: POLI 1100, 1119, 1140, 1145, 1160, 1195, or 2270; or permission of the instructor.

### Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to...

- demonstrate an improvement in their formal written communication skills, show enhanced critical reading and analysis skills,
- better prepare for and present research findings to a group,
- distinguish between totalitarian and other forms of political organization, assessing the unique characteristics of totalitarian regimes;
- recognize the social, political, and historical factors that have given rise to totalitarian regimes throughout the 20th century;
- describe and critically analyse different theoretical arguments regarding the rise and collapse of totalitarian regimes.

**Instructor(s):** TBA

**Office:** TBA

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Phone:** (604) 323-XXXX

**Email:** TBA

### Textbook and Course Materials:

[Textbook selection may vary by instructor. An example of texts and course materials for this course might be:]

For textbook information, visit [https://mycampusstore.langara.bc.ca/buy\\_courselisting.asp?selTerm=3|8](https://mycampusstore.langara.bc.ca/buy_courselisting.asp?selTerm=3|8)

“This Sample Course Outline is for planning purposes only”.

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Note: This course may use an electronic (online) instructional resource that is located outside of Canada for mandatory graded class work. You may be required to enter personal information, such as your name and email address, to log in to this resource. This means that your personal information could be stored on servers located outside of Canada and may be accessed by U.S. authorities, subject to federal laws. Where possible, you may log in with an email pseudonym as long as you provide the pseudonym to me so I can identify you when reviewing your class work.

### **Assessments and Weighting:**

**Final Exam** 25%

**Other Assessments** 75%

[An example of other assessments might be:]

Reflection journal 20%

Term paper 25%

Article reviews (4 in total, 5% each) 20%

Social Café posts 10%

### **Grading System:**

Specific grading schemes will be detailed in each course section outline.

*Information unavailable, please consult Department for details.*

### **Topics Covered:**

[Topics covered may vary by instructor. An example of topics covered might be:]

- Introduction: Understanding democracy
- Totalitarianism vs Authoritarianism: totalitarianism on the left and the right, theocracies
- Totalitarianism in political theory--Plato's Republic, Rousseau's Social Contract
- Totalitarian impulses in established democracies
- Why now? Totalitarianism as a possibility of the modern state
- The dynamic of totalitarianism
- The rise of the surveillance state
- Manipulating language, manipulating reality
- The persistence of coercion--secret police and violence
- Experiencing Classic Totalitarianisms
- The Soviet Union--Stalinism and Nazi Germany
- Militarism, Nationalism, and Totalitarianism: Mechanisms of Modern Totalitarianism in North Korea
- China: Communist Totalitarianism without the Communism

As a student at Langara, you are responsible for familiarizing yourself and complying with the following policies:

**College Policies:**

[E1003 - Student Code of Conduct](#)

[F1004 - Code of Academic Conduct](#)

[E2008 - Academic Standing - Academic Probation and Academic Suspension](#)

[E2006 - Appeal of Final Grade](#)

[F1002 - Concerns about Instruction](#)

[E2011 - Withdrawal from Courses](#)

**Departmental/Course Policies:**

*Information unavailable, please consult Department for details.*

SAMPLE