

Changing Political Landscapes

Memorial University

St. John's, NL

April 7th 2017



***Schedule, Details,
& Instructions***

Changing Political Landscapes April 7th 2017
Memorial University, St. John's Campus

OVERVIEW OF SCHEDULE

TIME	PANEL	PANEL
9:00am to 9:20am Opening remarks Continental breakfast Location: SN2036	N/A	N/A
9:30am to 11:00am Panel 1	Canadian Politics Location: SN2036	Newfoundland Politics Location: SN2041
11:10am to 12:30pm Panel 2	Feminism/Gender Location: SN2036	Environment/Food Location: SN2041
12:35pm to 2:45pm Lunch Faculty Roundtable Location: SN2033	N/A	N/A
3:00pm to 4:30pm Panel 3	Domestic Politics Location: SN2036	International Relations Location: SN2041
5:00pm to 7:00pm Dinner Awards Closing remarks Location: Bitter's Restaurant and Pub	N/A	N/A

DETAIL SCHEDULE

<p>Canadian Politics 9:30am to 11:00am SN2036</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Kelly Blidook</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>The Case of Trinity Western University and its Proposed Law School</i> by Mira Raatikainen (B.A. student, Political Science)2. <i>Population, Geography, and Identity: Exploring Factors in Regional Integration of Economic Development in British Columbia Regional Districts</i> by Jason Waters (M.A. student, Political Science)3. <i>Fixing What Ain't Broke: The New Norm of Fixed Date Elections in Canada</i> by Griffyn G. Chezenko (M.A. student, Political Science)
<p>Newfoundland Politics 9:30am to 11:00am SN2041</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Valérie Vézina</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Ambulance Services in Newfoundland and Labrador</i> by Daniel Campbell (B.A. student, Political Science)2. <i>Evolving Governance: Managing Community Challenges Through Improved Representation in Indigenous Communities of NL</i> by Andrew Merrell (M.A. student, Political Science)3. <i>The Origins of Labrador's Political Public</i> by Morgon Mills (PhD candidate, English)4. <i>The Politicization of Remembrance: First World War History and the Newfoundland Education System, 1917-2016</i> by Christopher Reid (PhD candidate, History)
<p>Feminism/Gender 11:10am to 12:30pm SN2036</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Christina Doonan</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Comparing Sexual Harassment Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms at Universities in Canada and the United States: Getting Policy Right</i> by Christopher Ivancic (B.A. student, Political Science)2. <i>Why We Cannot be Reduced to the Gaze of Another: In Defence of the Niqab and Burqa in Public Spaces</i> by Laura Fernz (B.A. student, Political Science)3. <i>Gender and Mobilization in Canadian Politics: Exploring the Substantive and Descriptive Character of Women's Political Representation</i> by Laura O'Brien (M.A. student, Political Science)

Changing Political Landscapes

<p>Environment/Food 11:10am to 12:30pm SN2041</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Sarah Martin</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Decoding Climate Change</i> by Gavin Baird (B.A. Student, Political Science) 2. <i>Food Riots – from the 18th Century to a Globalized World</i> by Annika Anderer (B.A. Exchange Student, History & German) 3. <i>Green Technology Development/Ecological Modernization Theory</i> by Nicholas Damer (B.A. student, Political Science)
<p>Faculty Roundtable/Lunch 12:35pm to 2:45pm SN2033</p>	<p>Political Science Faculty Roundtable: <i>First Four Months of the Trump Presidency</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr. Lucian Ashworth ➤ Dr. Amanda Bittner ➤ Dr. Osvaldo Croci ➤ Dr. Alex Marland
<p>Domestic Politics 3pm to 4:30pm SN2036</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Isabelle Côté</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Russian Reversion: From the Promise of Democracy to Authoritarianism</i> by Alex Marshall (B.A. student, Political Science) 2. “Colombia’s Imaginary Fork in the Road”: President Santos’s Treaty with the FARC by Ella Chirinos (B.A. student, Behavioral Neuroscience) 3. <i>Football’s Coming Home: Football, New Labor, and the Third Way</i> by Steve Sutherland (M.A. student, Political Science) 4. <i>#AltRight: The Dark Millenials</i> by Alexander Pietrantonni (M.A. student, History) and Jean-Philippe Dubois (co-author)
<p>International Relations 3pm to 4:30pm SN2041</p> <p>Discussant: Dr. Russell Williams</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Decision-Making Process of Canada Deferring the Recognition of Communist China in 1949-1950</i> by Adrian Ming Chun Ng (B.A. student, Political Science) 2. <i>International Law: The Final Frontier</i> by Hartwell Millett (B.A. student, Law and Society) 3. <i>Why Are Unofficial Refugee Camps Created, and Why Do They Persist? An Analysis of the ‘Calais Jungle’ in France and Idomeni Camp in Greece</i> by Shane Chubbs (B.A. student, Political Science) 4. “Why Didn’t Our Boys Just Shoot Him and Leave a Little Note?”: <i>The Trial of Adolf Eichmann in Israel</i> by Katie Cranford (B.A. student, History & French)

INSTRUCTIONS

Presentation Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Presenters have 15 minutes firm to present their research.➤ Any technological needs that have been communicated in preparation for the Conference will be accommodated.➤ Each presenter will present their work, and the panel discussant will comment after all presentations for the panel have concluded.➤ If there is time left over from the panel, the audience is welcome to participate by asking questions and commenting on the presentations.
Awards Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ To be considered for a Speakers Award, you must attend two (2) panels, in addition to the one you are presenting in. This means that you must attend one panel in each time slot.➤ To be considered for a Paper Award, you must have submitted your paper in by March 31st, 2017. In addition, your paper cannot exceed 8,000 words.
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Continental breakfast will be served in the morning when opening remarks are delivered. This will take place in SN2036 beginning at 9am.➤ Lunch will take place throughout the Faculty Roundtable, starting at roughly 1pm in SN2033.➤ Dinner and Awards will take place at Bitter’s Restaurant and Pub at Field Hall, 216 Prince Phillip Dr, St. John’s NL (located on campus), starting at 5pm. Dinner and drinks will be cash bar.

MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR *CHANGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPES 2017*

➤ Andrew Merrell, M.A. student, Political Science	➤ Steve Sutherland, M.A. student, Political Science
➤ Laura O’Brien, M.A. student, Political Science	➤ Jason Waters, M.A. student, Political Science
➤ Mira Raatikainen, B.A. student, Political Science	

NOTES

Canadian Politics

Discussant: Dr. Kelly Blidook

9:30-11:00

SN2036

1. *The Case of Trinity Western University and its Proposed Law School*

- Mira Raatikainen (B.A. student, Political Science)

This paper examines the infringement of section 2(a), *Freedom of Religion*, of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, in the recent legal cases involving Trinity Western University's proposed law school. TWU's Community Covenant which must be signed by all students, staff, and faculty is at the heart of the debate. The covenant requires students to abstain from "sexual intimacy that violates the sacredness of marriage between a man and a woman," in order to keep "with biblical and TWU ideals." Furthermore, the covenant also includes the wording "according to the Bible, sexual intimacy is reserved for marriage between one man and one woman." Essentially, this "outlaws" not only premarital sexual relations, but also same sex sexual relations. This can, and has been, interpreted to be in violation of s. 15, *Equality Rights*, of the Charter. Law societies in British Columbia, Nova Scotia, and Ontario have taken legal action not to accredit TWU law graduates at their Bars. This paper argues that law school graduates from Trinity Western University's proposed law school should be called to the Bars across Canada, and finds that there are both jurisdictional and proportional issues in attempting to block TWU graduates from accreditation at the Bars.

2. *Population, Geography, and Identity: Exploring Factors in Regional Integration of Economic Development in British Columbia Regional Districts*

- Jason Waters (M.A. student, Political Science)

This essay explores the use of regional districts in British Columbia as a regional approach to policy design and implementation. To facilitate this task, discussion of public policy will focus on economic development. Specifically, this essay seeks to understand the role regional districts have in economic development at the regional level? The analysis conducted for this paper indicates that this role varies and that regionalization of economic development has occurred in only half of the regional districts. To explore why regionalization has not taken place in all of the regional districts, three potential factors are examined: population, geography and regional identity. It is argued that regional identity is the most significant factor in determining whether economic development policy is integrated regionally. This finding is discussed further with reference to previous studies on regional cooperation and further opportunities for research on British Columbia's regional districts.

3. *Fixing What Ain't Broke: The New Norm of Fixed Date Elections in Canada*

- Griffyn G. Chezenko (M.A. student, Political Science)

Since 2001, legislation implementing fixed dates for general elections has been passed by the federal government, and most provincial and territorial governments. The notion that general election dates are now fixed, however, is flawed. In my submission to *Changing Political Landscapes*, I will explore the fledgling norm of fixed date elections in Canada and examine the aspects of the legislation which call into doubt the fixedness of these elections. With a review of the literature on the subject, I begin by inquiring into the emergence of this foreign phenomenon into Canadian electoral politics and the justification for its extensive adoption. Comparing the legislation across jurisdictions, I analyze the basic construct of fixed date election legislation in Canada, survey similarities and differences, and discover how fixed dates for elections are ultimately avoidable. As a result, I find that election dates are not truly fixed in Canadian jurisdictions where fixed date election legislation has been enacted.

Newfoundland Politics

Discussant: Dr. Valérie Vézina

9:30-11:00

SN2041

1. *Ambulance services in Newfoundland and Labrador*

- Dan Campbell (B.A. student, Political Science)

Ambulance Services in Newfoundland and Labrador have been largely unchanged in the methods of service delivery for the past several decades. The paper is laid out in the format of a policy document and examines the problem with current means of Emergency Medical Services organization and service delivery. While other provinces in Canada and modernized service delivery Newfoundland and Labrador is lacking in effective service delivery that benefits those in rural communities. The major problem identified in the paper is a number of private ambulance service providers working independently of one another without communication between exclusive territories controlled by individual providers. This lack of communication incentivizes inefficiencies and allows for cost increases without overwhelming increase in quality of service delivery.

Barriers to improved Ambulance Services in Newfoundland and Labrador are largely political. Gradual population shift toward urban centres are paired with ballooning costs for service delivery, especially to rural communities. Due to the current system requiring systematic overhaul of privately owned community-based service providers, provincial buyouts of existing private service providers, political capital, a justification of the overhaul to the public would be required. An initial capital investment will be required to implement recommendations with savings and improved service delivery being medium and long-term rewards.

2. *Evolving Governance: Managing Community Challenges Through Improved Representation in Indigenous Communities of NL*

- Andrew Merrell (M.A. student, Political Science)

Indigenous groups in Newfoundland and Labrador, as in other Canadian provinces, have faced pervasive institutional and political barriers at all levels of government in their push for self-determination (SD), and ultimately Self Government (SG). SG has only recently been achieved for Nunatsiavut Government (NG) of the Labrador Inuit. The Miawpukek Mi'kmaq First Nation (MFN) in Conne River has also achieved circumstances resembling SG, but others are still struggling to develop modern SG practices. Like most communities, the evolution of their SG practices stem from a desire to build community capacity while preserving cultural heritage. This thesis uses the comparative method to examine the evolution of indigenous SG in the last decade. It addresses the following core questions: Though past developments can explain how communities have proceeded until recently, what explains the great disparity in both community outcomes and governance structures found between indigenous communities across Canada today? How do current governance practices differ from what went before, and what can we expect in the future? To answer these questions, I conduct a comparison of two case studies using data from about forty-five semi-structured interviews with local government officials, community members and key community stakeholders from my two cases: NG and MFN. I then combine this information with a detailed review of elections, democratic representation, and policy output in three key areas: Cultural revitalization, employment and housing. I analyze data using Mill's Most Different Systems model to uncover successful SG practices for these communities, and suggest proscriptions for the future.

Newfoundland Politics

Discussant: Dr. Valérie Vézina

9:30-11:00

SN2041

3. *The Origins of Labrador's Political Public*

- Morgon Mills (PhD candidate, English)

Within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Labrador has a distinct geographical and cultural identity satisfying many of the conditions of nationhood. In fact, given the ubiquity of nationalist symbolism and discourse in contemporary Labrador, it is easy to overlook how recently the idea of a unified regional public came to be. Its emergence between 1969 and the mid-1970s transformed Labrador society on a scale little short of revolution, chiefly by shifting control over discourse and practical affairs into local hands. Yet this public did not arise suddenly. Rather, it sprang from colonial traditions brought by figures like Wilfred Grenfell, Harry Paddon, and Lester Burry, who supplied not only a model for discourse but also the physical means for communication, through radio and improved transportation networks, while shifting the cultural centre of the region inland and openly advocating for the consolidation of a regional society.

It would take twenty years from Confederation for the idea of a Labrador society to become naturalized, with Labradorian intellectualism sped along by unprecedented demographic, economic, social, and technological changes, primarily associated with resource development. Considering pre-1969 public discourses in Labrador, including indigenous, settler, and outsider perspectives, will help us to contextualize, understand, and ultimately to celebrate the sudden rise in Labradorian intellectual and literary output in the early 1970s—an output which produced the basis for our political and national identity today.

4. *The Politicization of Remembrance: First World War History and the Newfoundland Education System, 1917-2016*

- Christopher Reid (PhD candidate, History)

Few events dominate Newfoundland's collective cultural memory more than the First World War. While some work has been completed on Newfoundland's memory of the war and its present domination by the attack on Beaumont-Hamel, the role of government in shaping and evolving the cultural memory has been ignored. While Newfoundlanders are reminded of the war through various modes - such as Memorial University or the recent decision by the City of St. John's to adorn the signs of the streets with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment's Caribou emblem - most are first introduced to Newfoundland's role in the war through the public education system. Throughout the past century, the social studies textbooks have changed significantly; and with them, the way in which the First World War has been depicted. Using an analysis of the textbooks used in the Newfoundland and Labrador social studies curricula from 1917 to the present day, this study examines how the Government of Newfoundland's perception of the First World War evolved over the twentieth century. This paper argues that there is a direct link between coverage of the First World War in social studies curricula and periods of heightened Newfoundland nationalism, political unrest, and intergovernmental disputes. Conversely, during times of Canadian or British Imperial nationalism, the amount of the First World War coverage is greatly reduced. This study shows how Newfoundland's war memory was shaped, step-by-step, by the government-supervised education system, and was often used as a political tool in response to external pressures placed on Newfoundland by higher governmental powers.

Feminism/Gender

Discussant: Dr. Christina Doonan

11:10-12:30

SN2036

1. *Comparing Sexual Harassment Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms at Universities in Canada and the United States: Getting Policy Right*

- Chris Ivancic (B.A. student, Political Science)

Sexual harassment policies continue to be an area of contention for many universities both in the United States and Canada. This paper compares the sexual harassment policy which is currently in place at Memorial University of Newfoundland with the federal standard which is in place in the United States. It finds three distinct areas that are incongruent with the standards set out in the US policy, and expands the problematic implications for seeking equitable results under the universities' alternative dispute resolution systems. These three areas are 1) burden of proof; 2) interim measures and; 3) transparency.

This paper engages with varying conceptions of the proper burden of proof in alternative dispute resolution, and their origins. It outlines possible interim measures, and their importance to students going through the dispute resolution process. It addresses the importance of transparency, so that institutions can be held accountable. Before concluding, the historical inefficacy of the federal standard in the United States is addressed. The reputation of this legislation has been tarnished not by the content of the bill itself, but rather by the courts' interpretation of the bill and the nature of negligence under it.

2. *Why We Cannot Be Reduced to the Gaze of Another: In Defence of the Niqab and Burqa in Public Spaces*

- Laura Fernz (B.A. student, Political Science)

This paper will explore the issue of Laïceté in contemporary French society, in the context of the French ban on face coverings in 2011. Moreover, this paper will explore how the ban disproportionately affects Muslim women. A common defense supporting the ban is that, though it may be stripping women of their rights, ultimately, it is freeing them from the oppressive nature of these religious veils. Therefore, the question becomes, is banning the niqab and burqa a form of liberation or an oppressive law imposed by the French government? This paper will argue that the oppression of women with regards to wearing the niqab and burqa does not stem inherently from religion but instead from society, which either imposes or bans these garments. Hence, this paper will explore the parallel issue of women's objectification within societies gaze. Though discussions surrounding face coverings have centered around how we relate to each other in society through mutual gaze, this paper will contend that certain French philosophical positions vis-à-vis the ban speak to the ongoing objectification of women within our society.

Feminism/Gender

Discussant: Dr. Christina Doonan

11:10-12:30

SN2036

3. Gender and Mobilization in Canadian Politics: Exploring the Substantive and Descriptive Character of Women's Political Representation

- Laura O'Brien (M.A. student, Political Science)

The discourse on political representation has long actively considered questions surrounding regional and language representation in Canada, although the dismal condition of gender parity in both federal and provincial elected bodies has scarcely been politically addressed. The base numbers of the political presence of women remain quite unsettling; only 26% of seats in the current Canadian Parliament are held by women—a record-breaking figure—with similar numbers typifying provincial legislatures. Beyond this descriptive assessment of the underrepresentation of women in Canadian governance lie two significant questions: what institutional and societal barriers work to exclude women from politics? What impact does this structural exclusion of women from decision-making roles have on the mobilization of feminist causes at the political level? This paper argues that the correlation between descriptive and substantive conditions of representation can provide insight into the lack of active political change for salient issues that have long been mobilized by feminists. This is assessed through studies of policy (in)action at the federal and provincial levels, and an exploration of the barriers to political entry faced by women in Canada. The final section looks toward the mobilization of three prominent feminist issues—reproductive health, childcare, and violence against women—and concludes that mobilization behind women's issues must be matched with the increased presence of women in decision-making roles, reinforcing the impetus to address the systemic barriers to women's political participation.

Food/Environment

Discussant: Dr. Sarah Martin

11:10-12:30

SN2041

1. Decoding Climate Change

- Gavin Baird (B.A. Student, Political Science)

I will explore the development and evolution of the meaning of Climate Change, and other signs that have come to represent a postmodern environmental conscious. I will present the reasoning why I think, before creating a binary question of Climate Change a more nuanced approach is required. What does climate change mean, how do we interpret it (Sign_Signifies_Significance), what will it mean in the future (who has agency) and ultimately I will conclude with what are believed to be the perceived solutions to satisfying humankind's best interest while maintaining planetary integrity and optimal biodiversity. The topics I wish to explore are important and relevant in one's analysis of climate change, as I will hope to provide a context upon which one can see how the debate is formulated. This type of analysis has become integral as the environmental debate, has at times become so politicized with dogmatic zeal that I feel one must explore deeper the philosophic questions at hand as reference.

2. Food Riots – from the 18th Century to a Globalized World

- Annika Anderer (B.A. Exchange Student, History & German)

From American revolutionaries laying siege on shop owners to Mexicans protesting in the streets over heightened Tortilla prices – communities around the world and throughout history have been experienced inner conflict and acted out conflicts between each other. At the same time they all share food as a common denominator. The research is interested in how food can contribute to social conflict and thereby reshape communities and tries to match examples of food related conflicts with two basic hypotheses: A food shortage creates a need of action. Those suffering from it need to change this condition in order not to starve. Two –sometimes overlapping- lines of action seem possible: Trying to obtain resources from other actors. Or trying to rectify the cause of the scarcity, for example by pressuring their government to limit food prices. At this point the indispensability of food forces new actors to enter the political game and take agency in shaping their respective communities. A second axiomatic assumption is that, in order to lead a conflict people need food. Consideration about food resources will therefore likely shape the strategies of conflict parties. These strategies can inflict food shortage on other factions, creating new cause for unrest as outlined above. So food cannot just be the cause but also both the result and “fuel” of conflict. A factor that is vital in the emergence of conflict is education about the food system – since only more in depth knowledge allows people to really take agency in shaping that system.

3. Green Technology Development/Ecological Modernization Theory

- Nicholas Damer (B.A. student, Political Science)

This paper examines the link between green technology development and the effect on development in the global south. It responds to Ecological Modernization Theory with an amalgamation of theories which are, Carbon Lock In Theory, Treadmill Theory and Unequal Exchange Theory. It posits that green technology development in core countries has had a mostly negative impact on the development of countries in the global south. It further posits that Ecological Modernization theory displays glaring flaws in its evaluation of the effects of green technology as it discounts the level of green house gases which will be produced in the time frame it believes will be sufficient to “turn the tide” on catastrophic climate events.

Domestic Politics

Discussant: Dr. Isabelle Côté

3:00-4:30

SN2036

1. *Russian Reversion: From the Promise of Democracy to Authoritarianism*

- Alex Marshall (B.A. student, Political Science)

The purpose of this essay is to provide an examination and analysis of the history of Russian domestic and foreign policy in an attempt to determine how western countries should engage Russia on the world stage moving forward. In order to be in a position to understand the reasoning for such strategies an analysis of the Russian governing structures dating back to the former Soviet Union needs to be undertaken. This covers the period of the past thirty years. Such analysis will show that both Vladimir Putin's domestic and foreign policies are, in many respects, a continuation of the history that has preceded him. Domestically, that history is one of authoritarian leadership, particularly during the years of Boris Yeltsin's presidency. With respect to Russian foreign policy Vladimir Putin is a product of a long-standing, 'two-pronged' approach to foreign policy that has been prevalent for many decades; creating a balance of power with other influential world powers and pursuing policies of dominance and absorption along Russia's historic borderlands. Given these realities this essay argues for a realistic and pragmatic approach to dealing with Russia, emphasizing the importance of diplomacy and alliance building to achieve meaningful and peaceful results while always reserving the ability to act forcefully against radical action if necessary.

2. *"Colombia's Imaginary Fork in the Road": President Santos's Treaty with the FARC*

- Ella Chirinos (B.A. student, Political Science)

While the world focused mainly on the elections of the United States and the rise of far-right parties in Europe, President Santos of Colombia held a referendum with the intention to allow the citizens of Colombia a chance to ratify his Government's treaty with the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia). Advocates for the implementation of the Peace Treaty, cite the numerous deaths (220,000 people) and the 50 years of conflict which has affected thousands. Herein lies the issue. This paper will highlight that the biggest flaw with the Peace Treaty is its refusal to recognize the FARC's role in drug-trafficking, specifically cocaine. There is ample evidence of the FARC's involvement in drug-trafficking, which not only affects the citizens of Colombia but has negative implications for other countries combating the trafficking of illegal drugs, importantly Honduras. Furthermore, this paper will examine the failed truce with gangs in El Salvador, and how a change in government could create more tension and chaos for Colombia. Moreover, the role of the International Criminal Court in promoting prosecution against the FARC for their crimes against humanity will be examined. This paper argues that in refraining from acknowledging drug-trafficking as a crime, reduces the chances of ensuring peace, as it is a source of power. Furthermore, in bypassing the second referendum and ratifying the treaty through Congress, President Santos willfully ignores the underlying issue of a Colombian Peace process with the central question being: can peace be obtained at the expense of justice?

Domestic Politics

Discussant: Dr. Isabelle Côté

3:00-4:30

SN2036

3. *Football's Coming Home: Football, New Labor, and the Third Way*

- Steve Sutherland (M.A. student, Political Science)

Sport, primarily football, has become a more welcomed research source in political science in recent times. However, many of these studies have been conducted regarding theories of nationalism and political economy. This paper seeks to present the role football played in the propagation of Third Way social democracy by New Labour in Great Britain. I argue that football was used as a tool by New Labour through party positions and policy presentations to revolutionize social democratic values. By linking these former studies of nationalism and political economy to public policy and political management, this paper will offer a more nuanced understanding of how the political elite use cultural institutions to further their agendas. The paper will be conducted through qualitative methods that examine past research on these relationships, while at the same time examining New Labour party doctrine, policy documents, and regulatory frameworks. I will use theoretical structures of nationalism, political management theory, neoliberalism, and Third Way social democracy to present that the use of football by New Labour was purposeful in achieving and maintain power, while at the same time reshaping social democratic values.

4. *#AltRight: The Dark Millenials*

- Alexander Pietrantonio (M.A. student, History) & Jean-Philippe Dubois (co-author)

This paper explores the emergence and ideological development of a comparatively new force in American politics, the Alternative Right (referred to henceforth as AltRight). We shall at first seek to define and describe the AltRight, taking care to provide a brief introduction of their worldview, ideology, and the forces that gave rise to their emergence. We shall then proceed to discuss the ideological development of the AltRight in depth, paying particular care to demystify the roots and foundations of their ideologies. Finally, we shall compare the political methodology of previous far-right formations with the organizing methods and strategies of the AltRight. Together these will demonstrate that the AltRight is a synthesis of different political ideas and methods that is fundamentally new in the United States.

International Relations

Discussant: Dr. Russell Williams

3:00-4:30

SN2041

1. *The Decision-Making Process of Canada Deferring the Recognition of Communist China in 1949-1950*

- Adrian Ming Chun Ng (B.A. student, Political Science)

As the Trump administration threatens to renegotiate or even abandon NAFTA, the Canadian public is being reminded anew of the central role that the United States plays in Canadian political and economic life. This paper will revisit the Canadian government's decision-making process in opting not to recognize the Chinese Communist regime in 1949-1950. Based on Documents on Canadian External Relations, it is clear that the Cabinet had agreed to recognize the People's Republic of China (PRC) right after the Communist government came to power. But then Cabinet changed its mind. The main reason for this shift was because the Prime Minister, Louis St. Laurent, did not wish to antagonize the US over this issue. Even though Secretary of State for External Affairs Lester B. Pearson urged his colleagues to extend diplomatic recognition and showed how this would likely benefit Canada, he failed to persuade his colleagues to reverse their decision. It is obvious that the American attitude towards communism was the vital factor in delaying recognition. The outbreak of the Korean War in June 1950 ended all discussions, and Canada would not recognize Communist China until the early 1970s. This paper serves as a reminder of the important role that perceptions about the US play in making Canadian foreign policy.

2. *International Law: The Final Frontier*

- Hartwell Millett (B.A. student, Law and Society)

For centuries, humanity has looked to space with awe as a reminder of the vastness of freedom that may exist among the stars. Human exploration may have mapped the world, yet the cosmos still maintains its mystique of the unknown and unseen. Space exploration and planet colonization remains governed by the same legal systems used to regulate our own planet, this being "international law". During the cold war space-race leaders from many nations with the assistance of the United Nations sought to define how space would be divided or governed for future exploration endeavors. However, the image of nations being at the forefront of space travel is changing as private enterprises begin their expansion into space. The original declarations and treaties created for nation states were not created to govern private enterprises which are beginning to dominate modern space exploration. The past and current standing international laws and treaties governing outer-space exploration and travel are not pertinent to controlling the modern issues of private and national interests in space. To explore the issues of international law in space, past treaties and other forms of international law will be examined to value their overall suitability to govern private enterprises in space. With advancements in space travel fueling greater exploration leading to possible settlements on other planets, the necessity of having practical and effective international law concerning private enterprises responsibilities has never been more necessary.

International Relations

Discussant: Dr. Russell Williams

3:00-4:30

SN2041

3. *Why Are Unofficial Refugee Camps Created, and Why Do They Persist? An Analysis of the 'Calais Jungle' in France and Idomeni Camp in Greece*

- Shane Chubbs (B.A. student, Political Science)

Refugee camps are not uncommon and are typically state run, or state sanctioned and run by an international organization. Contrary to this, there are unofficial camps that solicit a state response. Why are these unofficial refugee camps created and why do they persist? I argue in this paper that a combination of factors lead to the creation of unofficial camps, namely negative perspectives of official camps, proximity to border with a foreign state, and a close distance to a city. This project focuses on two cases, Calais, France and Idomeni, Greece. The camp in Calais has gained lots of attention in academia and the media, and it is sometimes referred to the 'Calais Jungle'. The Idomeni camp was Europe's biggest unofficial camp in 2015, as it held nearly 15 000 migrants and refugees. These camps are both unique cases. The comparison of the two camps show that the creation of unofficial refugee camps is not unique to states with low state capacity. Data used to support the claims made in this paper will come from media sources, non-governmental organizations, and international organization documents. The findings of this paper should build upon other studies that touched on unofficial camps in Africa, and it should add a contemporary view on the issue.

4. *"Why Didn't Our Boys Just Shoot Him and Leave a Little Note?": The Trial of Adolf Eichmann in Israel*

- Katie Cranford (B.A. student, History & French)

Historically speaking, the trial of former Nazi Adolf Eichmann was an unavoidable spectacle of the 1960s. For some, it could have been seen as a farce due to its inherent impartiality as the accused was illegally kidnapped out of Argentina and the proceedings were held in the fledgling state of Israel. For others, it reopened unpleasant wounds and brought back the horrors of Nazi Germany. For the world, it was an educational opportunity that allowed a new generation to learn about the atrocities of the Holocaust. My paper examines Eichmann's role in the Holocaust, his trial and subsequent sentence, the question of the legitimacy of the proceedings, and the trial's significant impact on how society viewed the Holocaust. From public opinion on Israel to new philosophical ideas, the Eichmann trial challenged people to re-evaluate everything that they had known about Nazi barbarities, specifically those committed against the Jews. The reason why the Israelis did not simply "shoot him and leave a little note" was because his trial would, in fact, serve a political purpose. Was Eichmann really that important? Was he as central to the Holocaust as Israel would like the world to believe? There is a substantial amount of evidence that indicates Eichmann was not quite so important and that, instead, his highly publicized trial was used to further the belief that the Holocaust was a uniquely Jewish experience thus validating the existence of the newly-created state of Israel in the Middle East.

