

POL224 Tutorial Dates and Readings September-December 2014

Beange

September 30: Review and questions

October 7: Measuring Democracy pp. 154-166, Clarke, Golder and Golder, *Principles of Comparative Politics* (2009) **Reading posted on Blackboard.**

How do the measures approach each other? What are their relative strengths?

October 14: Bilodeau and Kanji **Reading link on syllabus**

Questions: How similar or different is the political culture of newly-arrived immigrants (within 5 years of their arrival) compared to that of long-term citizens, either born here or naturalized? What accounts for the similarities or differences? Does political culture shape political institutions or vice versa?

October 28 Constitutions and courts pp. 145-156. **Reading posted on Blackboard.**

Taken from: Malcolmson, Patrick and Richard Myers. 2012. *The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada*. 5th ed. University of Toronto Press.

How does constitutional law differ from regular law? Interpretation of the constitution often turns on whether we should interpret *in light of the intentions* of the drafters of the constitution OR whether the constitution should be interpreted *in light of contemporary conditions*. Why might either extreme pose a problem? Does the *Chaouilli* decision demonstrate that Canadian courts rather than Parliament are making social policy?

November 11 Parliament vs. Presidential systems. Pp. 38-57. **Reading posted on Blackboard.**

Taken from: Malcolmson, Patrick and Richard Myers. 2012. *The Canadian Regime: An Introduction to Parliamentary Government in Canada*. 5th ed. University of Toronto Press.

How is accountability achieved in each system? Is one more effective than the other?

November 25: review for December mid-term