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## **PSCI 495 Research Apprenticeship**

### **Faculty Supervisor/email/office no:**

Prof. Anna Esselment, PAS 2433

[alesselm@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:alesselm@uwaterloo.ca)

**Term:** Spring 2024

**Project Title:** Provincial Elections and “Declined” Ballots

**Project Description:** In some provinces (including Ontario), electoral law permits voters to officially “decline” their ballot. This means voters turn out at their polling station, are handed the ballot, and then the voter hands it back to the poll clerk without marking a choice. Declined ballots are separately recorded (they are not considered “spoiled” ballots). Research assistance with this project will involve reviewing provincial election law in other provinces (is declining ballots permitted? What kind of ballots are set out in elections laws?), gathering data on the trends of declined ballots in Ontario and elsewhere, and conducting a media scan on whether declining ballots is discussed by news outlets during provincial elections. Professor Esselment plans to write a paper about this for presentation at the Atlantic Provinces Political Science Association in Fall 2024.

### **Time breakdown:**

Reviewing provincial election law: 10 hours

Database on trends in declined ballots in provinces: 10 hours

Media search on databases such as Factiva: 5 hours

Compiling and sourcing the results, including summary reports: 8 hours

Meeting with instructor: 3 hours

Slip time: 4 hours

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## **PSCI 495 Research Apprenticeship**

### **Faculty Supervisor/email/office no:**

Jasmin Habib/ [jhabib@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jhabib@uwaterloo.ca) /HH316

**Term:** Spring Term 2024

**Project Title:** Canada/US Border – Politics + Culture

### **Project Description:**

Unlike the US-Mexico Border, the Canada-US border seems to have escaped cultural critique. That is, it is a border that does not seem to have captured the imagination of political or cultural brokers. For example, Canadians refer to the border as a site of exchange and trade but also vulnerability and loss (e.g., the dominance of US culture, consumer products). For USians the border is often represented as a site that demarcates difference, even escape.

### **Role of the Research Assistant**

The Research Assistant (RA) will conduct a library search of the scholarly and peer-reviewed literature on the Canada/US border published between 2015 and 2024 to assist with the revision of the final draft of the Introduction to a completed book manuscript. The RA will write a comprehensive report of their findings and time permitting will be involved in writing a revised draft of the Introduction.

### **Time breakdown:**

Preparation + Coordination	5 hours
Library Research + Compilation of Sources	23 hours
Literature Review/Report/Revision	12 hours

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### **PSCI 495 Research Apprenticeship**

**Faculty Supervisor:** Dr. Eric Helleiner ([ehellein@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ehellein@uwaterloo.ca), HH304)

**Term:** Spring 2024

**Project Title:** New proposals for global public “green finance”

**Project Description:** This project is analyzing various new proposals that have been advanced for mobilizing public money to finance “green” initiatives at the global level. The proposals include calls for initiatives such as creative uses of the International Monetary Fund’s Special Drawing Rights, expanded activities of multilateral development banks, and new kinds of international taxes.

**Role of Research Assistant:** The Research Assistant (RA) will search and collect documentary evidence on these various proposals. The RA will write a report summarizing their findings.

Meeting with supervisor	4 hours
Research and document collection	24 hours
Write summary report	12 hours

## **PSCI 495 Research Apprenticeship**

**Faculty Supervisor:** Dr. Veronica Kitchen ([vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca))

**Term:** Spring 2024

**Project Title:** Men as Allies for Gender Equality (Literature Review)

**Project Description:** For the past few years, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) have been in crisis on numerous fronts, including with regard to Sexual Misconduct, Racism, and Discrimination. In order to shift the CAF culture to one that is more inclusive and welcoming to everyone, especially groups that have historically been marginalized, including women, we must learn more about what the majority of CAF members (83% men) can do to support gender equality and equity initiatives. This project seeks to examine scholarly literature from other disciplines (outside of the military) to learn about how men are working towards being allies for gender equality: What does allyship look like? What work are men doing to foster gender equality? Are there any promising programs or initiatives from men towards achieving this goal? Are there any barriers for men to be allies for gender equality?

**Role of Research Assistant:** The research assistant (RA) will collect scholarly literature on the topic of men's commitment to gender equality and allyship. They will organize and briefly annotate the papers they find and write a concluding literature review summarizing their results

### **Time Breakdown:**

Background reading of scholarly resources and annotation: 20 hours

Writing of literature review: 14 hours

Meetings with supervisor: 3 hours

Reflections: 3 hours

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## PSCI 495 Research Apprenticeship

**Faculty Supervisor:** Dr. Veronica Kitchen ([vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca))

**Term:** Spring 2024

**Project Title:** Culture Change in the Canadian Armed Forces (News Media Analysis)

**Project Description:** For the past few years, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) have been in crisis on numerous fronts, including with regard to Sexual Misconduct, Racism, and Discrimination. The CAF have responded by establishing Chief Professional Conduct and Culture to unify and integrate all culture change activities across the CAF in order to create a culture that is more welcoming and inclusive. However, with increasing geopolitical insecurity, cuts to defence spending, and social polarization increasing, it is important to understand how news media is shaping conversations around military culture change. This project seeks to understand how CAF Culture Change Initiatives are portrayed in the news and how they are understood.

**Role of Research Assistant:** The research assistant (RA) will collect news articles from a diverse set of media sources (newspapers and magazines) from 2021-present on the topic of culture change in the Canadian Armed Forces and report on trends and themes of what has been captured and how it has been understood.

### **Time Breakdown:**

Background reading of news media: 20 hours

Writing of news media analysis: 14 hours

Meetings with supervisor: 3 hours

Reflections: 3 hours