



King's students to hit the campaign trail with experiential learning course

August 25, 2021

London, ON - With the call of the Canadian federal election for Monday, September 20, 2021, King's Campaign School is back in session. King's Campaign School gives students a unique opportunity to become involved and have their voices heard in the Canadian federal election.

Interdisciplinary Studies 3991Y: Campaign School: 2021 Canadian Federal Election is an opportunity for students, regardless of their program, to become part of the upcoming election.

The in-class portion, taught by Dr. Kate Graham, a King's Political Science lecturer and seasoned political campaigner, will take place on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Dr. Graham earned a Ph.D. studying leadership in government across Canada and ran for MPP for London North Centre in 2018 and the leadership of the Ontario Liberal Party in 2019.

"Election campaigns are a critical opportunity to share ideas, engage people and be part of shaping our collective future. We need more student voices in politics, and this course provides an unparalleled opportunity for students to step up and get involved. Through this course, students will be stepping up in a major way to support a party and candidate they believe in — while critically examining our current political climate in Canada," says Dr. Graham.

"If you are a student who loves politics -- or, perhaps you are new to politics but you're feeling fired up about the leaders, parties or issues that will define this election -- either way, this course is for you. This is a great experiential learning opportunity for anyone interested in politics. You will volunteer and study the election from the perspective of all the major political parties in Canada. Whether you are just starting to learn about the leaders, parties and issues, or you are more heavily involved in political science, this is a special chance to participate in an unfolding election. This is a way to ensure your voices, concerns and demands are heard by electoral candidates. You can even learn how you can run for elected political office," says Dr. Erin Hannah, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science.

Students enrolled in his experiential learning course will receive hands-on, guided experience in elections and campaign management. Students in the class will join the riding campaign with the candidate and political party of their choice. Students will experience most of the major parts of a campaign including voter contact, volunteer mobilization, fundraising, debates and

issue response and get-out-the-vote (GOTV) efforts on election day. Students will also have an opportunity through five in-class workshops to dive deep into the contemporary political landscape, the effects of COVID-19 and other crises on election dynamics, and on how we can build a healthier democracy and stronger Canada.

An information session for interested students is taking place on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 11 a.m. If you would like to speak with King's students and/or faculty, please reach out to us to arrange a connection.

About King's University College

King's is a public Catholic University College that provides general and honors degree programs in the liberal arts, social sciences, management, and a master's degree in social work. It is positioned in the top rank of institutions of higher learning in Canada for the high quality of its teaching faculty and student experience. Institutionally autonomous, King's is academically affiliated with Western University, and King's graduates receive a Western University degree. King's is open to students of all faith backgrounds, with its community centred on the values of social justice, equality and the education of the whole person.

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