CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY
Winter 2020

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Lecture: Monday 8:30am - 11:20am
Room: KTH 105

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**Course Description**
This seminar will consider the theories and practice of Canadian foreign policy. We will address the major schools of thought, as well as critical perspectives of Canadian Foreign Policy drawn from the subfields of Foreign Policy Analysis and International Relations.

**Course Objectives**
By the end of the course students should be able to:
- Have a general knowledge of the history of Canadian foreign policy and the key actors involved in the formation of policy.
- Be able to understand and analyze the theories foreign policy scholars employ.
- Have developed knowledge of important issues related to the conduct of Canadian foreign policy.
- Better understand the relationship between Canada and international realm.
- Have developed leadership, discussion, and public speaking skills through seminar presentations and participation.
- Have learned how to conceive, structure, and write a long research essay related to the course subject.

**Required Materials and Texts**
- All journal articles are available online via e-Journals from the McMaster library website or via the address provided.
- It is important that students read all the assigned material before each class. The discussion leaders will base the majority of their presentations on the readings and students will need to have completed them in order to fully participate in the discussions.

**Class Format**
This is a seminar course.

**Course Evaluation – Overview**
1. Participation (25%)
2. Presentation/Discussion Leader (20%)
3. Midterm Quiz (15%), February 10
4. Research Essay (30%), due April 6
   a. Research Essay Proposal (5%), due January 27
   b. Research Essay Presentation (5%), March 9

Course Evaluation – Details

Participation (25%)
Your participation is an essential part of any seminar. Students are responsible for completing all of the required readings and for taking an active part in class discussion. Ongoing participation will be assessed on the basis of consistent, and quality contributions to class that demonstrate thoughtful engagement with the readings. Quality of comments is more important than quantity. Attendance at every class is required. If you know you will be missing a class due to illness or have another similar documented reason, please email the professor in advance of the class.

In addition to completion of readings and participation, students must prepare at total of three discussion questions based on the readings for each week. Discussion leaders will have the opportunity to ask students in the class to pose their questions to contribute to their presentations.

Presentation/Discussion Leader (20%)
Each student will be responsible for leading the discussion for at least one class. Depending on the number of students in the seminar, many weeks may be shared between two students. In this case, students should discuss how they will divide the presentation in advance and inform the professor of their plan at least one week before the class. The student leading the discussion should prepare a presentation on the topic that identifies the major points for discussion and evaluates the arguments made in the readings assigned for that topic on the syllabus. The student should not simply summarize the readings.

In addition to the assigned readings, the discussion leader should also draw on a couple of additional sources on the topic and present new, related information (i.e. journal articles, news articles, etc.) The questions posed to the class could include the professor’s questions, questions from students, as well as questions related to the discussion leader’s presentation.

To be successful in your presentation it is important to engage the class. Feel free to include different types of media and activities in your presentation including video clips, debates, group activities, etc.

Midterm Quiz (15%), February 10
The midterm quiz will be one hour in length and draw on readings, discussions, and presentations from the seminars from the first 5 weeks of the course. The quiz will be a series of short answer questions.
Research Essay Proposal (5%), due January 27
Your research proposal is due in hard-copy format, in class, on January 27, 2020. You are welcome to investigate any topic area, as long as it is in the field of Canadian Foreign Policy. You may wish to pursue one of the subjects mentioned in the readings. Take a look at the online bibliography for suggestions about articles and books in the field.

A good proposal communicates to the reader in as much detail as possible the problem that you are interested in and the line of investigation that you intend to pursue. The clearer you make this to the reader, the more help the instructor can give you, and the better your final paper will be.

Your proposal should cover the following:

1. **A background** – briefly describe the general area of investigation, the topic you intend to pursue and why.
2. **Pose your central research question** – This should be a single sentence focusing on a single issue, contradiction, puzzle or dilemma. Usually your question should be a “why” or a “how” question as opposed to a “what” question.
3. **Explain how the proposed topic is related to the subject matter of the course.** How does your topic relate to Canadian Foreign Policy? Describe your proposed line of inquiry. What do you need to find out in order to be able to answer the question? List any secondary questions that you need to answer to move toward answering your main question. Describe your plan for finding evidence.
4. **Length:** No longer than 600 words (2 pages double-spaced).

Research Essay Presentation (5%), March 9
Paper presentations will take place on March 9th, 2020. Your essay does not have to be completed by this day. You will simply present your proposal, and any progression you have made on your essay. The presentation is designed to help you get feedback on your topic from your peers before completing the final essay. You have 5 minutes to present your topic, and 5 minutes for fielding any questions the class may have.

Research Essay (30%), due April 6
Your research essay is due in hard-copy format, in class, on April 6th, 2020. The purpose of the research paper is to communicate what you have learned in this seminar, as well as the research you have done outside of the seminar. The topic of your paper must follow the research/paper proposal that you have handed in earlier, as modified by the comments you received and any discussions you have had with your instructor afterward.

Your paper should include:

1) **An introduction which contains:** description of the intellectual problem you are investigating; your research question; a thesis statement in the introduction which sets out your argument; a brief description of the plan or parts of the paper.
2) **The body of the paper** which develops your argument. It offers an interpretation of the evidence you have uncovered. It weighs evidence in favour and against your particular argument.

3) **A conclusion** which discusses the implications of your argument and suggests new research questions that arise from your paper.

4) **Bibliography**: Papers must be properly referenced following a major style such as APA, MLA or Chicago Manual of Style.

**Length**: No more than 4,000 words, excluding bibliography.

**Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings**

**Week 1 (January 6)**

**Introduction to the Course**

**Notes**: Sign up for presentation.

**Week 2 (January 13)**

**The Discipline and Its Theories**

**Readings**:


**Week 3 (January 20)**

**Individuals in Canadian Foreign Policy**

**Readings**:


**Week 4 (January 27)**  
The State Level: Institutions and Processes  
Readings:


**Notes:** Essay Proposal Due.

**Week 5 (February 3)**  
Canada’s Identity and Values  
Readings:

• David Mutimer: Chapter 8: 'No CANDU: The Multiply-Nuclear Canadian Self' in Canadian Foreign Policy in Critical Perspective.

• Mark Neufeld: Chapter 10: "Happy Is the Land That Needs No Hero": The Pearsonian Tradition and the Canadian Intervention into Afghanistan' in Canadian Foreign Policy in Critical Perspective.


**Week 6 (February 10)**  
Canada and the United States  
Readings:


Trudeau and Canadian Foreign Policy. Canada and International Affairs. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.


Notes: Midterm Quiz.

Week 7: (February 17)

Notes: Reading Week. No Class.

Week 8 (February 24)
War, Military, and Alliances
Readings:

- Bell, C: Chapter 5: 'Fighting the War and Winning the Peace: Three Critiques of Canada’s Role in Afghanistan’ in Canadian Foreign Policy in Critical Perspective.

Week 9 (March 2)
International Trade and Investment
Readings:

- CUSMA: A new Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement.

Week 10: (March 9)

Readings: No readings this week.
Notes: Paper Presentations.

Week 11: (March 16)
Gender in Foreign Policy
Readings:

**Week 12 (March 23)**
**Other Diplomacies**
Readings:


**Week 13 (March 30)**
**Canada: How Are We Measuring Up?**
Readings:

• Trudeau Report Card, 2018.
• Lana Wylie: Conclusion: ‘Critical Conclusions about Canadian Foreign Policy’ in Canadian Foreign Policy in Critical Perspective.

**Week 14: (April 6)**
Notes: Research Essay due (Hardcopy). No readings or presentations this week.

**Course Policies**

**Submission of Assignments**
All assignments are to be handed into the instructor on the proposed due date in hardcopy format, unless instructed otherwise.

**Grades**
Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

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**Late Assignments**
Late assignments will result in a 5% deduction for every day the assignment is late, unless other arrangements are made with the instructor.

**Absences, Missed Work, Illness**
In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

**Avenue to Learn**
In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

**Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)**
Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring
a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar’s Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity Statement**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

**Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities**

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

**Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

**Course Modification**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to
comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.