

UNIVERSITY of ALBERTA

POL S 365 Lec A1 - CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

FALL 2013

Tuesday & Thursdays 9:30am-10:50am

Tory 1-5

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the sources, practice, theories, and impact of Canadian foreign policy. It will approach the topic from both a “Canada in the World” perspective rooted in conflicting variants of international relations theory as well as from a policy-making perspective which focuses on the influence of domestic political leadership, institutions, societal actors, and identity questions. The course will prompt students to think critically about a wide range of questions that motivate the study of Canadian foreign policy: How is Canadian foreign policy made? Is there a difference between foreign policy and foreign relations? Why does Canada take certain positions and not others in world affairs? Do values or interests guide policy-making? How important are international institutions and multilateralism to Canada's foreign policy goals? Does political party affiliation or even personal interest of Prime Ministers and Foreign Ministers (and Premiers) change the course of Canadian foreign and defence policy? Does Canada “punch above its weight” or is it too dependent on (or subservient to) the United States in world affairs? What alternative lenses can be employed to critically assess foreign policy inputs and outputs? Does Canada have any unique capabilities and/or responsibilities in tackling contemporary global governance challenges (e.g., security, economy, development, environment, etc.)? What is Canada's track record in “external affairs” since Confederation? Are the provinces important international players, or First Nations, or cities, or Diasporas? How can we gauge Canada's impact in world politics and success in specific policy endeavours? Does Canada even have a “foreign policy” rooted in “grand strategy,” or is most of what Canada does on the world stage just a reflection of internal political dynamics or otherwise best understood as domestic identity-shaping rather than world-influencing activity? These questions and many more will drive our analysis of the sources, practice, theories, and impact of Canadian foreign policy across a range of issue areas.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: POL S 260

Students without the course prerequisite should speak with the instructor before registering. At the request of an instructor, the Department may cancel your registration if you do not have the required course prerequisites. *Policy about course outlines, grading and related matters can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.*

COURSE GOALS:

- To introduce students to the historical, theoretical, and institutional foundations of Canadian foreign policy
- To encourage the development of analytical skills that improve critical assessments of Canadian foreign policy and Canada's global influence

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will ...

- describe and understand the historical context and evolution of Canada's place in global affairs
- identify, understand, distinguish, apply, and critique different theoretical perspectives that attempt to explain and analyze the determinants of Canadian foreign policy
- identify the key actors, institutions, pressures, and processes involved in the contemporary practice of Canadian foreign and defence policy and evaluate their interactions
- develop sufficient knowledge and skills to evaluate difficult policy choices and trade-offs
- devise research questions and arguments related to historical and contemporary Canadian foreign policy practices and challenges
- develop an appreciation for the complexities underpinning the practice and study of Canadian foreign policy across its global, domestic, ethical, and institutional dimensions

CLASS FORMAT:

This 300-level undergraduate class will be conducted as an interactive lecture. This means that all students will be expected to read the assigned materials in advance and come prepared to discuss key concepts, topics, events, etc. Students will also make one short presentation related to their essay.

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday: 11:00am-Noon
Thursday: 11:00am-Noon
(or by appointment or serendipity)

COURSE TEXTS:

Two required textbooks can be purchased at the University Bookstore as a reduced priced-package:

- Tom Keating, *Canada and World Order: The Multilateralist Tradition in Canadian Foreign Policy*, 3rd Edition (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2013).
- Duane Bratt & Christopher J. Kukucha, *Readings in Canadian Foreign Policy: Classic Debates and New Ideas*, 2nd Edition (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2011).

Recommended for those requiring a refresher on international relations theory and perspectives:

- W. Andy Knight & Tom Keating, *Global Politics* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2010).

Mandatory and optional supplemental reading materials (as regularly posted on eClass) will, in most cases, be available online through direct links or your UofA library account.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

The course requirements are outlined below. Students should note that in all but exceptional situations, all components of the course must be completed to receive a passing grade. Policy regarding missed

term work is outlined in Section 23.4(3) of the University Calendar. Tests and assignments will be assigned a letter grade. The instructor will not ‘curve’ or adjust final grades according to any preset formula. Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students’ grades:

- **Foundational knowledge quizzes: 30%** (includes 2-4 quizzes during the term)
Quizzes will assess cumulative student knowledge about the “who, what, where, when, and how” aspects of the historical, institutional, contextual, and conceptual foundations of Canadian foreign policy. Quiz dates will be announced one week prior, and students who miss a quiz will NOT be allowed to retroactively write it. If there is an irresolvable conflict on an announced quiz date, notify the instructor immediately (i.e., the day the quiz is announced, not the date of the quiz).
- **Memorandum to the Minister or Ambassador: 10%** of course grade
Each student will prepare a policy brief of **no more than 700 words** (single spaced; a template, detailed instructions, and scenarios will be provided) that simplifies and assesses a contemporary Canadian foreign or defence policy challenge and presents policy recommendations or positions for consideration by a senior policy-maker. Students will receive the assignment on Tuesday, October 8th, and it is due on **Monday, October 21st**.
- **Analytical Essay on a Canadian Foreign Policy topic: 25%** of course grade
With prior approval of the instructor, 1) select a historical or contemporary Canadian foreign policy theme or challenge and develop a research question, 2) undertake primary and secondary research on your topic and prepare a short 5-7 minute multi-media presentation outlining your “why” or “how” research question, key argument, and theoretical perspective(s) you use or challenge in your explanation, and, ultimately, 3) prepare and submit a formal 8-10 page essay. More detailed instructions will be provided in class.

Your **topic** has to be approved by the instructor by **Tuesday, October 1st**. Your presentation will be scheduled to coordinate with a class that covers related issue areas or themes. Everyone’s final paper is due on **Monday, November 18th**.

- **Final, take-home exam: 30%** of course grade.
The take-home final exam will be **distributed** in the penultimate class on **Thursday, November 28th** and is **due on Tuesday, December 10th**.
- **Participation: 5%** of course grade
While this is not a seminar, regular in-class and eClass interaction is expected. In addition, students will make one short presentation during the course related to their analytical essay (see above).

GRADING SCHEME:

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Grade Point</i>
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Satisfactory	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Poor	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
Minimal Pass		
Failure	F	0

LATE PENALTIES, PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Late assignments: It is your responsibility to inform the instructor as soon as it becomes clear that your work will be late (in person, by email and, in an emergency, by cell phone). If you do not communicate in advance, and your reason for being late does not explain this lack of communication, then you should be prepared to be penalized 5% per day. If you have not received a response from the instructor within 12 hours of your email, text, or voicemail, assume the message has not been received and resend.

Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty: The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/gfcpolicymanual/content.cfm?ID_page=37633) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. **Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.** An important excerpt from the Code of Student Behaviour is appended at the end of this syllabus. Additional information and resources are available through the UofA's Truth in Education project: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE/>.

You can also refer to the "Don't Cheatsheet" which is available on the University Governance website at: <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/> From the drop down menu click on "Student Appeals" and navigate to the "Don't Cheatsheet."

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the instructor

SPECIALIZED SUPPORT & DISABILITY SERVICES:

Students with disabilities or special needs that might interfere with their performance should contact the instructor at the beginning of the course with the appropriate documentation. Every effort will be made to accommodate such students, but in all cases prior arrangements must be made to ensure that any special needs can be met in a timely fashion and in such a way that the rest of the class is not put at an unfair disadvantage. Students requiring special support or services should be registered with the office of Specialized Support & Disability Services (SSDS): <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/SSDS/>. This is particularly important for students requiring special exam arrangements. Once you have registered with SSDS, it is your responsibility to provide the instructor with a "Letter of Introduction" and, if necessary, an "Exam Instruction & Authorization" form.

FEELING OVERWHELMED? (*In need of student, social, financial, or security services?*)

The Student Distress Centre is there to listen, offer support, supply information and provide services:

- Call: 492-HELP (492-4357)
- Drop in: 030-N in the S.U.B.
- Visit: www.su.ualberta.ca/sdc
- Chat: <http://www.campuscrisischat.com/>

COURSE SCHEDULE:

This is an intensive reading, research, and writing course so good organizational planning and time management will be critical to your success. It is expected you will come to every class prepared.

Notes on Readings (as posted regularly on eClass):

- **B&K** refers to the Bratt & Kukucha textbook, *Readings in Canadian Foreign Policy*
- **Keating** refers to the Tom Keating textbook, *Canada and World Order*
- Additional readings will be posted on eClass: Scholarly journals are available via UAlberta Library ejournals and other direct links to online resources and occasional PDFs will also be posted on eClass
- **On Reserve:** Book in reserve room at Rutherford Library (2-hour sign-out)

PART I – Historical, theoretical, and institutional foundations

UNIT 1 – Introduction and preliminary foundations (Weeks 1-2)

UNIT 2 - Thinking theoretically about Canadian foreign policy (Weeks 3-5)

**UNIT 3 – Foreign Policy Decision-Making:
Leadership, Actors, Institutions, Capabilities, Society, History (Weeks 6-7)**

“Memo to Minister” assignment due by 4:00pm Monday, October 21st

PART II – Topics and themes in contemporary Canadian Foreign Policy

UNIT 4 – Canadian-American relations (Week 8)

UNIT 5 – Canada in the world economy (Week 9)

UNIT 6 – Canada and global security (Weeks 10-11) (*Note: we lose one class during Fall Break*)

UNIT 7 – Canada and global governance: development, BRICS, environment... (Weeks 12-13)

Essays due by 4:00pm Monday, November 18th

UNIT 8 - Re-assessing Canadian foreign policy in the Digital Age (Weeks 13-14)

Take-home final exam: Distributed Thursday, Nov. 28th, due by 4:00pm Monday, December 10th

EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

(UPDATED EFFECTIVE APRIL, 2008)

30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2) a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2) b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6 (4).

30.3.2(2) c No Student shall represent another's substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student's own work.

30.3.2(2) d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2) e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. See also 30.3.2(2) b, c, d and e.

30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

The Truth In Education (T*I*E) project is a campus wide educational campaign on Academic Honesty. This program was created to let people know the limits and consequences of inappropriate academic behavior. There are helpful tips for Instructors and Students.

Please take the time to visit the website at:
<http://www.ualberta.ca/tie>

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From the drop down menu click on Student Appeals and navigate to the Don't Cheatsheet.