COURSE OVERVIEW

Recent decades have seen tectonic shifts in international dynamics, from the end of the Cold War and expanding international collaboration and trade and decreasing global poverty to 9/11 and the war on terrorism. Most recently, the increasing muscularity of China and Russia - and their growing collaboration - pose serious challenges to the rules-based international order and its pillars of democracy, rule of law and respect for human rights. Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has brought war to Europe once again, galvanizing NATO and driving home Canada’s vulnerabilities across the Arctic Ocean. The recent renewal of hostilities between Israel and Palestinians, and the engagement of regional players presents serious risks of expanding regional conflict. What recently felt like a steady trajectory towards peace and democracy and global collaboration has turned into a roller coaster. This course will examine how these developments affect Canada’s interests in its security and prosperity, and how Canada works to advance and protect those interests.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be able to:

Describe:

- the key goals of Canada’s foreign policy,
- the national and international instruments for realizing those goals and
- the role of provincial / territorial governments and various government departments in Canada’s international engagement.

Explain and Assess:

- how international dynamics and events affect Canada’s interests and
- why / how key international relationships matter.

Argue effectively and objectively:

- the advantages / disadvantages of policy options and the rational for a recommended option.

Work collaboratively, respectfully and effectively with colleagues:

- in classroom and team interactions, showing sensitivity, self-awareness and inclusiveness.
CLASS FORMAT AND READINGS

Classes will consist of presentations by the instructor and guest speakers, class discussions, case studies, debates and exercises.

Readings will all be available through links in the course outline on OnQ. Readings will include background documents, and analysis and commentary on current issues by credible academics, journalists and foreign policy practitioners.

Students will also be expected to explore the websites of key government departments and international organizations to understand current policies and programs, and to develop awareness of the wide range of information, analysis and data sources.

COURSE GRADING (subject to revision)

- 5% Exercises
  - 3% ID and Assess Key Trends
  - 2% Quiz
- 15% Debate (team)
- 15% Crisis Simulation (team)
- 30% Action Memo to Minister
- 35% Transition Brief for New Minister

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic Integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senate/report-principles-and-priorities).

Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment or the failure of a course to the rescinding of a degree.

ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with physical and learning disabilities must contact the instructor as soon as possible in order for accommodations/modifications for course expectations to be made.

Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a
student with a disability and think you may need accommodation, you are strongly encouraged to contact Queen’s Student Accessibility Services (QSAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the QSAS website at: https://www.queensu.ca/studentwellness/accessibility-services

COPYRIGHT:

The link below provides copyright guidelines for students to familiarize themselves with the Copyright Act of Canada:

https://library.queensu.ca/help-services/copyright-fair-dealing/copyright-guidelines-students-and-users-library