

MPA 880: CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

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Office Hours: By appointment

(Available: Wednesday morning & sometimes Thursday)

Class Room: Room 334, Robert Sutherland Hall

Class Times: Wednesday 13:30-16:20

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Recent decades have seen tectonic shifts in international dynamics, from the end of the Cold War, to 9/11, to the rise of the BRICS, to increasing muscularity by China and Russia. Globalization has brought countries, businesses and individuals closer together through travel and technology. It has brought wealth and a surge in the global middle class, but also growing inequality and challenges to the liberal values that underpin global institutions. As geographic distances have shrunk and sovereign boundaries blurred, events far away now have greater and more immediate repercussions back home. And, the pace of change continues to accelerate.

So how does Canada's government navigate through these turbulent times to protect Canadians from terrorism or disease, to buffer our economy from external shocks and to open new markets for businesses? And, how does it manage the deepening linkages between the "home game" and the "away game"?

This course will look at foreign policy from a practitioner's perspective: what does and can Canada do today to achieve its goals in the current international environment? The course will consider the state of the world today as a starting point to identify what matters to Canada and why. It will address what foreign policy is and how it is made. It will highlight the growing inter-connectedness of domestic and international policies, and how actors across governments need to work together and with actors outside government to develop and implement policies. Through lectures and case studies, students will explore the dynamics of the foreign policy process, learn how to assess the implications for Canada of international developments and issues, and develop analytical and writing skills needed to provide succinct policy advice. The course will also develop team work and presentation skills needed in today's policy environment. **The course outline is subject to revision and will be available on OnQ.**

CLASS FORMAT AND TEXTBOOK

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

The following textbook is required for the course:

The Politics of Canadian Foreign Policy, 4th Edition

Kim Nossal, Stéphane Roussel & Stéphane Paquin (2015)

Montreal & Kingston, Queen's Policy Studies Series,

McGill-Queen's University Press

Students are also expected to download articles from the Internet, and access key

websites. Links will be provided in the course outline. Some readings will be on e-reserves: While links will be provided in the detailed course outline, they will also be available here: <https://ereserves.library.queensu.ca>.

COURSE GRADING

- Identification / Assessment of Trends 5% (Due September 14)
- Debate 10%
- Action Memo to Minister 30%
- Crisis Simulation / Team Briefing 15%
- Transition Brief for New Minister 30%
- Participation 5%
- Quiz & Summary/Comment on Readings 5%

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY - MUST READ

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see <http://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

<http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrustees/principlespriorities.html>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Academic Integrity Policy of the School of Graduate Studies, available at

http://www.queensu.ca/calendars/sgrs/Academic_Integrity_Policy.html

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 and the loss of grades on an assignment to the rescinding of a degree.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR, WHO AM I?

I have more than 30 years experience in Canadian foreign policy, as an officer in what is now Global Affairs Canada. I have a Queen's MPA, as well as a BA Hon (English / Religion) and a BEd. In Global Affairs, I was Director General Regional Prosperity and Global Security and in this role (among other things) co-chaired with a Russian official the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, as well as leading Canada's participation in the G8 Accountability Working Group and the G8 Transparency Advisory Group. Previously, I served as Director General for the Middle East and North Africa, and as Director General of the Afghanistan Task Force. I have experience in a wide range of international policy areas, including international security, economic relations, development, human rights, as well as multilateral engagement (e.g. the UN, NATO, NORAD, the OECD, the OSCE, ASEAN, the G8 / G7 and the G20). I have also served in the Privy Council Office, including in the Foreign and Defence Policy Secretariat, and the Security and Intelligence Secretariat. Abroad, I was posted to Canada's embassy in Manila during the People Power Revolution (1986), as well as to Canada's Delegation to the OECD in Paris. In addition to teaching at Queen's, I am a Councillor in the Municipality of Chelsea, Quebec.

COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION 1 – INTRODUCTION (SEPTEMBER 14)

- Introductions and Course Overview
- What is the state of the world today? Why does it matter to Canada?
- What is the world-view of a realist, liberal or idealist? Why does it matter?

Guest Lecturer: Professor Kim Nossal, School of Policy Studies and Department of Political Studies

SESSION 2 – FOUNDATIONS (SEPTEMBER 21)

- What is foreign policy?
- How is foreign policy made?

SESSION 3 – CANADA’S FOREIGN POLICY FRAMEWORK (SEPTEMBER 28)

- What has been Canada’s foreign policy framework?
- What are the Government’s foreign policy priorities today?

SESSION 4 – CANADA AND THE BIG BOYS (THE US & CHINA) (OCTOBER 5)

Canada - US Relations:

- 1) The Asymmetrical Relationship
 - How does Canada sleep beside an elephant?
- 2) Trade
 - Why does it matter so much for Canada?
- 3) Security and Defence
 - Why was 9/11 a critical turning point?
- 4) The Border
 - What is the big deal about the border?

Canada - China Relations:

- 1) Trade
 - If the dragon sneezes, does Canada catch a cold?
- 2) Human Rights
 - How does Canada balance human rights concerns with its trade interests?
- 3) Security
 - Is China changing the security landscape of Asia and, if so, does it matter to Canada?

SESSION 5 – PROTECTING CANADA AND CANADIANS (OCTOBER 12)

- How can the Government ensure that Canadians and Canada are secure?
- What role do peacekeeping and peace-building play in Canadian foreign policy?

SESSION 6 – CASE STUDY: AFGHANISTAN (OCTOBER 19)

- Why did we go and what did we do?
- What have we learned?
- Was it worth it?

SESSION 7 – DEVELOPMENT (OCTOBER 26)

- What role does international development play in Canadian foreign policy?
- What are the major issues in international development today?
- What have we learned about the effectiveness and utility of international development assistance?
- What are current Canadian development priorities and how do they fit with other foreign policy objectives?

Guest Lecturer: Margaret Biggs, Skelton-Clark Fellow

SESSION 8 – GLOBAL SHIFTS AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE (NOVEMBER 2)

- What is Canada's stake in the changes taking place in global governance institutions?
- Can Canada sustain its influence?

SESSION 9 – CRISIS SIMULATION INTRODUCTION (NOVEMBER 9)

- Introduction to Crisis Simulation Exercise (team exercise)
- Outline of crisis scenarios
- Team work during class time

SESSION 10 – CASE STUDY: CANADA AND THE MIDDLE EAST (NOVEMBER 16)

- What has led to the current tensions in the region?
- Why does the Middle East matter to Canada and Canadians?
- What is Canada's policy toward the Middle East?

SESSION 11 – CRISIS SIMULATION PRESENTATIONS (NOVEMBER 23)

- Teams provide briefing on Canada's proposed response to each crisis

SESSION 12 – NEW DIRECTIONS (NOVEMBER 30)

- How is Canada responding to new and emerging ideas, such as digital diplomacy, global citizenship and Open Government?