COURSE OUTLINE: SECOND TERM

Two books have been ordered as texts for this term:


**Introduction**

If Canada’s national interest – the object of foreign and defence policy – could be defined (and one can raise reasonable doubts about the concept of national interest and its susceptibility to definition), it would centre upon some (moving) balance amongst security, prosperity, identity, and doing good and making a difference. The hegemony of Canada’s middle power-liberal internationalist discourse is founded upon its capacity to (re-)define that moving centre, consensus, compromise.

In this half of the course we will examine some of the key dimensions of Canadian foreign and defence policy: issue areas (international economic policy, defence and security policy, and development assistance and human rights policy), Canada-U.S. relations, and other institutional and regional relationships. We will conclude with an assessment of how well the middle power approach stands up.

**PART ONE: Issue Areas**

**SECURITY**

How can a country such as Canada - with no significant threats to its sovereignty and territorial integrity and therefore no pressing defence or security concerns - generate a “commitment/capability” gap or long-term defence policy crisis? In this section we explore the international and domestic political factors which generated this curious policy contradiction.


Andrew Richter, “Forty years of neglect, indifference and apathy: the relentless decline of Canada’s armed forces,” and Kimberley Marten, “Lending forces: Canada’s military peacekeeping,” both in *Handbook of Canadian Foreign Policy*, Patrick James et. al. eds.

Brian Tomlin et. al., *Canada’s International Policies: Agendas, Alternatives and Politics*, chs. 6/7.


Wilfried von Bredow, “The revolution in military affairs and the dilemma of the Canadian armed forces,” and Benjamin Zyla and Joel J. Sokolsky, “Canada and the Atlantic alliance in the post-Cold War era: more NATO than NATO?” chs. 9 and 12 in *Canada’s Foreign and Security Policy*, Hynek and Bosold eds.

See *International Journal* Summer 2009 (64/3) for a special issue on New Perspectives on Canadian Security Studies.

**PROSPERITY**

As an exporter, Canada’s post-WWII trade policy had to focus on an end to inter-war mercantilism and the development of a rules-based, open, multilateral trade and payments system. As a mercantilist state (the National Policy) Canada needed that mercantilism to be “flexible.” The multilateral “compromise of embedded liberalism” (John Gerard Ruggie) therefore suited us down to the ground. When that compromise began to unravel with the rise of neo-liberalism, Canada had choices to make.


Brian Tomlin et. al., *Canada’s International Policies: Agendas, Alternatives and Politics*, chs. 4/5.


**DOING GOOD AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Development Assistance, Human Rights, Immigration and Refugee Policies**

It is part of Canada’s identity and middle power-liberal internationalism to do good and to make a difference and, perhaps more so, to be seen to be doing good and making a difference. The gap between image and reality has not always been clear, at home. In particular, Canada’s First Nations have used international *fora* to build relationships to strengthen their case against the Canadian state.

**Development Assistance**


Jean-Sebastien Rioux, “Canadian official development assistance: juggling the national interest and humanitarian impulses,” ch. 9, *Handbook of Canadian Foreign Policy*, Patrick James et. al. eds.


**Human Rights, Immigration and Refugee Policy**


**Canada and First Nations**


The following articles are all in a special edition of *Canadian Foreign Policy* (13/3):

Frances Abele and Thierry Rodon, “Inuit diplomacy in the global era.”

Gary Wilson, “Inuit diplomacy in the circumpolar north.”

P. Whitney Lackenbauer and Andrew F. Cooper, “The Achilles heel of Canadian good international citizenship.”

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ARCTIC

Amongst these articles we find persuasive cases for Canada as a principal power, and a satellite dependency, in environmental, arctic, and energy policies.


PART TWO: Canada-U.S. Relations

An important part of Canada’s middle power-liberal internationalism was universalism. Canada was “at home in the world” and used its participation in multilateral/universal organizations - above all the United Nations – as counterweights against imperialism and continentalism. The systemic conditions which made this strategic policy practical for Canada began to change in the 1970s. The United States altered the conditions of its hegemony, and Mitchell’s Sharp’s Third Option paper reviewed the strategic consequences. The paper’s relevance remains: The Trudeau administration pursued the first and the third options, Mulroney the first and the second. Changes in the international security and political economy contexts are posing questions for Canadians (and Americans and Mexicans) about the limits and possibilities of North American integration and community-building.


PART THREE: Other Regional and Institutional Relationships

The Americas

Articles by Heine and Graham, Canada Among Nations 2009/10

Asia-Pacific

Articles in Canada Among Nations 2009/10

See International Journal (64/4) 2009 for a special edition on Canada and Asia.

Asia-Middle East

Articles in Canada Among Nations 2009/10

Africa

Articles in Canada Among Nations 2009/10

Europe and Russia

Articles in Canada Among Nations 2009/10

Canada and the United Nations

Articles by Brahimi and Frechette, Canada Among Nations 2009/10

CONCLUSION: Still Middle Power-Liberal Internationalism?


Michael Hart, From Pride to Influence: Towards a New Canadian Foreign Policy, ch. 11.