POLI 346
Canadian Foreign Policy

Instructor:
Dr. Will Greaves (Fall 2020)

Course description:
This course introduces students to a range of historical and contemporary issues in Canadian foreign policy (CanFP), and provides conceptual tools to critically assess those issues against recent developments in global and Canadian politics. In this course, students will: learn different theories of Canada’s foreign policy and place in the world; examine the institutions, administration, and politics of foreign policymaking in Canada; assess how much power and influence Canada has internationally; and examine the influence of external factors on Canada’s foreign policy choices. The course will offer students an understanding of continuity and change in Canadian foreign policy practice, and of the emergence of new issues as a result of broader processes in domestic and global politics. Policy areas to be addressed include: security and defence policy; economic relations and trade; the Canada-U.S. relationship; foreign aid; Indigenous peoples; and climate change.

Prerequisites: None

Course outcomes/objectives:
- Understand the different theories for understanding Canadian foreign policy
- Appreciate the relationship between Canadian history, political institutions, and contemporary Canadian foreign policy priorities and their formulation
- Knowledge of the main actors affecting the content and application of Canadian foreign policy
- Understand how questions of identity, interests, and values affect Canada’s foreign policies
- Awareness of recent and current trends in Canada’s global engagement;
- Analyze critically accounts of Canada’s involvement in global politics, including those emerging from news sources, academia, think-tanks, popular culture and government
- Develop core undergraduate skills such as effective writing, analysis, and argumentation

Topics may include:
Indigenous sovereignties and diplomacies
Trade
Security and defence policy
Climate change and environmental policy

This online summary is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.
Course delivery: In the Fall 2020 term, this course will be delivered synchronously on Thursdays only. The remainder will be asynchronous.