

Carleton University
Late Summer 2017
Department of Political Science

PSCI 3607A
North American Security and Defense Issues
6:05 p.m. – 8:55 p.m. Monday, Wednesday
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Alex McDougall
Office: B642 Loeb
Office Hours: By appointment
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Overview: This course covers a range of historical and contemporary issues in North American security, foreign, and defense policy. It is organized around two themes: the development of international security policy; and, an analysis of contemporary issues.

Readings: All readings are available through the electronic journal databases at the Carleton library, through the library's reserve system, or accessible online.

Lecture slides: will be posted on Culearn.

Evaluation

- **Participation/attendance: 15%** - Students will receive a grade based on class attendance and participation in class. To acquire full marks, students must attend all of the lectures and should be prepared to make contributions to class discussion by completing the required readings in advance. Students should be prepared to answer questions about the readings and to discuss the readings in class. Participation is conducted on a voluntary basis, so students must actively strive to participate. (5 for attendance - 0.5 per class, and 10 for participation with a max of 1 mark per class)
- **Critical Review: 35%** - Students will write 5-page critical review paper on an academic article or book from the syllabus. Items on the syllabus marked with an *are eligible to be reviewed. Further instructions can be found on cuLearn. **Due July 26 in class.**
- **Group presentation: 25%** - in groups of 3, students will make a 15 minute presentation to the class on a security and defense policy issue. Topics will be assigned by the instructor, however, groups may pick their own topic with the instructor's approval. PowerPoint or Prezi is required, and all group members should participate in the presentation to receive credit. **Due date: Between July 31-August 16 depending on schedule**
- **Final essay: 25%** - based on loosely their group presentation, students will submit a research essay in class, **due on August 16.** Individuals students may write essays for

individual submission (10 pages in length) or in groups (15 pages in length). Further instructions will be posted on cuLearn.

Late assignments: Late assignments will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade per day (ie. A- to B+).

Course Schedule

July 5 - Lecture 1 - Introduction

- No required reading

July 10 - Lecture 2: Grand strategy: Four strategies for dealing with the outside world

- Obama, B. *The National Security Strategy of the United States of America*. Executive Office of the President, Washington DC, 2015.
- George W. Bush. *The National Security Strategy of the United States of America*. 2002.
- Mearsheimer, John J., and Stephen M. Walt. "The Case for Offshore Balancing: A Superior US Grand Strategy." *Foreign Aff.* 95 (2016): 70.

July 12 – Lecture 3 - Canadian defense policy and Afghanistan

- Harper 2008, *Canada First Defense Strategy*
- Selections - Stein, Janice Gross, and J. Eugene Lang. *The unexpected war: Canada in Kandahar*. Toronto: Viking Canada, 2007.*

July 17 – Lecture 4 - Israel and Iran

- Mearsheimer, John J., and Stephen M. Walt. *The Israel lobby and US foreign policy*. Macmillan, 2007.*
- Selections - Sanger, David E. *Confront and conceal: Obama's secret wars and surprising use of American power*. Crown, 2012.*

July 19 – Lecture 5 – Canada and the U.S., civ mil relations

- Readings TBD

July 24 – Lecture 6 - democracy promotion and Syria

- Browse: Harvard Belfer Centre's Syria Project: <http://www.belfercenter.org/harvard-belfer-syria/harvard-belfer-syria-overview>

- Harvard's Iran Project: <http://www.belfercenter.org/project/iran-project>

July 26 - Lecture 7 – Cybersecurity in North America

- Harvard's Cyber security project: <http://www.belfercenter.org/project/cyber-security-project>
- Selections - Sanger, David E. *Confront and conceal: Obama's secret wars and surprising use of American power*. Crown, 2012.

July 31 – Lecture 8 – terrorism and homeland security in Canada and the US

- Government of Canada, 2016, 2016 Public Report On The Terrorist Threat To Canada” <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/2016-pblc-rpr-trrrst-thrt/index-en.aspx>
- Homeland Security Project: <http://www.belfercenter.org/project/homeland-security-project>

August 2 – Lecture 9 – Mexico

- Dell, Melissa. "Trafficking networks and the Mexican drug war." *The American Economic Review* 105.6 (2015): 1738-1779.*
- Bove, Vincenzo, and Tobias Böhmelt. "Does immigration induce terrorism?." *The Journal of Politics* 78.2 (2016): 572-588.*
- Slack, Jeremy, et al. "The geography of border militarization: Violence, death and health in Mexico and the United States." *Journal of Latin American Geography* 15.1 (2016): 7-32.*

August 9 – Lecture 10 - political economy and defense budgets

- Selections - Adams, Gordon, and Cindy Williams. *Buying national security: How America plans and pays for Its global role and safety at home*. Routledge, 2010.*
- Canadian Global Affairs Institute, 2017, Canada Defense Budget Primer.

August 14 – Lecture 11 – China

- Drezner, Daniel W. "Bad debts: assessing China's financial influence in great power politics." *International Security* 34.2 (2009): 7-45.*

- Goldstein, Avery. "First things first: The pressing danger of crisis instability in US-China relations." *International Security* 37.4 (2013): 49-89.*

August 16 – Lecture 12 – North Korea

- Selections - Sanger, David E. *Confront and conceal: Obama's secret wars and surprising use of American power*. Crown, 2012.

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;

- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.