

PSCI 4806A/5803A
Transatlantic Security Issues
Monday and Wednesday, 6:05-8:55 pm
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Prof. Robert J. Jackson
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 8:55 – 9:55 PM

Phone: 909-335-8919
Email: RobertJackson@cunet.carleton.ca, Robert_Jackson@redlands.edu

Course Description

An advanced seminar on world politics, warfare, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has tested the organization like no other in NATO's long history. The course explores the past, present, and future of the Alliance. It addresses modern warfare, NATO's historical development, the Cold War, adaptations from the 1990s on, and contemporary challenges, especially the war between Ukraine and Russia.

Students are expected to gather their own information and formulate their own viewpoints on different issues. The course challenges students with discussions on topics of politics and global affairs.

Course Format

In-person course

Learning Objectives

1. Understand Modern Warfare.
2. Explain how and why NATO was founded.
3. Examine the history of NATO since its founding,
4. Explain the theoretical and empirical aspects of NATO.
5. Understand and explain NATO's present and future challenges.

Compulsory Readings and Textbooks

Frank Barnaby, *How to Build a Nuclear Bomb and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction*, New York: Nation Books, 2004. \$25.99

Sten Rynning, *NATO: From Cold War to Ukraine, a History of the World's Most Powerful Alliance*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2024. \$28.95

Other readings

Robert J. Jackson, *Canadian Government and Politics*, Broadview Press, 2025, Chapter 13.

Robert J. Jackson, *Global Politics in the Twenty-First Century: War in Peacetime*, 2025 Cambridge University Press, entire book.

New editions of both books are currently in press, but the earlier editions are available in the library and on the web.

Requirements and Evaluations at a Glance

Attendance and Participation 30% of final grade

Early Short presentation on issues 10% of final grade

Term Paper (including presentation*) 60% of final grade; **due date: August 13, 2025**

*3500- 4000 words for UG students, 4500-5000 words for GRAD students

Requirements and Evaluations in Detail

Attendance and Participation (30% of final grade): Students are expected to attend all classes, come prepared, and contribute to class discussions. You are therefore expected to prepare to make helpful critical/analytical comments on the presentations of others as well as deliver your own.

Short presentation (10% of final grade) will be based aspects of the assigned Barnaby readings. They will be about 5-10 minutes in length, topics to be discussed and assigned in the first class. They will be delivered in the second and third classes. They will be individual contributions.

The major presentation and term paper (60% of final grade) requires thoughtful readings of both of the assigned, compulsory readings (Barnaby and Rynning). Topics for the papers will be chosen and approved in class during the first weeks. The primary focus of all of the papers will be aspects of War and NATO. ***AI is not to be used for any of the assignments.***

Class Schedule

July 2

Introduction

Discussion and definitions of the general themes of the course. Choose July 7 or 9 to make a short presentation (see below).

July 7 and 9

Short Presentations (2 classes)

Topic: Warfare

Required reading: Frank Barnaby, Chapters 1 – 10. Barnaby considers 3 categories of weapons discussed: Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical.

Students are expected to read the entire, short book, then present a short paper (5 – 7 minutes) on a topic of their choice, evaluating one of the three categories of weapons.

July 14

Major Presentations (all classes to follow) Student presentations and class discussions will begin on an aspect of NATO today. These presentations will be the foundation for the term paper to be handed in on August 13. The papers may be based on an historical issue about NATO or on a contemporary issue.

Consider: Can the coalition of nations that emerged from World War II maintain unity today given the complexity of the alliance?

Topic: NATO

Required Reading: Sten Rynning , *NATO*

Part I : A Grand Ambition is Born: America's Alliance, 1939 – 65, and

Part II: Retreat to Pragmatism: Nato Muddles Through, 1966-89

Consider Are the factors behind the founding of NATO are still compelling today?

July 16

Topic: NATO

Reading: Part III: Sten Rynning: Return of Great Ambition: How NATO Grew Big and Soft, 1989 - 2011

Consider: How and why did NATO grow “big and soft”? What is the implication for NATO today?

July 21

Topic: NATO

Reading: Part IV: Sten Rynning: Retreat and Resurrection? NATO from Afghanistan, 2012 – 24.

Consider: What did NATO do right and wrong in Afghanistan? Are there lessons for today?

July 23

Topic: NATO and Contemporary Issues: Ukraine 2012-2025

Readings: Current top newspapers (*NY Times*, *Wall St. Journal*, etc), recent articles in the journal *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*.

Presentations on Ukraine and NATO,

July 28

Topic: NATO and Contemporary Issues: Ukraine 2012-25.

Presentations on Ukraine and NATO....continued.

July 30

Topic: NATO and Contemporary Issues: Ukraine 2012-25

Presentations on Ukraine and NATO.... continued.

August 6

Topic: NATO and Contemporary Issues: Burden sharing: China Today

Burden sharing: China and North Korea

Readings: Current top newspapers (*NY Times*, *Wall St. Journal*, etc), Recent articles in the journal *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*.

Consider: Does NATO have a role to play in Asia?

August 11

Topic: NATO and Contemporary Issues: The North Today

The North (The Arctic, Greenland)

Readings: Current top newspapers (*NY Times*, *Wall St. Journal*, etc), Recent articles in the journal *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*.

Consider: What is NATO's role in the North?

Political Science Course Outline Appendix

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Student Mental Health

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus):

<https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>

Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>

Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

Academic Advising Centre (AAC):

<https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>

Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS):

<https://carleton.ca/csas/>

Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>

Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>

Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389,

<https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>

ood2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>

The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Academic consideration for medical or other extenuating

circumstances: Students must contact the instructor(s) of their absence or inability to complete the academic deliverable within the predetermined timeframe due to medical or other extenuating circumstances. For a range of medical or other extenuating circumstances, students may use the online self-declaration form

and where appropriate, the use of medical documentation. This policy regards the accommodation of extenuating circumstances for both short-term and long-term periods and extends to all students enrolled at Carleton University.

Students should also consult the [Course Outline Information on Academic Accommodations](#) for more information. Detailed information about the procedure for requesting academic consideration can be found [here](#).

Pregnancy: Contact your Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, please contact Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC) at equity@carleton.ca or by calling (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor.

Religious obligation: Contact your Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: 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, please request your accommodations for this course through the [Ventus Student Portal](#) 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*). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For final exams, the deadlines to request accommodations are published in the [University Academic Calendars](#). 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).

Survivors of Sexual Violence: As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about

the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>.

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply within **three working days** to the Registrar's Office for permission to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully supported by the appropriate documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered. [See Undergraduate Calendar, Article 4.3](#)

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

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). Permissibility of submitting substantially the same piece of work more than once for academic credit. If group or collaborative work is expected or allowed, provide a clear and specific description of how and to what extent you consider collaboration to be acceptable or appropriate, especially in the completion of written assignments.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

Please reference the [Academic Calendar](#) for each term's official withdrawal dates

OFFICIAL FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD

Please reference the [Academic Calendar](#) for each term's Official Exam Period (may include evenings & Saturdays or Sundays)

For more information on the important dates and deadlines of the academic year, consult the [Carleton Calendar](#).

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system is described in the Undergraduate Calendar section [5.4](#).

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

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

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:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, 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 that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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 can include a final grade of "F" for the course

