

Department of Political Science

POLI 3576 Defence Policy in Canada

Fall 2012

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 14:35-17:25
LSC-Common Area C202

Instructor: Jean-Christophe Boucher
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Hours: Tuesday 2:30-4:30 pm, or by appointment
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Course description and objectives

Studying and explaining Canadian defence policy is paramount in developing a more complete understanding of Canada's international behavior and place in the World. After a decade of fighting in Afghanistan, the articulation of an Arctic policy which focuses on a larger military presence in the circumpolar region, and increases scrutiny on military expenditures and military procurements, the salience of defence related issues in Canadian politics remains important. This course seeks to examine the evolution, dynamics, and determinants of Canadian defence policy. As such, this course should complement nicely with other courses on Canadian foreign and development policies.

The purpose of this course is to give students a good understanding of how defence policy is formulated and implemented in Canada. In short, Canadian defence policy is the product of competing forces stemming from both external and domestic realities. To study Canadian defence policy is to assess and organize into a coherent whole how these forces mould policy in Canada and, ultimately, when, why and how Canada's military forces are projected in the World.

The course is divided into three separate sections. First, we will brush a quick overview of Canadian military history, starting from the formation of the Nouvelle France colony to our modern-day. The aim of this broad historical perspective is to set Canadian defence policy decision-making into the larger context of traditions, institutions, and structures which, in many

ways, are still relevant today. Second, we will consider how external factors – such as Canada’s geostrategic environment, its relations with the United States, or its military alliance (NATO) and membership to international organization (UN) – limits the room for manoeuvre available to the Canadian government to determine its options in terms of defence policy. Finally, we will examine how various domestic constraints such as institutional actors (PM, DND), the parliamentary system, fiscal and budgetary realities or the Canadian public, also influence decision-making on matters related to defence policy in Canada.

Website

The course website on the Blackboard Learn System (Bblearn) can be accessed through my.dal.ca. It includes, among other resources, a digital copy of the syllabus, updates to any changes to the syllabus throughout the semester, web links to some readings that are not in the required book. If you have a technical problem with the course website, email the Help Desk: helpdesk@dal.ca.

Readings

You will find most readings available on the Bblearn system or on reserve at the Killam Memorial Library. I highly recommend students to buy (and read) Desmond Morton’s book, *A Military History of Canada*. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart (2009). The book is easily available at www.amazon.ca.

Requirements and Grading

Midterm	30%	November 7 th
Paper	35%	December 5 th
Final exam	35%	Exam period

Midterm Exam

In-class, November 7th, 2012. The exam will focus on the material covered in class. It will consist of short to medium length questions.

Paper

In this paper, the student will select one theme from the list below. The student will assess the main factors influencing Canadian defence policy decisions in these specific circumstances. The paper’s length should be of approximately 6 000 words and will be due on December 5th, 2012.

Proposed themes (students can choose another historical case with my permission).

The creation of the Canadian Navy in 1910

The decision to declare war on Germany in 1939

The decision to adhere to the Washington treaty in 1949

The creation of the Suez Canal peace mission in 1956

The decision leading up to the creation of NORAD in 1957

The decision to withdraw troops stationed in Europe in 1994

The decision to participate to the war on terror in 2001

The decision not to get involved in Iraq in 2003

The decision to deploy troops in Kandahar in 2006

Final Exam

The final exam will cover material (from seminars and readings) from the entire semester. It will be scheduled by the University Registrar. The official exam period is December 6-20. Do not make travel plans until after you know the official date of the final exam.

Deadlines and Late Penalties

Any assignment received after the due date will be subject to a late penalty of 5% per day, unless appropriate written documentation such as a doctor's note is provided. Please plan your work well ahead of time to avoid this.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is a serious violation of academic ethics. All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on plagiarism and academic honesty referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the **plagiarism.dal.ca** website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

To ensure that you understand what plagiarism is, I suggest you take the following online quiz: <http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/polisci/integrity/quiz.html> . You might find some surprises.

If you have any questions about academic integrity and plagiarism, please ask.

OSAA Syllabus Statement on Accommodation

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit www.dal.ca/access for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation – Form A.

A note taker may be required as part of a student's accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 494-2836 for more information.

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, untouched, so that students who require their usage will be able to participate in the class.

Course schedule

Week 1	Introduction
September 12 th , 2012	

Week 2	Canadian defence in a historical perspective I (1600-1914)
September 19 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morton, Desmond. 2009. <i>A Military History of Canada</i>. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart. Chap 1 and 2.

Week 3	Canadian defence in a historical perspective II (1914-1945)
September 26 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morton, Desmond. 2009. <i>A Military History of Canada</i>. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart. Chap 4 and 5.

Week 4	Canadian defence in a historical perspective III (1945-1989)
October 3 rd , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morton, Desmond. 2009. <i>A Military History of Canada</i>. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart. Chap 6.

Week 5	Canadian defence (1989-now)
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October 10 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McDonough, David S. 2009. "Afghanistan and Renewing Canadian Leadership: Panacea or Hubris?" <i>International Journal</i> 64 (3) 647-665. • Huebert, Ron. 2011. "Canadian Arctic Sovereignty and Security in a Transforming Circumpolar World." In Duane Bratt and Christopher J. Kukucha (eds.). <i>Readings in Canadian Foreign Policy. Classical Debates and New Ideas</i>. Don Mills: Oxford University Press. pp.348-371.
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Week 6	External factors of defence policy making Canada in a geostrategic world
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October 17 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sutherland, R.J. 1962. "Canada's Long-term Strategic Situation." <i>International Journal</i> 17 (3): 199-223. • Lennox, Patrick Lennox. 2007. "From Golden Straitjacket to Kevlar Vest: Canada's Transformation to a Security State." <i>Canadian Journal of Political Science</i> 40 (4): 1017-1038.
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Week 7	External factors of defence policy making Canada-US Defence relations
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October 24 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coombs, Howard G and Richard Goette. 2006. "Supporting the Pax Americana: Canada's Military and the Cold War." In Bernd Horn (ed). <i>The Canadian Way of War: Serving the National Interest</i>. Toronto: Dundurn Press. 265-296. • Lagassé, Philippe. 2008. "Canada, Strategic Defence, and strategic Stability: A retrospective and look ahead." <i>International Journal</i> 63 (4): 917-937.
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Week 8	External factors of defence policy making Canada, NATO and the UN
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October 31 st , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zyla, Benjamin. 2009. "NATO and Post-Cold War burden sharing: Canada 'the laggard'?" <i>International Journal</i> 64 (2): 337-392. • Sokolsky, Joel J. 1989. "A Seat at the Table: Canada and its Alliances." <i>Armed Forces and Society</i> 16 (1): 11-35.
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Week 9	*****Midterm exam*****
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November 7 th , 2012	
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Week 10	Domestic factors of defence policy making Actors and structures
November 14 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarty, Roger, 2008. "The Interplay of Defence and Foreign Policy," in Robert Bothwell and Jean Deaudelin (eds), <i>Canada Among Nations 2008: 100 Years of Canadian Foreign Policy</i>. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press: 111-141. • Lagassé, Philippe and Joel J. Sokolsky. 2009. "A Larger 'Footprint' in Ottawa: General Hillier and Canada's shifting Civil-Military Relationship." <i>Canadian Foreign Policy</i> 15 (2): 16-40.
Week 11	Domestic factors of defence policy making Parliament and defence policy
November 21 st , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bland, Douglas L. and Roy Rempel. 2004. "A Vigilant Parliament: Building Competence for Effective Parliamentary Oversight of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces." <i>Policy Matters</i> 5 (1). Available at: http://www.irpp.org/pm/archive/pmvol5no1.pdf

Week 12	Domestic factors of defence policy making Defence budgeting and defence spending
November 28 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Williams, Alan S. 2006. <i>Reinventing Canadian Defence Procurement</i>. Kingston: Queen's School of Policy Studies. Chap. 1 • Richter, Andrew. 2006. "Forty Years of Neglect, Indifference, and Apathy: The Relentless Decline of Canada's Armed Forces." In Patrick James, Nelson Michaud, and Marc J. O'Reilly (eds.), <i>Handbook of Canadian Foreign Policy</i>, Toronto: Lexington Books: 51-82.

Week 13	Domestic pressure on Canadian defence policy-making Public opinion and strategic cultures
December 5 th , 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massie, Justin. 2009. "Making sense of Canada's 'Irrational' international security policies: A tale of three strategic cultures." <i>International Journal</i> 64 (3): 625-645. • Boucher, Jean-Christophe, and Stéphane Roussel. 2008. "From Afghanistan to "Quebecistan": Quebec as the Pharmakon of Canadian foreign and defence policy." In Jean Deaudelin and Andrew Schweller. <i>Canada among nations, 2007</i>. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Week 14	*****Final exam*****
TBD	