

The University of British Columbia

POLITICAL SCIENCE 464B

**Topics in International Relations:
Canada and Global Asia**

First Term, September 2015

Tuesday: 09:00 to 12:00, Room 156, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

(Version 1: 01/09/15)



Professor

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Subject

Asia is a continent and a place. It is also an evolving system of people, production, ideas and institutions that have moved from the periphery to the core of a multi-centric world order in the 21st century. While Canada has three centuries of interaction with an Asia across an ocean, it is now on Canadian doorsteps in unprecedented ways. The choices and actions of governments, citizens and consumers in Asia, as well as trans-national migrants, have global impacts, Canada included. We begin from the premise that we are in the midst of a major shift in global economic and diplomatic power that presents issues for Canadians as important as America's rise a century ago.

The seminar examines Canada-Asia relations as more than the sum of bilateral relations with individual countries, recognizing that these relationships are always interesting and sometimes important. It raises a broader set of questions about the nature of the global balance of power, the new kinds of interactions that are unfolding, and the responses of Canadian governments and residents to a new agenda that poses major challenges for Canadian attitudes, institutions, interests, security, and values.

Seminar Design

The seminar is designed for senior undergraduates with an interest in both Asia and Canada and curiosity about key issues in the current agenda in Canada-Asia relations. It does not demand extensive background in Asian culture, language, history, society or politics. But it does demand student-driven identification of key issues and questions that define the limits and possibilities of how Canada's involvement can and should develop in the coming decade.

The first two-thirds of the seminar focus on issues and questions defined by the professor and a series of visitors. Asia is much bigger than China but it is China that is at the centre of an increasingly integrated regional economy and production system. It is also the topic of greatest academic and policy attention in Canada. The Canada-China relations will thus figure prominently in our discussions but students are free to explore bilateral dynamics with other Asian countries in presentations and papers.

We will be drawing extensively on the research and resources of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, established in 1983 by Parliament and based here in Vancouver, a city sometimes described as "the most Asian city in the world outside Asia."

Assessment

Seminar participation and leadership	35%
Presentation of core idea/project	15%
Final paper or video (due December 15 th)	50%

The paper can be individually authored and no longer than 4500 words (inclusive of notes and bibliography) or prepared by a team of two or more in which the case the paper can be more elaborate. Videos with text accompaniment are also possible. Topics will be developed in consultation with the instructor.

Academic Misconduct

The university expects all students to conform to the highest standards of academic integrity. It takes plagiarism very seriously, whether direct, indirect, or self-plagiarism. Direct plagiarism is intentionally and completely lifting the words, equations, charts, graphs or artistic material of another author or authors. Indirect plagiarism is failing to cite completely or accurately, and/or copying themes, ideas, or sources the student has not read from another author or authors. Self-plagiarism is recycling papers, documents, equations, and so forth from a document previously submitted by the student without quotation, citation, or attribution of the previous work.

For additional information see <http://www.politics.ubc.ca/undergraduate/program-information/plagiarism-and-turnitin.html>.

E-Protocol

Students are encouraged to bring lap tops, tablets, PCD's to class. Ground rules as follows:

- employ electronic means in ways that you feel and can demonstrate contribute to the learning process in the seminar;
- all machines on mute, no headphones or ear buds;

- no video or audio recording of discussions within the seminar without the instructor's advance approval;
- be prepared to open your screen at any time to other members of the class and the instructor;
- on email contact, normally expect a response within 48 hours. Brevity is prized.

Schedule and Materials

September 8 Introductions

September 15 What, Where and When is Global Asia?

Paul Evans, "The Concept of Eastern Asia," Colin Mackerras, ed., *Eastern Asia: An Introductory History*, 3rd edition (Longman, 2000), pp. 7-13.

Niall Ferguson, *The West and the Rest: The Changing Global Balance of Power in Historic Perspective*. Read the book **OR** view the lecture by the same name at Chatham House, 9 May 2011,

http://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/files/chathamhouse/19251_090511ferguson.pdf .

OR watch the speech on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AORm8Nvoud4>. 53 minutes. **OR** "Shift of Economic Power from West to East," video, 26 minutes, 30 March 2012, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-1GGQyTwLU>

Hans Rosling, "Asia's Rise," TED Talk, November 2009, 16 minutes,

http://www.ted.com/talks/hans_rosling_asia_s_rise_how_and_when?language=en

Kishore Mahbubani, *The Great Convergence*, Ch. 1, "A New Global Civilization," pp.13-51.

Unconventional Economist, "Asia's Growing Importance in the Global Economy," 17 April 2014, <http://www.macrobusiness.com.au/2014/04/asias-growing-importance-in-the-global-economy/>

Asian Fusion Girl, "What Defines us as Asians," 1 December 2011, <http://asian-fusion.com/377/what-defines-us-as-asians/> .

Recommended:

Anthony Milner and Deborah Johnson, "The Idea of Asia," Faculty of Asian Studies, Australian National University Website, 10 January 2002,

<https://digitalcollections.anu.edu.au/bitstream/1885/41891/1/idea.html>

Asian Development Bank, "Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2014," September 2014,

<http://www.adb.org/publications/key-indicators-asia-and-pacific-2014> .

National Geographic, "Geographic Lens on Asia," 2007, 4 minutes,

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/asia-defining-geography-spc>.

Kishore Mahbubani, *The New Asian Hemisphere: The Irresistible Shift of Global Power to the East* (Public Affairs: 2008), especially "Introduction," pp. 1-10, Ch. 2, "Why is Asia Rising Now," pp. 51-101, and Ch. 3, "Why is the West Not Celebrating," pp. 101-26.

September 22 Defining Canada-Asia Relations

Wikipedia, "Asia-Canada Relations,"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia%E2%80%93Canada_relations

Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, "Canada and Asia-Pacific," August

2015, http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/index.aspx?lang=eng .

- Joseph Caron and David Emerson, “Canadians Are Not Fully Embracing Asia’s Rise,” *Globe and Mail*, 14 April 2011, reprinted at <https://www.asiapacific.ca/op-eds/canadians-are-not-fully-embracing-asias-rise>
- Donald Campbell, et al., *Securing Canada’s Place in Asia: Means, Institutions and Mechanisms*, report for the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, 6 September 2012, 52 pp., <http://www.asiapacific.ca/research-report/securing-canadas-place-asia-means-institutions-and-mechanism>
- Yuen Pau Woo, “Canada-Asia Relations: Now for the Hard Part,” Speech to the Canadian Club of Toronto, 11 June 2014, <http://www.yuenpauwoo.com/uploads/3/9/0/1/39018137/canadianclubjune2014.pdf>
- Shiro Armstrong, “Australia Defines its Response to the Asian Century,” *East Asia Forum*, 29 October 2012, <http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2012/10/29/australia-defines-its-response-to-the-asian-century/>

Assignment:

- (1) Take the Asia/Canada Quiz, http://asia-canada.ca/pdf/quiz_questions_en.pdf. What would be the right questions to ask about Global Asia/Canada?
- (2) How do each of the writings define the boundaries of Canada-Asia relations? What and who are at the heart of the core of their definitions?
- (3) Familiarize yourself with activities and resources of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. Should we trust what it produces?

September 29 Human Connections and the Asia Pacific Gateway (Guest: Mr. Yuen Pau Woo)

- Kenny Zhang, “Flows of People and the Canada-China Relationship,” in Pitman Potter and Thomas Adams, eds., *Issues in Canada-China Relations* (Toronto: Canadian International Council, 2011), pp. 198-232.
- David Mulroney and Janet De Silva, *Canada’s Asia Challenge: Creating Competence for the Next Generation of Canadians*, 4 November 2013, 54 pp., <https://www.asiapacific.ca/research-report/canadas-asia-challenge-creating-competence-next-generation-c>
- Yuen Pau Woo, “Building the Asia Pacific Gateway Economy,” APFC op-ed, 19 September 2007, <http://www.asiapacific.ca/op-eds/building-asia-pacific-gateway-economy>
- Charles McMillan and George Stalk, “A Gateway to Canada’s Future,” *National Post* op-ed., 6 March 2013, reproduced at <https://www.asiapacific.ca/op-eds/gateway-canadas-future>

Recommended:

For more on the Gateway concept and evolution, see “Gateway Research, Reports and Comment,” APFC, <http://www.asiapacific.ca/gateway/research>

October 6 What do Canadians Think About Asia? (Guest: Dr. Nathan Allen)
Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, *2014 National Opinion Poll: Canadian Views on Asia*, 10 June 2014, 51pp., <http://www.asiapacific.ca/surveys/national-opinion-polls/2014-national-opinion-poll-canadian-views-asia>

Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, *2015 National Opinion Poll: Canadian Views on Asian Investment*, 1 June 2015, 36 pp., <http://www.asiapacific.ca/surveys/national-opinion-polls/2015-national-opinion-poll-canadian-views-asian-investment>

Richard Wike et al., “Views of China and the Global Balance of Power.” Pew Research Center, June 2015, <http://www.pewglobal.org/2015/06/23/2-views-of-china-and-the-global-balance-of-power>

Recommended:

Nathan Allen, “Keeping Rising Asia at a Distance: Canadian Attitudes Toward Trade Agreements with Asian Countries,” *International Journal*, 19 March 2015, pp. 286-308.

October 13 Field Trip to the Asia Pacific Foundation (Host: Dr. Eva Busza)

The session will take place at the APFC’s headquarters, 890 West Pender St., Suite 220. It will begin at 09:00 and conclude at 11:00 allowing time to return to the UBC campus. It will include a question and answer session with the Vice-President and a hands-on tutorial with some of the editorial team who produce the daily New Service.

October 20 Engaging China: The Economic Agenda

Wendy Dobson, Canada, *China and Rising Asia: A Strategic Proposal*, Canadian Council of Chief Executives and the Canada China Business Council, October 2011, <http://www.ceocouncil.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Strategic-proposal-ENGLISH-25-oct-low-resolution.pdf>

Wenran Jiang, “The Dragon Returns: Canada in China’s Quest for Energy Security,” in Potter and Adams, eds., *Issues in Canada-China Relations*, *op. cit.*, pp. 165-97.

David Mulroney, *Middle Power, Middle Kingdom, : What Canadians Need to Know About China in the 21st Century* (Allen Lane, 2015), C. 2, “Blue Lobster Tweets,” and Ch. 3, “Cold Feet and Mixed Signals,” pp. 26-83.

October 27 Engaging China: Politics, Values and Security

Paul Evans, *Engaging China: Myth, Aspiration and Strategy in Canadian Policy from Trudeau to Harper* (University of Toronto Press, 2014), especially the Preface and Chs 1, 2 and 5.

David Mulroney, *Middle Power, Middle Kingdom*, Ch 12, “The Buddha of Compassion,” pp. 214-47 and “Conclusion: Connecting the Dots,” pp. 289-302.

Charles Burton, “Canada’s China Policy Under the Harper Government,” *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*, Nov 21, No. 13, 30 January 2015, pp. 45-63.

November 3 Canada-Japan

Readings TBA.

November 10 Brainstorming on Questions and Themes for Papers

November 17 Formative Project Presentations

November 24

December 1