



Canadian Studies Learning Goals

By examining the problems that face an important middle power, Canada, in the contemporary world of security problems, trade and investment interactions, environmental and energy relations, and complex cultural matters, Canadian Studies becomes a paradigm for many other nations in the world today. Canadian Studies concentrators will learn to assess how commodity relations shape international trade and investment; how immigration policy varies in ways that affect both wealth and outlook; and how the history of a country's foreign relations enable it to prosper in world politics more broadly. The student will study Canada-U.S. relations up close in terms of how lobbying occurs, and how governments, while shaping their own interests, develop global ties and a better sense of world order. In this concentration, not only the details of government policy-making in the parliamentary context, but the nature of problem-solving in a framework that has become a model for the notion of interdependence, is alive and of interest to anyone who thinks about how world order can evolve in the 21st century.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will learn how policy gets made in Washington and in Ottawa and how the two governments hammer out frameworks and details that shape their foreign policies for decades to come;
2. Study the machinery of the parliamentary and presidential systems and how domestic politics shapes foreign policy conduct;
3. Examine the larger issues of global international politics involving middle power perspectives on energy and the environment, human rights policy, French and English outlooks on culture and preference, and multilateral trade negotiations;
4. Discuss domestic and electoral politics as they impact on the nature and limits of foreign policy formulation;
5. See how NAFTA, Canada-EU trade policy, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and U.S.- EU trade and investment relations are shaping the commercial environments throughout North America; and
6. Assess how the largest oil and natural gas producers in the world, as well as the most intensive energy consumers, evolve North American energy policy that works, and that at the same time affects a global energy reality with growing international political significance.