

CAMOSUN COLLEGE - COURSE OUTLINE

Pacific Rim 210 - Canada and the Pacific Rim

Instructor: Dr. Peter Maidstone Office: Dunlop 220
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Required Texts: Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.
Canada Asia Review 2002.

Calendar Description:

A study of Canada's external relations with and potential ties to other Pacific Rim countries, especially those in the Asia-Pacific region. The course will focus on political and economic issues with the intent of understanding Canada's current role in the Pacific, and addressing the challenges to Canada of the dramatic changes underway in the region.

Course Objectives:

The objective of the course is to provide the student with a grasp of the political economy of the Asia Pacific region, focusing on the transformations that have taken and are taking place in terms of their implications for Canada. Canadian interests in the region will be examined with the aim of identifying where Canada is involved, the nature and extent of Canadian involvement and the degree to which Canada has prepared itself to be an active participant. The intent of the course is to explore this material not only in terms of official Canadian policy and the pursuit of investment and trade, but also in terms of the human condition in Asia and the Pacific. Thus, the economic development of the Asia Pacific region and Canada's role in it, will also be examined with respect to the social and environmental costs involved.

Organization of the Course:

Three hours per week will be spent in lecture sessions.

Evaluation Procedures:

A. Assignments

(i)	Essay	10%
(ii)	Midterm exam	30%
(iii)	Term paper	35%
(iv)	Second exam	25%

B. Format

- (i) *Essay*: Each student is responsible for completing a three-page, (750 word), typewritten analysis of a current Canadian newspaper or magazine article that deals with Canada and the Pacific Basin. This assignment, which will be explained more fully in class, will be evaluated on a Pass-Fail basis. A copy of the article together with the analysis is due February 5.
- (ii) *Midterm exam*: The midterm exam will be based on the material covered to date in the course. Four questions will be given out one week before the exam, and the student will be asked to answer two of them in essay form. The exam will be written in class February 26.
- (iii) *Term paper*: Each student is responsible for completing a research paper of one thousand five hundred words, with a bibliography and references. Possible paper topics will be identified at the beginning of the course, and the student's specific topic must be selected by February 12. The completed paper is due March 19.
- (iii) *Second Exam*: The second exam will focus on material covered since the midterm. It will be an "objective style" multiple choice exam, but will attempt to test one's conceptual rather than factual knowledge. It will be written during the final exam period.

Required Readings:

- a) The course texts as noted, as well as handouts.
- b) Selected articles on reserve in the library.
- c) The course bibliography will provide a resource for research and supplementary readings.

Course Topic Areas:

- a) The political economy of Canada
- b) The history of Canadian involvement in the Asia Pacific region
- c) The contemporary situation: an overview of current Canadian interests in the region
- d) Canadian political objectives: foreign policy and strategic interests
- e) Canadian economic objectives: trade, aid and investment
- f) The human dimension: women in the labour force, working and living conditions, racism and human rights
- g) Environmental issues and the militarization of the region

- h) Bilateral relations:
 - (i) Canada and Japan
 - (ii) Canada and China
 - (iii) Canada and the "Little Dragons" (Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea)
 - (iv) Canada and ASEAN
 - (v) Canada and the South Pacific
- i) The future - the challenge of the Pacific era: What are appropriate Canadian responses?