

HIS311- March 3, 2016

Pierre E. Trudeau & Canadian Foreign Policy

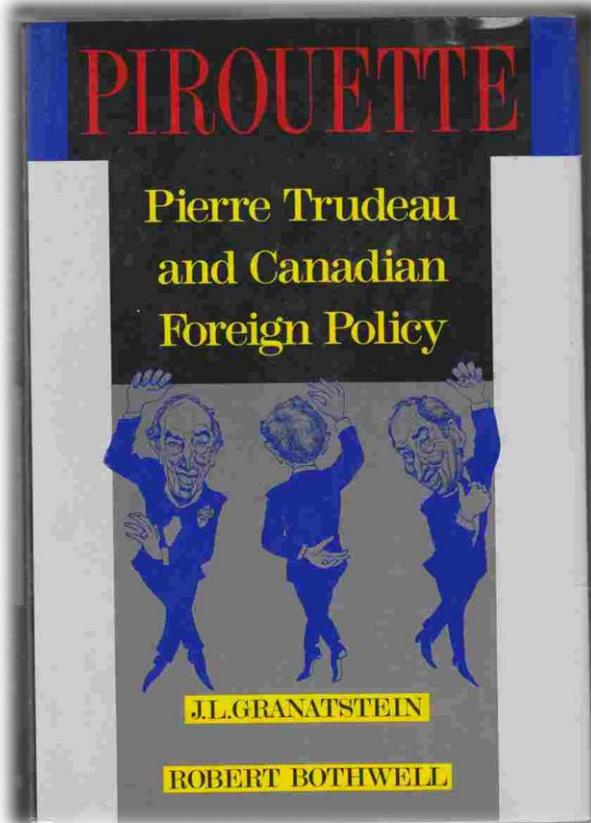
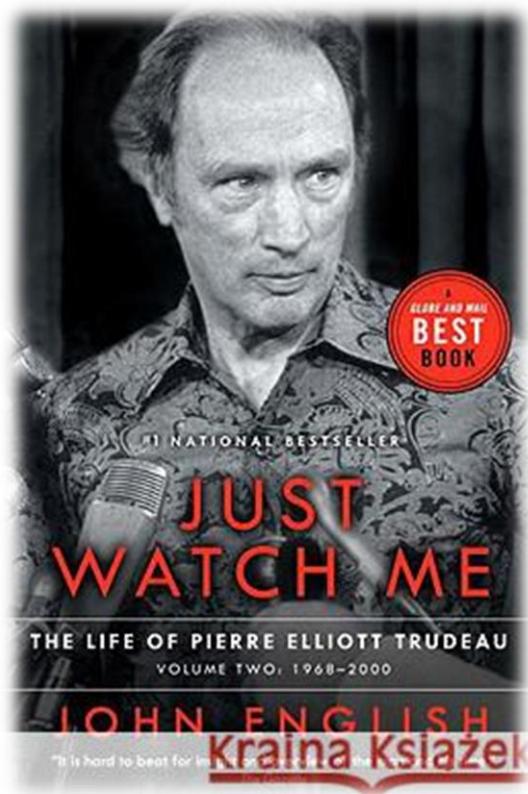
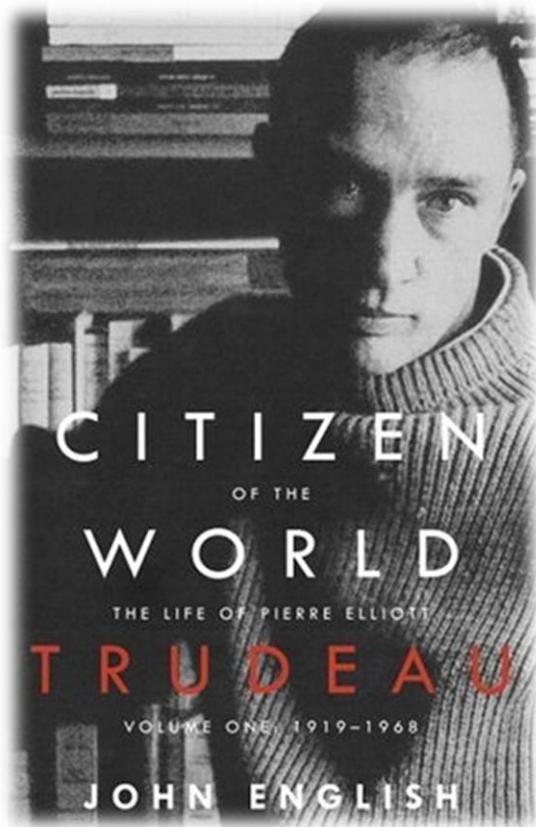


AGENDA

- GOAL: **Assessing the Trudeau era in Canadian foreign relations** (68-79 & 80-84)
- Focus on:
 - Trudeau's background, style & world views
 - Dealing with Quebec
 - Canadian-American relations
 - Economic nationalism & the Third Option
 - Trudeau & Communism

Reflecting upon Trudeau (video)

The #Trudeau Era...>>>



Famous quotes by Pierre E. Trudeau*

- “The attainment of a just society is the cherished hope of civilized men.”
- “There's no place for the state in the bedrooms of the nation.”
- “Of course a bilingual state is more expensive than a unilingual one — but it is a richer state.”
- “As against the "invisible hand" of Adam Smith, there has to be a visible hand of politicians whose objective is to have the kind of society that is caring and humane.”

“A citizen of the world”



- Born 18 October 1919 in Montréal
- the son of a successful French Canadian businessman and a mother of Scottish ancestry
- Wealthy family, extremely protective mother
- Jesuit Collège Jean-de-Brebeuf, Université de Montréal, Harvard, and the London School of Economics, Sorbonne
- Travelled a lot in his youth (backpacking)
- *Cité Libre & a spirit of contradiction*
- Law professor (constitutional law)

Trudeau's domestic legacies >>>

- A new **Canadian Constitution** with an entrenched *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
- *Official Languages Act* in 1969
- While he played an important role in defeating the **Quebec separatist movement of the 1970s and 1980s**, his federalist stance as well as his language and economic policies alienated many in Canada, particularly in the western provinces.
- **Prime Minister of Canada 1968–79 & 1980–84**

Patriation of the Constitution (1982)



October Crisis & War Measures Act

- October Crisis began **5 October 1970** with the kidnapping of James CROSS, the British trade commissioner in Montréal, by members of the Front de Libération du Québec (FLQ).
- Minister of Immigration and Minister of Labour Pierre Laporte, was kidnapped and killed....This help would lead to the only invocation of the **War Measures Act** during peacetime in Canadian history.

“Just Watch Me” (video clip)

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7_a2wa2dd4&ebc=ANyPxKqVP9cd8LmM8zVs2FSwRD9g4c7kfysyll-9Tt6mN5qnMpmoNqGi74GelqoWfDUaxuDro6GUPbCtsqL6UqJLD1KX9MOXRw

#Trudeaumania



Trudeau & Barbra Streisand



Trudeau's style **EXAM

- High standard for intellectual conversation
- Perfectionist but preferred genuine interactions
- Believed in discussions & emphasis on process
(hated artificial settings) => NOT a fan of UN/NATO
- Had a coherent approach to policies
- Stress on informality (enjoyed the Commonwealth PM's Meetings)
- Visionary in domestic affairs but extremely pragmatic in international affairs
- Not a fan of the British Empire/did not get along with many of the US presidents (Nixon, Reagan..)

1977 “Pirouette” -Queen Elizabeth II



Pierre Trudeau & CA-US Relations



Living next to you is in some ways like sleeping with an elephant. No matter how friendly and even-tempered is the beast, if I can call it that, one is affected by every twitch and grunt.

(Pierre Trudeau)

Pierre Trudeau & CA-US Relations

- Trudeau was not particularly interested in the US, even though trade/defence relations remained very relevant in the Cold War phase
- Trudeau's views on foreign affairs: very conventional; Balance of Power best left alone
- Got along with Ford, but found Reagan and Nixon baffling ("grade 2" level of joke 1981)

Economic nationalism in Canada**

- a movement aimed at achieving greater control by Canadians of their own economy
- Protectionism in trade & national ownership
- dates at least to the *National Policy of 1879*
- rapid increase of foreign ownership in the Canadian economy after WWII was linked to the rise of the multinational corporation.

The Walter Gordon Commission

- *Canada's Economic Prospects* (1955-57), under Walter L. Gordon, established in response to the growing tide of foreign ownership in the Canadian economy, estimated at that time to be about 40%.
- Noted the **growth of foreign direct investment**, concluded that perhaps "legitimate Canadian interests" were being compromised in the process; Canadians should be permitted at least part ownership in foreign-owned subsidiaries operating in Canada.

Surge of economic nationalism (60s) ** EXAM

- University League for Social Reform: *Nationalism in Canada* (1966).
- The book was followed by 3 more government-sponsored reports in the late 1960s and early 1970s which described various problems created by foreign-owned subsidiaries operating in Canada

Surge of economic nationalism (60s) ** EXAM

- The Watkins Task Force, in its **1968** report Foreign Ownership and the Structure of Canadian Industry, recommended the creation of a special agency to co-ordinate government policies and programs dealing with multinational corporations

1972 Gray Report *EXAM

- 1972 *Foreign Direct Investment in Canada*, known as the Gray Report after its chairman, Herb Gray, again recommended the creation of a "screening agency," but also specified the particular areas that should be considered in the decision to permit or forbid a foreign direct investment proposal.

FIRA (1974)

- Foreign Investment Review Agency (FIRA) set up in 1974 began to review all proposals for **foreign takeovers of existing businesses or the creation of new foreign-owned businesses in Canada**, for the purpose of ensuring maximum benefits to Canadians from these enterprises.
- National Energy Program, Petro Canada, etc..

The “Third Option” (1972) **EXAM

- Mitchell SHARP, secretary of state for external affairs, **calling for a lessening of US economic and cultural influence on Canada.**
- Noting an increasing nationalism on both sides of the border, the question of how to live "distinct from, but in harmony with" the US.
- He rejected 2 options, status quo and a deliberate policy of "closer integration with the United States."

The “Third Option” (1972) **EXAM

- Instead, he argued for a "third option" which would "develop and strengthen the Canadian economy and other aspects of its national life and in the process reduce the present Canadian vulnerability."
- Looking towards Asia & Japan...Ultimately failed because of geostrategic realities
- Mulroney's era: Free trade with the U.S.!

Trudeau & Communism



Trudeau & “Give Peace a Chance”



I must say that "Give Peace a Chance" has always seemed to me to be sensible advice.

— Pierre Trudeau —