Suggested Readings for the 34th Annual Camden Conference


China’s focus on becoming a polar great power and its implication for maritime and security, climate change and resources. 286 pages

Byers, Michael. Who Owns the Arctic?: Understanding Sovereignty Disputes in the North. Douglas & McIntyre. 2010. 192 pages

Control of the Northwest passage and its oil, gas, and territories; protecting its environment while seizing economic opportunities.

Dodds, Klaus and Mark Nuttall. The Scramble for the Poles: The Geopolitics of the Arctic and the Antarctic. Polity. 2015. 223 pages

A discussion of the “scramble for the poles”; the potential for conflict, the destruction of the world’s last wilderness, and longer historical and geopolitical patterns and processes of human activity in these remote territories.


Discussions of competition for land and resources, rooted in issues of rights, midst the threat of global climate change.

Ehrlich, Gretel. This Cold Heaven: Seven Seasons in Greenland. Vintage. 2003. 377 pages

A story of her travels with history and social anthropology revealing a Greenland and a clarity of life at the extreme edge of the world.


The Arctic; the center of the issues that will challenge our world in the 21st century: energy security and the struggle for natural resources, climate change and its uncertain speed and consequences, the return of great power competition, and the remaking of global trade patterns.


A journey from the Shetland Islands to Lapland: travel, history and mythology.

An account of the explorers and scientists racing to understand the rapidly melting ice sheet in Greenland, a harbinger of climate change.


How the arctic confounded vision, geographic knowledge, and humanistic truths.


An examination of Arctic defense policy and military security from the perspective of all eight Arctic states; Canada, Russia, Denmark (Greenland), Norway, the United States, Iceland, Sweden and Finland.


A comprehensive examination of Russia’s Arctic strategy, ranging from climate change issues and territorial disputes to energy policies and domestic challenges.


A groundbreaking exploration of the Far North, a classic of natural history, anthropology and travel writing.


An overview of the region from the Stone Age to the present, examining all its major aspects from a global perspective.


An exploration of emerging competition between the United States and its NATO allies and the resurgent Russian navy in the North Atlantic.


A historic account of the first women to overwinter in Svalbard.
Watt-Cloutier, Sheila. *The Right to Be Cold: One Woman’s Fight to Protect the Arctic and Save the Planet from Climate Change*. University of Minnesota Press. 2018. 368 pages

A chronicle of the life of the leading indigenous climate change, cultural and human rights advocate.


A definitive picture of life on the fringes, the Arctic, at once the most pristine place on earth and the focus of global warming.