

15POL 2082 U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: INSTITUTIONS, PROCESS, AND POLICY¹

Fall Semester 2017

Department of Political Science

University of Cincinnati

Class meets:

Tuesdays & Thursdays
3:30–4:50 pm
Location: Swift 716

Course instructor:

Dr. Ivan Dinev Ivanov*
Phone: 513-556-3318
Email:
ivanovid@ucmail.uc.edu

Instructor's Office Hours:

Tues & Thu: 10:15-12:15 pm
Tues & Thu: 2:00-3:00 pm
Location: 1121 Crosley Tower

* If you contact me via email, I should be able to get back to you within next 12-24 hrs.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The United States plays a distinctive role in contemporary international politics. Explaining how and why U.S. foreign policy decisions are being made provides the opportunity to understand not only the country's foreign policy, but also offers broader insight about overall international politics. This course will introduce the students to several key themes of U.S. foreign policy: its history, central actors, institutions and processes that collectively formulate specific foreign policies. Special attention will be paid to U.S. foreign policy during the 20th and at the outset of the 21st century with particular emphasis on the Cold War period, the post-Soviet era and the new challenges after September 11, 2001 and after the Great Recession of 2008-2009. The course is structured around several core aspects of U.S. foreign policy: (1) it surveys theoretical models of foreign policy making; (2) it explores the role and influence of various domestic institutions in the U.S. foreign policy making (the Executive, Congress, the bureaucracy); (3) it discusses the role of public opinion, the media and interest groups; (4) finally, the course reviews various implications of U.S. leadership in the context of international law and human rights, international institutions and alliances, political development and globalization.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The core objective of this class is **not** to acquire greater descriptive knowledge of recent American foreign policy but rather to develop skills to analyze critically events of U.S. foreign policy. At the end of the class students should be able to identify the key actors, institutions, and processes that lead to US foreign policy decisions. They should explain core concepts, logic, reasoning, findings, and authors associated with major theories of foreign policy. Additionally, students will develop the ability to explain historic events, relate these events to sources of decision-making, and apply contending approaches to evaluate critically various contemporary aspects of U.S. foreign policy. Finally, based on the knowledge and skills developed in this class, the students should be able to develop skills to conduct scholarly research of foreign policy and make valuable policy recommendations.

¹ This syllabus is subject to change. I reserve the right to add supplementary readings if necessary.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

<i>Course Requirements:</i>	<u>% of final grade</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Two in-class exams	40% (20% each)	10/12 and 11/16
Policy Memo	10%	11/30
Take-home final paper	25%	12/5/2017 @ 11:59
Debates (10% presentation + 5% participation)	15%	Weeks 8 thru 15
In-class attendance and participation	10%	throughout the semester

Grading Scale:

93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	0-59%	F

Please note that grades represent **NON-NEGOTIABLE** assessments of a student's comprehension of course material.

POLICIES AND CAVEATS:

If you have a disability that affects your performance in class, please notify the instructor **at the beginning of the semester** in order to find an accommodation that meets best student's interests. Also, for advice and assistance you may contact the university's disability services office, located in 210 University Pavilion, Phone (513) 556-6823, Email: disabisv@ucmail.uc.edu.

Students are expected to attend class, and attendance will be recorded at each class meeting. In the case of extraordinary circumstances (medical), I should be informed **PRIOR** to the test about the student's impending absence by email and documentation must be provided when you return to class. Absences due to illness or injury will not be excused retroactively unless documentation is provided to the instructor. A student who misses a total of **TEN (1/3)** or more class meetings will receive a class participation grade of zero (0), and may also have his or her overall course grade reduced. A student who has a total of **FOURTEEN (1/2)** or more unexcused absences will receive a course grade of F. Even though I do not necessarily require a note from the doctor, I expect you to contact me in advance (preferably by email) and inform me if you are not feeling well.

I do NOT plan makeup examinations or quizzes. However, I understand that sometimes students are unable to attend exams or presentations. In these cases, make-up exams will be arranged only with the instructor's permission, so please be sure to let me know as soon as possible if you will not be able to attend at the scheduled time.

Please note that the US Foreign Policy (USFP) discussions are important components of this

course and they bring a total of 15% of the overall grade. There are nine separate topics for discussion and each student should sign up to participate in one group presentation (see tentative schedule and info sheet). The topics vary—some require participants to present arguments in favor or against a foreign policy decision (similar to debates); others suggest a comprehensive presentation on theoretical and policy issues. Each presentation will consist of a panel of 5-6 students who will be divided into one or several groups (depending on the topic) and will have a total of 30-35 minutes (5 minutes per presenter) to make their case. Then, the rest of the class will join the discussion in asking questions and making points. The students will be evaluated based on their presentation as well as the questions that they raise and comments that they make from the audience. Please, note that **all students** should be familiar with the assigned readings (not only the presenters) in order to fully participate in a meaningful discussion. Please, review carefully the presentation handout.

The take home paper is the final assignment for this class. The students are required to select a topic of their own interest and submit a final paper/essay. The expected length of the essay is about 8-10 pages double spaced (2,500–2,800 words). Although I will not penalize slightly longer essays, works that do not meet the guidelines will be frowned upon. Start thinking about your research topic after the first midterm exam and make sure to discuss it with the instructor (including the research question, the hypothesis and the case(s) involved). Please, come to see me during office hours. The topic but should not necessarily be related to the topic of your discussion presentation. The final essay is due on **Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 11:59 pm**. You must submit the paper electronically via Blackboard under the “Assignments/ Final Paper” section.

Lastly, I need to remind you that all of the work you submit in this course is expected to be your own. Students should review the UC student code of conduct and be aware of all activities defined as academic dishonesty. Although I do encourage students to exchange ideas and/or work together on certain assignments, each student is responsible for completing and submitting his or her own homework. Please be advised that according to the UC Student Code of Conduct plagiarism is defined as:

Submitting another’s published or unpublished work in whole, in part or in paraphrase, as one’s own without fully and properly crediting the author with footnotes, quotation marks, citations, or bibliographical reference.

Submitting as one’s own original work, material obtained from an individual or agency without reference to the person or agency as the source of the material.

Submitting as one’s own original work material that has been produced through unacknowledged collaboration with others without release in writing from collaborators.

For further information on appropriate citation visit the University of Cincinnati’s library guide at: <http://guides.libraries.uc.edu/c.php?g=222556>. While political scientists prefer the MLA or the Chicago/ Turabian style, any widely format would be acceptable.

Please do not forget that all electronic devices (laptop computers, cell phones, i-pods,

tablets and other pieces of portable electronic equipment) should be muted during class time and can be used strictly for academic purposes. I will be very disappointed to hear ring tones during our class or see students using their devices for non-academic purposes (shopping, chatting, gaming, etc.). Feel free to use your laptop computers or i-pads to take notes but make sure that the sound is completely turned off. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation with this matter.

READINGS:

The following readings are required and are available for purchase at UC libraries (two books and other materials):

(1) Steven W. Hook, *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power*, CQ Press 5rd Edition (2017); ISBN: 978-1-5063-2158-5; Print Paperback or eText (available via VitalSource.com, ISBN: 9781506321608

(2) Ralph Carter, (ed.), *Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy: From Terrorism to Trade*, CQ Press (2014); ISBN: 978-1-4522-4154-8 (Print Paperback) or 9781483322995 (electronic version), bundle.

Please, note that the books are available as a bundle at a discounted price.

(3) Additional reading materials are available on Blackboard under "Reading Materials."

CLASS POWER POINTS:

Power Points are available on Blackboard, under "Course Documents."

COURSE OUTLINE

Week #/ SCHEDULE:

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION & SOURCES OF US FOREIGN POLICY

Why study US foreign policy? Different sources of foreign policy analysis: the individual (including the psychology of leaders).

Hook, Chapter 1, pp. 2-28
Class lecture(s)

WEEK 2 SOURCES OF US FOREIGN POLICY

Why study US foreign policy? Different sources of foreign policy analysis: the internal makeup of the state; and the structures of the international system.

Hook, Chapter 3, pp. 76-109
Class lecture(s)

WEEKS 3&4 IMPORTANT MILESTONES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICYMAKING

US Foreign Policy in the 18th, 19th and early 20th Centuries

Cold War politics – the U.S. administration from FDR to George H. W. Bush
The post-Cold war world and 9/11 – Clinton and George W. Bush
Hook, Chapter 2, pp. 30-75

WEEK 5: THE INSTITUTIONAL SETUP OF US FOREIGN POLICY: THE PRESIDENT

Hook, Chapter 4, pp. 110-136 (Presidency)
Jeffrey S. Lantis and Eric Moskowitz, “The Return of the Imperial Presidency? The Bush Doctrine and U.S. Intervention in Iraq” (Carter, Ch. 3), 66-101

WEEK 6: THE INSTITUTIONAL SETUP OF US FOREIGN POLICY: CONGRESS

Hook, Chapter 5, pp. 144-180 (Congress)

WEEK 7: THE INSTITUTIONAL SETUP OF US FOREIGN POLICY: THE BUREAUCRACY

Hook, Chapter 6, pp. 182-223 (The Bureaucracy)

WEEK 8: CLASS DISCUSSION AND MIDTERM EXAM I

Midterm Exam I

Discussion Topic #1: US foreign policy on international law and norms.

Louis Fisher, “National Security Surveillance: Unchecked or Limited Presidential Power?” (Carter, Ch. 13), pp. 378-408

Linda Cornett and Mark Gibney, “The Rights of Detainees: Determining the Limits of Law” (Carter, Ch. 14), pp. 409-434

Frédéric Gagnon and Ryan C. Hendrickson, “The United States versus Terrorism: From the Embassy Bombings in Tanzania and Kenya to the Surge in Afghanistan” (Carter, Ch. 1), pp. 11-40.

WEEK 9: ISSUES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: PUBLIC OPINION AND MASS MEDIA. FALL READING DAYS

Hook, Chapter 7, pp. 224-257 (The Public Opinion)

Hook, Chapter 8, pp. 258-292 (Mass Media)

Robert Oldendick and Barbara Bardes, “Mass and Elite Foreign Policy Opinions,” *Public Opinion Quarterly* 46, (1982), pp 368-382.

WEEK 10: DOMESTIC INFLUENCES ON FOREIGN POLICY: INTEREST GROUPS

Hook, Chapter 9, pp. 294-369 (Interest Groups)

Discussion Topic #2: Do Interest Groups Matter in USFP?

John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, “The Israel Lobby,” *London Review of Books*, Vol. 28, no. 6 (March 2006), read at:

<http://www.lrb.co.uk/v28/n06/john-mearsheimer/the-israel-lobby>

James McCormick, "Ethnic Interest Groups in American Foreign Policy" in *The Domestic Sources of American Foreign Policy* (ed.) James McCormick, Rowman and Littlefield 2012, pp. 67-88.

WEEK 11: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: NATIONAL SECURITY

Hook, Chapter 10, pp. 328-369

WEEK 12: CLASS DISCUSSION ON CONTEMPORARY ISSUES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Discussion Topic #3: US Diplomacy and Nuclear Security

Thomas Preston, "The Nuclear Standoff between the United States and Iran: Muscular Diplomacy and the Ticking Clock" (Carter, Ch. 4), pp. 102-131.

Patrick James and Özgür Özdamar, "The United States and North Korea: Avoiding a Worst-Case Scenario" (Carter, Ch. 5), pp. 132-162.

Gerald Felix Warburg "Nonproliferation Policy Crossroads: The U.S.-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement" (Carter, Ch. 6), pp. 163-189.

Discussion Topic #4: US Grand Strategy in the post-American world.

Ralph Carter and James Scott, "Hitting the Reset Button: Why Is Cooperation So Hard?" (Carter, Ch. 7), pp. 190-221.

Stephen Zunes, "Friendly Tyrants? The Arab Spring and the Egyptian Revolution" (Carter, Ch. 8), pp. 222-248.

Joyce P. Kaufman, "Chen Guangcheng: The Case of the Blind Dissident and U.S.-China Relations" (Carter, Ch. 9), pp. 249-272.

WEEK 13: ISSUES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY:

WEEK 13: ISSUES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: POLITICAL ECONOMY. MIDTERM EXAM

Hook, Chapter 11, pp. 370-381.

Midterm Exam II

WEEK 14: ISSUES OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

Hook, Chapter 11, pp. 389-401.

Thanksgiving break

WEEK 15: TRANSNATIONAL PROBLEMS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: MIGRATION & ENVIRONMENT

Discussion Topic #5: What is the Future of US Economic Leadership in the World?

Thomas Lairson, "The Global Financial Crisis: Governments, Banks and Markets" (Carter, Ch. 10), pp. 273-315.

Steven W. Hook and Franklin Barr Lebo, "Sino-American Trade Relations: Privatizing Foreign Policy," Carter, Ch. 11), pp. 316-346.

Hook, Chapter 12, pp. 402-434

Rodger A. Payne and Sean Payne, "The Politics of Climate Change: Will the U.S. Act to Prevent Calamity?" (Carter, Ch. 12), pp. 347-377

Conclusion; Q&As for the Final Paper

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Stephen Ambrose and Douglas G Brinkley, *Rise to Globalism: American Foreign Policy Since 1938* (8th Revised Edition, New York: Penguin Books, 1997)

Andrew Bennett and George Shambaugh, *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in American Foreign Policy* (New York: McGraw Hill, 2007)

Henry Kissinger, *Diplomacy* (Simon & Schuster, 1994)

Graham Allison, *The Essence of Decision*, Little Brown and Co, Boston, MA.

Joseph Nye, *Nuclear Ethics* (The Free Press, 1986)

Eugene R. Wittkopf and James M. McCormick (eds.), *The Domestic Sources of American Foreign Policy*, 4th edition (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2004)

Patrick Callahan, *Logics of American Foreign Policy: Theories of America's World Role* (New York: Pearson Longman, 2004)

Walter A. McDougall, *Promised Land, Crusader State: The American Encounter with the World since 1776* (New York: Mariner Books, 1997)

Rosemary Foot, S. Neil MacFarlane, & Michael Mastanduno (eds), *US Hegemony and International Organizations: The United States and Multilateral Institutions* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003)

James M. McCormick (ed.), *The Domestic Sources of American Foreign Policy: Insights and Evidence* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2012)

Ralph Carter (ed.), *Contemporary Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy: from Terrorism to Trade* (CQ Press, Washington, DC, 2011)

Laura Neack, *The New Foreign Policy: U.S. and Comparative Foreign Policy in the 21st Century* (Rowman and Littlefield Publisher 2003)

Joyce P. Kaufman, *A Concise History of U.S. Foreign Policy* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2006)

Christopher Layne, *The Peace of Illusions: American Grand Strategy from 1940 to the Present* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2006)

John Lewis Gaddis. *Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of Postwar American National Security Policy* (Oxford University Press: New York, 1982)

John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M Walt, *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy* (Farrar, Straus and Girous Paperbacks, 2008)

David Patrick Houghton, *U.S. Foreign Policy and the Iran Hostage Crisis* (New York and Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001)

_____, *The Decision Point: Six Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy Decision Making* (Oxford University press: 2012)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
Week One 8/22-8/24	8/22 Introduction to the class. Sources of USFP	8/24 Individual Sources of US Foreign Policy
Week Two 8/29-8/31	8/29 State-related sources of USFP	8/31 Systemic sources of US foreign policy
Week Three 9/5-9/7	9/5 Historical overview of USFP (18-19c)	9/7 Overview US Foreign Relations (early and mid-20c)
Week Four 9/12-9/14	9/12 Overview US Foreign Relations (Cold War and post-Cold War)	9/14 History's Influence on contemporary US Foreign Relations: an overview
Week Five 9/19-9/21	9/19 The German Elections and US-German relat. (Kade Center, Old Chem)	9/21 Presidency and US Foreign Policy (Part 1)
Week Six 9/26-9/28	9/26 The Institutional Setup of US Foreign Policy: Presidency & Congress	9/28 Congress and US Foreign Policy (Part 2)
Week Seven 10/3-10/5	10/3 Bureaucracy and US Foreign Policy (Part 1)	10/5 Bureaucracy and US Foreign Policy (Part 2)
Week Eight 10/10-10/12	10/10 Fall Readings Days (no classes)	10/12 Midterm I
Week Nine 10/17-10/19	10/17 Class discussion #1: what should be US policy on int'l law and norms?	10/19 Public Opinion, Mass Media and US Foreign Policy
Week Ten 10/24-10/26	10/24 Interest Groups and US Foreign Policy	10/26 Class discussion #2: Do Interest Groups Matter in USFP?
Week Eleven 11/31-11/2	10/31 US National Security: Grand Strategy	11/2 US National Security: Nuclear Security & Terrorism
Week Twelve 11/7-11/9	11/7 Discussion #3: Does US diplomacy strengthen nuclear security?	11/9 Discussion #4: What should be US grand strategy in the post-American world?
Week Thirteen 11/14-11/16	11/14 Foreign Policy and Int'l Political Economy	11/16 Midterm II
Week Fourteen 11/21-11/23	11/21 US Foreign Policy and Economic Statecraft	11/23 Thanksgiving holiday (no classes)
Week Fifteen 11/28-11/30	11/28 Discussion #5: What is the future of US Economic Leadership in the world?	11/30 USFP & Transnational Problems: Migration & Environment Review Session; Q&A about the final Policy Memo Due in Class

Final take home exam due 12/5/2017 @ 11:59 (submission via Blackboard)