

POLS 6080: American Foreign Relations

Fall 2013

Course Details

Instructor	Armin Krishnan
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Time	N/A
Location	Distance Education
Office	Brewster A, R.119
Office Hours	Monday 2pm to 4:30pm Wednesday 2pm to 4:30pm

Course Description

This course will focus on the principles, policies, and processes of contemporary American foreign policy. We will analyze Cold War trends and legacies, emerging new issues, and the redefinition of American foreign policy roles/responsibilities in the aftermath of Soviet-American bipolar competition. There will be at least two examinations (includes final examination) and one or more analytical exercises. Format will be lecture/discussion/debate.

Learning Objectives

After taking this course students shall be able to:

- Name and discuss the basic values, objectives, and principles that have historically shaped US foreign policy.
- Outline the development of US foreign policy from the Presidency of Woodrow Wilson to George W. Bush.
- Understand the institutional process of making foreign policy, as well as the political process that influences and constrains it.
- Analyze and discuss the roles of the President, the political parties, Congress, and the media in US foreign policy.
- Identify current US foreign policy priorities and the core objectives within the context of US grand strategy.
- Analyze the most important current challenges of US foreign relations, especially with respect to the War on Terror, the American empire, the transatlantic alliance, the relations with competing world powers such as

Russia and China, and the relations with some problematic allies like Israel and Pakistan.

- Articulate their own perspectives on important issues in the field.
- Demonstrate active learning and engagement through critical questioning, synthesis and evaluation of course readings and resource materials, active discussion, written and oral presentation, and analytical writing.

Contact Policy

Students have to access Blackboard and their student e-mail on a regular basis, at least twice a week. You can reach me by e-mail (KrishnanA@ecu.edu) or you can call my office phone during office hours. It is possible to set up a virtual meeting via SabaMeeting, which is an application you may have to download on your device. I will try to respond to e-mails in a timely fashion (within two days). Do not expect me to be available every day and all the time.

Course Outline

Date	Week	Topic	Assessments
		Part I: The Making of US Foreign Policy	
19 Aug	Week 01:	1: The Role of the President, NSC, and State Department	
28 Aug	Week 02:	2: The Military and Intelligence Bureaucracies	
02 Sept	Week 03:	3: The Role of Congress, the Political Parties, Interest Groups, the Media, and Public Opinion	
		Part II: History of American Foreign Relations	
09 Sept	Week 04:	1: From Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points to the Second World War	
16 Sept	Week 05:	2: Strategies of Containment – From the Truman Doctrine to Eisenhower's 'New Look'	

23 Sept	Week 06:	3: Kennedy, Johnson, and the Debacle of Vietnam	Essay 1 Due
30 Sept	Week 07:	4: Nixon, Détente, the new Cold War, Reagan, and the End of the Soviet Union	
07 Oct	Week 08:	No Lecture	Mid-Term Exam
		Part III: Contemporary Challenges to American Foreign Relations	
14 Oct	Week 09:	1: The Limits of Power: The Only Superpower, Rogue States, and the War on Terror	
21 Oct	Week 10:	2: The American Empire in Peril – American Foreign Relations in the Middle East, Africa, and Central Asia	
28 Oct	Week 11:	3: In Need of an Exit Strategy: Iraq and Afghanistan	
04 Nov	Week 12:	4: Relations with Russia after the End of the Cold War	Essay 2 Due
11 Nov	Week 13:	5: The Rise of China and US Foreign Relations with the Asia-Pacific Region	
18 Nov	Week 14:	6: Troubled and Troubling Allies: US Foreign Policy and Europe	
		Conclusion	
25 Nov	Week 15:	US Grand Strategy and the Future of US Foreign Policy	
02 Dec	Week 16:	No Lecture	Final Exam

Your Reading Material

There is one basic textbook that is required for this course. Students should purchase this book and read the relevant sections as assigned every week. Many of the weekly readings are based on these textbooks. However, in addition students

also have to look at journal articles that will be made available to them on Blackboard.

- James McCormick (2009), American Foreign Policy & Process, Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 5th edition.
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Readings	
Week	Readings
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 247-306, 359-410. • LaFeber, Walter (2007), "Some Perspectives in US Foreign Relations," <u>Diplomatic History</u> 31:3, pp. 423-426. • Meernik, James (1994), "Presidential Decision-Making and the Political Use of Military Force," <u>International Studies Quarterly</u> 38:1, pp. 121-138. • Adler, David Gray (2003), "Presidential Greatness as an Attribute of Warmaking," <u>Presidential Studies Quarterly</u> 33:3, pp. 466-483.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 411-472. • Cohen, Michael (2009), "Arms for the World: How the US Military Shapes Foreign Policy," <u>Dissent</u> 56:4, pp. 69-74. • Morrissey, John (2011), "Architects of Empire: The Military-Strategic Studies Complex and the Scripting of US National Security," <u>Antipode</u> 43:2, pp. 435-470. • Pillar, Paul R. (2012), "Think Again: Intelligence," <u>Foreign Policy</u> 191, pp. 51-55.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 308-358, 473-596. • Rockman, Bert A. (2000), "Reinventing What for Whom? President and Congress in the Making of Foreign Policy," <u>Presidential Studies Quarterly</u> 30:1, pp. 133-154. • Bacevich, Andrew (2011), "The Tyranny of Defense, Inc.," <u>The Atlantic</u> 307:1, pp. 74-79. • Raymond, Jack (1968), "Growing threat of our military-industrial complex," <u>Harvard Business Review</u> 46:3, pp. 53-64.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 1-29. • Clements, Kendrick (2004), "Wilson and World War I," <u>Presidential Studies Quarterly</u> 34:1, pp. 62-82. • Russell, Greg (1995), "Madison's Realism and the Role of Domestic Ideals in Foreign Affairs," <u>Presidential Studies Quarterly</u> 25:4, pp. 711-723.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 35-68. • Smith, Joseph (2001), "Origins and Endings: The Historical Debate,"

	<p><u>Global Dialogue</u> 3.4, pp. 111-118.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siracusa, Joseph M. (2001), 'The "New" Cold War History and the Origins of the Cold War,' <u>Australian Journal of Politics and History</u> 47:1, pp. 149-155. • Botts, Joshua (2006), ' "Nothing to seek and...nothing to defend": George F. Kennan's Core Values and American Foreign Policy, 1938-1993,' <u>Diplomatic History</u> 30:5, pp. 839-866.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 69-97. • Cuddy, Edward (2003), "Vietnam: Mr Johnson's or Mr Eisenhower's?," <u>Review of Politics</u> 65:4, pp. 351-374. • Freedman, Lawrence (1996), "Vietnam and the Disillusioned Strategist," <u>International Affairs</u> 72:1, pp. 133-151. (2009), • McAllister, James (2011), "Who Lost Vietnam? Soldiers, Civilians, and US Military Strategy," <u>International Security</u> 35:3, pp. 95-123.
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick (2009), <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 101-200. • Cox, Michael (1984), 'From Détente to the "New Cold War": The Crisis of the Cold War System,' <u>Millennium: Journal of International Studies</u> 13:3, pp. 265-291. • Dobson, Alan P. (2005), "The Reagan Administration, Economic Warfare, and Starting to Close Down the Cold War," <u>Diplomatic History</u> 29:3, pp. 531-556.
8	Mid-Term Exam
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick, <u>American Foreign Policy & Process</u>, pp. 359-464 • Leffler, Melvin (2005), "9/11 and American Foreign Policy," <u>Diplomatic History</u> 29:3, pp. 395-413. • Boyle, Michael J. (2008), "The War on Terror in American Grand Strategy," <u>International Affairs</u> 84:2, pp. 191-209.
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Güney, Aylin & Fulya Gökcan (2010), 'The "Greater Middle East" as a "Modern" Geopolitical Imagination in American Foreign Policy,' <u>Geopolitics</u> 15:1, pp. 22-38. • Bali, Asli & Aziz Rana (2010), "American Overreach: Strategic Interests and Millennial Ambitions in the Middle East", <u>Geopolitics</u>, 15:2, pp. 210-238. • Haquani, Husain (2013), "Breaking Up Is Not Hard to Do", <u>Foreign Affairs</u>, 92:2, pp. 64-76.
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pillar, Paul R. (2006), "Intelligence, Policy, and the War on Iraq", <u>Foreign Affairs</u>, 85:2, pp. 15-27. • Rubin, Barnett R, Amin Saikal & Julian Lindley French (2009), "The Way Forward in Afghanistan: Three Views," <u>Survival</u> 51:1, pp. 83-96. • McCrisken, Trevor (2012), "Justifying Sacrifice: Barack Obama and the selling and ending of the war in Afghanistan", <u>International</u>

	<u>Affairs</u> , 88:5, pp. 993-1007.
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, Robert D. (2009), 'A "Reset" for Relations? Understanding Russian Grievances,' <u>Global Dialogue</u> 11, pp. 50-63. Cohen, Stephen F. (2011), 'Obama's "Russia Reset": Another Lost Opportunity', <u>The Nation</u>, 292:25, pp. 11-18. Hahn, Gordon M. (2013), 'Russia in 2012: From "Thaw" and "Reset" to "Freeze", <u>Asian Survey</u>, 53:1, pp. 214-223.
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossin, Meghan A. (2010), "Engaging China: Obama's Struggle to Define a New Framework for Sino-American Relations", <u>Washington Journal of Modern China</u>, 9:2, pp. 1-12. Robert Sutter (2010), "The United States and China in Southeast Asia", <u>Southeast Asian Affairs</u>, pp. 44-59. Friedberg, Aaron (2012), "Bucking Beijing: An Alternative U.S. China Policy," <u>Foreign Affairs</u> 91:5, pp. 48-58.
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gordon, Philip H. (2009), "Strengthening the Transatlantic Alliance: An Overview of the Obama Administration's Policies in Europe", <u>DISAM Journal of International Security Assistance Management</u>, 31:3, pp. 38-49. Vaisse, Justin (2012), "Will Europe Arrest Its Strategic Fade?," <u>Policy Review</u> 172, pp. 95-107. Kupchan, Charles A. (2012), "A Still Strong Alliance," <u>Policy Review</u> 172, pp. 59-70.
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miller, Paul D. (2012), "Five Pillars of American Grand Strategy," <u>Survival</u> 54:5, pp. 7-44. Lieber, Robert J. (2011), "Staying Power and the American Future: Problems of Primacy, Policy, and Grand Strategy," <u>Journal of Strategic Studies</u> 34:4, pp. 509-530. Nye, Joseph (2012), 'The Twenty-First Century Will Not Be a "Post-American" World,' <u>International Studies Quarterly</u> 56:1, pp. 215-217.

Assessment

All students have to submit one 2,500 word essay on Friday of week six (27 September) and another 2,500 word essay due on Friday in week 12 (8 November). Essay questions are listed below.

In addition, there will be graded weekly discussions. Every student has to post a statement of a length of 100 to 150 words that answers the weekly discussion question or that responds to the statement of another student by Wednesday noon each week. There are no discussions for weeks 1, 6, 8, 12, and 15. This means that every student has to do a total of 10 graded discussion postings.

There will be one mid-term exam in week eight (07 October) and a final exam in week 16 (02 December). The mid-term exam will cover material from the weeks one to eight and the final exam will cover materials from the weeks ten to fifteen. The exam questions refer to the weekly reading materials and will include objective questions and short essay questions.

Late Work Policy

All assignments must be completed as scheduled. Late or make-up work will not be accepted unless I have approved your reason for handing in an assignment late. Assignments received late without good reason will receive a grade deduction.

Grading

Assessment			
Assignments	1	2	Total
Essays	20%	20%	40%
Exams	20%	20%	40%
Discussion Postings	2% each		20%
Total			100%

Grading Scale		
Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point
90-100%	A	4.0
80-89%	B	3.0
70-79%	C	2.0
60-69%	D	1.0
0-59%	F	0

Grading Criteria Essays	
Criterion	Extent to which Criterion is met
Argument	Stated in introduction? Convincing? Original?
Analysis	Critical discussion/evaluation of facts? Conclusions logical?
Coherence	Line of argumentation? Contradictions? Terms used consistently?
Structure	Is the essay structured? Logical structure? Systematic approach?
Research	Enough relevant sources? Quality of sources? Primary sources?
Formal Criteria	Grammar/ punctuation? Page numbers? Paragraphs? Referencing? Bibliography?

Grading Criteria Discussion Postings	
Criterion	Extent to which Criterion is met
Argument/ Content	Topic/question addressed? Convincing argument? Originality?

Structure/ Organization	Structure/organization effective? Logical? Systematic?
Research	Topic well-researched? Facts accurate? Important things missing?

Essay Questions

Essay 1	Questions
Either:	Discuss why the US pursued a détente with the Soviet Union and why the policy ultimately failed.
Or:	How did Ronald Reagan win the Cold War?
Essay 2	Questions
Either:	Is Congress losing its power and influence over the making of foreign policy to the executive branch? Discuss.
Or:	Has the War on Terror replaced the Cold War as the dominant long-term paradigm and rationale of US foreign policy?

Weekly Discussions Topics

Week	Discussion Question
1	Orientation week
2	In what ways does the War Powers Act limit the President to use military force overseas? Refer in your answer to a specific historical example.
3	Is there a 'military-industrial complex' and if so, to what extent can and does it influence US foreign policy and national security strategy?
4	Why was the US so reluctant to enter the First World War in Europe and did the American contribution make a difference?
5	Who was mostly responsible for the beginning of the Cold War: The US or the Soviet Union?
6	First essay due
7	Is it accurate to say that détente and strategic arms control were ultimately a failure?
8	Mid-term exam
9	What makes the American empire different from other empires that existed in history?
10	Should the US end its strategic partnership with Pakistan?
11	Why is it so difficult to end American involvement in Afghanistan and what are the prospects for this country?
12	Second essay due
13	Is the 21 st century going to be a Chinese century similarly as the 20 th was the American century?
14	Will the transatlantic partnership with Europe remain as important for US foreign policy as it was during the Cold War or is Europe destined to become less and less relevant for US foreign relations?
15	Exam preparation

Referencing

Students have to use multiple sources and support substantive statements or not commonly known or controversial facts with references. Any citation, direct or

indirect, from another source has to be referenced. Students should use footnotes for references that include all the necessary bibliographical information.

Books should be referenced in the following way:

Mark Lowenthal (2009), Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy, Washington, DC: CQPress, p. 86.

Journal Articles should be referenced in the following way:

Richard J. Aldrich (2009), "Global Intelligence Cooperation vs. Accountability: New Facets to an Old Problem," Intelligence and National Security 24 (1), p. 26.

Internet Sources should be referenced in the following way:

Bowman H. Miller, "The Death of Secrecy...Need to Know with Whom to Share," Studies in Intelligence 55 (3), <https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/csi-studies/studies/vol.-55-no.-3/the-death-of-secrecy-need-to-know...with-whom-to-share.html>, accessed 26 October 2011.

Further Literature

Ambrose, Stephen E. & Douglas G. Brinkley (1997), Rise to Globalism: American Foreign Policy Since 1938, London: Penguin.

Art, Robert J, Peter Feaver, Richard Fontaine, Kristin M. Lord & Anne-Marie Slaughter (2012), America's Path: Grand Strategy for the Next Administration, Center for a New American Security.

Boot, Max (2003), The Savage Wars of Peace: Small Wars and the Rise of American Power, New York: Basic Books.

Brzezinski, Zbigniew (1998), The Grand Chessboard: American Primacy and Its Geostrategic Imperatives, New York: Basic Books.

Brzezinski, Zbigniew (2012), Strategic Vision: America and the Crisis of Global Power, New York: Basic Books.

Clapp, Priscilla, Morton Halperin & Arnold Kanter (2006), Bureaucratic Politics and Foreign Policy, Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2nd edition.

Cox, Michael & Doug Stokes (2012), US Foreign Policy, Oxford: oxford University Press, 2nd edition.

Ferguson, Niall (2005), Colossus: The Rise and Fall of the American Empire, London: Penguin Books.

Friedberg, Aaron L. (2012), A Contest for Supremacy: China, America, and the Struggle for Mastery in Asia, New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

Gaddis, John Lewis (2005), Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of American National Security Policy during the Cold War, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Herring, George C. (2011), From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations From 1776, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Hook, Steven W. (2013), US Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power, Washington, DC: CQ Press, 4th edition.

Hook, Steven W. & John Spanier (2013), American Foreign Policy Since World War II, Washington, DC: CQ Press, 19th edition.

- Hunt, Michael H. (2009), Ideology and U.S. Foreign Policy, New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Huntington, Samuel P. (2011), The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order, New York: Simon & Schuster.
- Jentleson, Bruce W. (2010), American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century, New York: W.W. Norton & Company.
- Kegley, Charles W. & Gregory A. Raymond (2007), After Iraq: The Imperilled American Imperium, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Lantis, Jeffrey S. (2013), US Foreign Policy in Action: An Innovative Teaching Text, Oxford: Wiley Blackwell.
- Lenczowski, John (2011), Full Spectrum Diplomacy and Grand Strategy: Reforming the Structure and Culture of U.S. Foreign Policy, Plymouth, UK: Lexington Books.
- Pillar, Paul R. (2011), Intelligence and Foreign Policy: Iraq, 9/11, and Misguided Reform, New York: Columbia University Press.
- Vali, Nasr (2013), The Dispensable Nation: US Foreign Policy in Retreat, New York: Doubleday.
- Wittkopf, Eugene R., Christopher M. Jones & Charles W. Kegley (2007), American Foreign Policy: Pattern and Process, Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.

Journals

- American Foreign Policy Interests
- Brown Journal of World Affairs
- Diplomatic History
- Foreign Affairs
- Foreign Policy Journal
- Georgetown Journal of International Affairs
- International Affairs
- Journal of Cold War Studies
- Journal of International Affairs
- Survival
- The Washington Quarterly
- World Politics

Academic Integrity (per university policy)

1. Dishonesty. This is lack of integrity exhibited through lying, cheating, defrauding or deceiving. Examples of dishonesty include: copying from the examinations paper of another, allowing one's own paper to be copied, reading without the instructor's consent a copy of the examination prior to the date it is given, giving or receiving and using unauthorized aid on a take-home examination, use of unauthorized aids, submitting the same work product in more than one course without the express permission of the instructor(s), or disclosing or accepting information if one takes a test at a different than other students in the same course.
2. Plagiarism. This is stealing or using the ideas or writings of another as one's own. It involves failure to acknowledge material copied from others or failure to acknowledge one's own indebtedness to another for the gist of important thoughts in a formal statement, written or oral. Charges of violating academic

integrity shall be handled according to established student discipline procedures.

3. Charges of violating academic integrity shall be handled through university disciplinary proceedings to determine whether the student will be allowed to remain enrolled at university – at a minimum students will receive a grade of F for this course for any incident of dishonesty or plagiarism.
4. All students will be required to read available documents on Blackboard concerning academic integrity and plagiarism and acknowledge a statement on academic integrity. Students should also familiarize themselves with University policy with regard to disciplinary actions and procedures regarding incidents of violation of academic integrity policies found at <http://www.ecu.edu/studentlife/scr/>.

Disabilities Statement

ECU seeks to fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a covered disability must go to Disability Support Services (Slay 138, phone 737-1016 (Voice/TTY)), to verify the disability before accommodations can be made.

Changes to the Curriculum

The schedule, curriculum, and assigned readings are subject to change. Should changes to the schedule, curriculum or readings occur I will notify all students of these changes in a timely manner (at least one week in advance). All students have to check their university e-mail on a regular basis, as this will ensure the successful communication between instructor and students.