Syllabus/Course Outline
American Foreign Policy Process
Fall 2016

INST 3366; POSC 4354; MLINS/MLPOS 6354

(Subject to change/revisions)

The course is intended to be a mix of Foreign Policy theory, and the craft of diplomacy/persuasion.

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Students With Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to speak with me as early as possible. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities will also need to contact Counseling and Disability Services in Crooker Center. This office can be reached at (713) 525-3162 or 6953. Additionally, you will need to register with the Counseling and Disability Services Office in Crooker Center; a professor is unable to unilaterally grant ADA consideration to students.

READING

There will be three required books:


Current Events Reading: Students will be expected to keep up with foreign policy & international issues during the term. Students can select any daily/weekly source of news and analysis on U.S. foreign policy events, e.g, NYT, Washington Post, BBC, Time or The Economist, U.S. News, Foreign Policy, etc. The key will be to keep up with it on a daily/weekly basis.

Other readings: Periodically, additional required reading will be xeroxed and handed out along the way, and/or posted on Blackboard.

Also included are more "suggested" (non-mandatory) and “optional” (for the student looking for more detail/depth) readings that may be of interest for each segment of the course. The student will not be responsible for these.
EXAMS and PAPERS and GRADES

Exams: 3 - Current Events/Reading; Mid-Term; and Final

Papers: One Term Paper, details to follow

Grades: 10% - Class participation
10% - Current Events Exam
20% - Mid-Term
30% - Paper
30% - Final

NOTE: There may be one or more unannounced “pop quizzes” based on both the course readings and current foreign policy events in the media. These will count for a total of 10% of the grade, and Term Paper and Final Exam percentages will be adjusted accordingly.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

NOTE: GRADUATE STUDENTS NEED TO CONSULT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS. The quality of work from graduate students should be, by definition, superior in most instances to undergraduate work. Graduate students:
• are always welcome to meet with me to discuss the course material at greater length.
• should exhibit a greater ability to summarize and synthesize information.
• are expected to read all articles posted on Blackboard.
• are expected to contribute to class discussion on a regular basis.

On examinations, graduate students will also be held to a higher standard with regard to the precision of answers. In other words, partial credit will be limited.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a representation of another person's work as your own (for example, directly quoting from another source without using quotation marks). See the University of St. Thomas' Regulation on "Scholastic Dishonesty" for discussion and range of available penalties. Plagiarism will be punished to the maximum extent possible. If a student is found to have committed an act of scholastic dishonesty, I will recommend the most severe penalty.
The Course

The course will have three segments (I-III below), plus an optional "current events" segment (IV below):

I. Analytical Structure - Nation-States, Their Component Parts & Players, and Their Interactions (Understanding the Structure that Drives the Policy)

A. Introduction/Framework/Housekeeping/Responsibilities/Current Events

B. Analysis Framework & the Components of a Nation-State:
   - religious, intellectual;
   - social & economic;
   - political & military


   Required Reading: Quigley, Carroll, *Development of Civilizations*, Chapters 2-5 [BLACKBOARD, Nation-States – Quigley]

C. Actors & Players in the U.S. Nation-State,
   - The Home Front – Domestic Inputs
   - Domestic Political "Tribes"


D. Leaders & Persuasion – Leadership & Personal Interaction

   Required Readings: *The Powers to Lead*, Joseph Nye, Jr., Oxford University Press (2008),

   Optional Reading: Machiavelli’s *The Prince*


   Required Reading: Mario Puzo’s *The Godfather*

F. Current Events/Reading Exam
II. The Tools of Foreign Policy – The “Tool Kit”  
(Levers to Make, Shape & Carry Out Policy)

A. Basic Political Federal Components & Players – Executive Agencies, Congress, etc.
   - Presidency & White House Structure
   - State Dept.
   - Congress
   - Judiciary


B. International Organizations & NGO's
   - The United Nations
   - Red Cross, Doctors without Borders, etc.
   - Allies, Alliances & Treaties
     - Ex. NATO – pol-mil system
     - EX. NAFTA – econ/commercial system


   Albright, Madeleine, UN Charts & “Who Broke the UN,” Foreign Policy, Sept/October 2012 [BLACKBOARD, Tools – IO's & NGO’s – UN Charts]


C. Economic/Commercial - Trade, Banking, Finance, Aid
   - Depts of Treasury & Commerce, etc
   - WTO
   - IMF
   - World Bank


D. Intelligence, Overt - Media & Mass Opinion

- Open reporting, Statistics, Data Collection
- Analysis & Comment


*Suggested Reading:* Friedman, George, “The American Public’s Indifference to Foreign Affairs,” *Stratfor*, Feb 18, 2014 [Blackboard, Tools]

E. Intelligence, Covert

- Collection and analysis of – “10 pieces of a 100-piece puzzle”


CIA, The Intelligence Cycle [BLACKBOARD, Tools – Intelligence – CIA Intel Cycle]


Intelligence Community Directive Number 204, Sept 13, 2007 [BLACKBOARD, Tools - Intelligence]


F. Force & Military Tools - Saber-Rattling, Police Actions, War


G.  Mid-Semester Exam

III. Case Studies/Analysis -- Foreign Policy & Historical Periods/Events (Lessons from The Good, the Bad, and the Muddles)

A.  The Dawn of American World Diplomacy – Teddy Roosevelt & Woodrow Wilson
   - The Not-So-Good – Roosevelt’s Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine
   - The Muddle – U.S.-Europe Relations leading up to WWI and Wilson’s League of Nations


B.  Russia - Yalta, Containment, Early Cold War, & Putin

   - The Bad? - Yalta Conference (video)
   - Cold War (Kennan)
   - Putin & A New Cold War?

   Required Readings: American Foreign Relations: a History Since 1895 (Volume 2), Paterson, et.al., pgs 200-215 [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – Russia, Yalta - Paterson]

   George Kennan’s original “Long Telegram”
   [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – Russia, Kennan’s Long Telegram]

   [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – Russia, ISAB Report]


C.  China – Open Door, Nixon Opening, and Aftermath

   - The Good - Roosevelt’s Mediation of the Russo-Japanese War
   - Nixon’s Opening (video & reading)
   - New Markets, South China Sea, etc.?

   Required Reading: American Foreign Relations: a History Since 1895 (Volume 2), Paterson, et.al., pgs 51-55, 361-365 [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – China, Paterson]

Colby & Ratner, “Roiling the Waters,” Foreign Policy, January-February 2014 [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – China]

Optional Reading:
Kissinger, Henry, Memoir Readings 1-4, [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – China]

IV. Today’s Issues in Foreign Policy
(U.S. National Interests & Strategy for the 2nd Decade of the 21st Century: No Longer Nation-States, But Pan-Global Forces?)

(THE LAST SECTION IS OPTIONAL – Topics Covered Will Depend on Current Events in Semester / As a General Rule, Current Events will be discussed as they unfold during the Semester)

A. The “New” Middle East – Syria, Iraq, ISIL, Libya, etc


B. Cyberspace Threats, Cyber War, & Privacy
(Guest Speaker – Eric Botts, Security Consultant & Former State Dept. Officer)

Required Reading: Botts, Eric, “Cyberspace Threats, Cyber War, & Privacy, PowerPoint [BLACKBOARD, 21st Century Issues – Cyberspace]


C. The Information Age & Globalization


Suggested Reading: Kalathil, Shanthi, “DotCom for Dictators,” Foreign Policy, March/April 2003 (available in Doherty Library database)

Suggested Reading: Ferguson, Niall, “Power,” Think Again Section, Foreign Policy, Jan/Feb 2003 [Blackboard: 21st Century – Info Age & Globalization]
D. Commerce/Trade – Challenges for the 21st Century


E. Arab-Israeli – Evolving Toward Peace?
   - Failed international efforts
   - Sec. Kissinger’s post-1973 diplomacy
   - President Carter, *intifadas*, and the Oslo Process – the interminable muddle

**Required Readings:** *American Foreign Relations: a History Since 1895 (Volume 2)*, Paterson, et.al., pgs 374-379, 419-420 [BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – Arab-Israeli, Paterson]

Indyk, Martin, “Trusteeship for Palestine?,” *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2003 (BLACKBOARD, Case Studies – Arab-Israeli - Indyk)


*Suggested Readings:*
   - Friedman, Thomas, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, Anchor Books, 1995

I. Valedictory / Current Events Analysis