

Political Science 3144: American Foreign Policy

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Office Hours:
M, W 8:30-10:00, 3:00-4:00
Or by Appointment

Time and Location:
M, W, F 11:00-11:50
BD-205

Course Description:

From Washington's farewell address warning of foreign entanglements to the Cold War and to our present War on Terrorism, our country's foreign policy has evolved and changed over the history of our country. This course seeks to examine the formation and conduct of American Foreign Policy. Throughout the course, we will address several basic questions. A few include: What is foreign policy and what are the factors that have shaped current American foreign policy? How has American foreign evolved from the 18th century to the present? What are the primary institutions and bureaucracies in the United States that affect foreign policymaking? What is current American foreign policy towards important areas such as Asia, Russia, and the Middle East? What are the major policy/ethical/legal issues in contemporary US foreign policy?

Required Reading:

Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bennett, Andrew and George Shambaugh. 2010. Taking Sides: Clashing Views in American Foreign Policy. Dubuque: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin.

I have also assigned various other readings. These are all available on the course's Blackboard page.

Course Requirements and Grading

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade Weight</u>	<u>Date</u>
Midterm Exam	20%	Friday, October 12
Final Exam	25%	Friday, December 7 11:00 - 1:30
Unannounced Quiz (total of 5)	15% (3% each)	N/A
Debate Leadership/Discussion	15%	TBA
Paper Assignment	15%	Friday, November 16
Attendance/Participation	10%	N/A

Midterm - The test will be taken in class and consist of 20-25 questions and a short essay.

Final - The final exam will be taken in class and is cumulative. It will also consist of 20-25 questions, a short essay about a topic covered after midterm, and another short essay integrating everything we have learned.

Unannounced Quizzes - I will randomly assign 5 quizzes throughout the semester. These will be given in class and will concern the reading that is due for that day. I will assign them based on participation and feedback. The format will be multiple choice. These are meant to ensure that you do the reading. If you

read, these should be relatively simple. An additional bonus is that these questions have a habit of showing up on the two exams.

Debate Leadership - Early in the semester, you will be grouped into small teams to debate a current foreign policy topic. Each team will choose a topic from the Bennett and Shambaugh text. The team will then be divided into a “yes” and “no” side. Starting on Friday, October 5, two teams (each consisting of one “yes” and one “no” side) will lead two discussions (one after another). Each side will have 5 minutes to present their arguments. The two sides will spend the next 10 minutes debating over the issue. Each debate will be followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. It is the responsibility of your team to select a date and topic by Friday, September 14.

You will be graded on your individual contribution. However, this does not mean that you have to work separately; in fact, cooperation amongst team members often yields higher grades. I will deduct points for factual inconsistencies, repetitions, and lack of organization. Makeups, in the form of a paper (in addition to the one listed below) will be considered in extraordinary circumstances. Both exams will include questions on the debates covered.

Paper – The debates will be accompanied by a writing assignment. This assignment will be on the issue you have selected for the debate. The purpose of this assignment is to provide a written defense of your side of the issue.

Your paper should be structured as follows. First, a brief introduction of the issue you selected. Second, you should provide a summary of the arguments of both sides and discuss the weaknesses of the opposing view. Third, you should express your opinion and support it with logic and evidence. A bibliography is required at the end of the paper.

Please use the Bennett and Shambaugh text as a basis for your paper. You should also conduct additional library or internet research to support your argument. In addition to the course reading, the paper should cite at least three additional sources that may include books, academic journal articles, and some other credible online publications. You may also integrate materials from class lectures and other reading assignments when possible. This paper should be 5 or 6 pages in length – no less. The paper will be due at the beginning of class on Friday, November 16. Further instructions will be discussed at a later date.

Attendance/Participation - Students are expected to participate actively in class and contribute to class discussion. In addition, attendance is obviously important. Late arrivals will be noted and repeated instances of being late will negatively affect your grade. In regards to absences, please contact me before class if you are unable to attend. Please note that attending and participating are two different things – just regular attendance without participation will be considered “average”; as a result, this portion of your grade will be given an “average” grade of C.

Grading Scale:

Grades will be based on a 100 point scale:

A Range = 90 - 100

A = 93 to 100

A - = 90 to 92.99

B Range = 80 - 89.99

B + = 87 to 89.99
B = 83 to 86.99
B - = 80 to 82.99

C Range = 70 - 79.99
C + = 77 to 79.99
C = 73 to 76.99
C - = 70 to 72.99

D Range = 60 - 69.99
D + = 67 to 69.99
D = 63 to 67.99
D - = 60 to 62.99

F = 59.99 or below

Note

All assignments are to be hard-copy, word-processed documents. No emailed attachments are accepted. Late assignments are penalized 10 points each day late.

Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns. Problems and concerns about grades are easier to solve early in the semester than late.

Blackboard Site

You have been added to an online blackboard system. The blackboard system allows for students to interact with the instructor, and to interact with each other. All the material for this course (e.g., reading materials, a copy of the syllabus, hand-outs, and study guides) will be posted to this system. You can login at <https://blackboard.ecu.edu/>. Your user name is your PirateID and your password is your normal password. I will offer more detail about the course blackboard page throughout the semester.

Disability Services

East Carolina University seeks to fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a covered disability must go to the Department for Disability Support Services (DSS), located in Slay 138, to verify the disability before any accommodations can occur. The DSS telephone number is (252) 737-1016.

University Emergency Policies

In case of campus wide emergencies, you may obtain information about changes in the University class schedule by calling 252 328-0062. ECU Alert: In addition, in case of adverse weather or other campus emergencies you may consult <http://www.ecu.edu/alert/> for information. To obtain information about this class when there is a campus wide emergency, please check the web site for this class or your ECU e-mail account as soon as possible.

Course Outline

Wednesday, August 22: Review Syllabus

Friday, August 24: Introduction

Reading:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 1

Week 1 (August 27 - August 31): Foreign Policy Philosophy

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 2

Week 2 (September 4 - September 7): Foreign Policy Institutions

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 7 & 10

Week 3 (September 10 - September 14): Early American Foreign Policy

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 3
- Mead, Walter Russell. 2002. The American Foreign Policy Legacy. Foreign Affairs 81(1): 163-176
- Washington's Farewell Address
- John Quincy Adams – Warning Against the Search for Monsters to Destroy

Week 4 (September 17 - September 21): An Evolving Foreign Policy

Readings:

- Howard Taft. 1912. U.S., Department of State, Papers Relating to Foreign Affairs, 1912, pp. vii-xxvii
- Woodrow Wilson. "The Conditions of Permanent Peace." Delivered to the US Senate 1/22/17.
- William E. Borah. "The Case for Non-Entanglement." Delivered to the US Senate 11/19/19

Week 5 (September 24 - September 28): The Cold War

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 4
- Lippman, Walter. 1987. The Cold War. Foreign Affairs 65(4): 869-884

Week 6 (October 1 - October 5): Readings: The Cold War and its Discontents

Readings:

- Dwight Eisenhower. "The Chance for Peace." Delivered before the American Society of Newspaper Editors 4/16/53
- Dwight Eisenhower. "Farewell Address." Delivered 1/17/61
- Bennett and Shambaugh, TBA

Week 7 (October 10 - October 12): Midterm Review & Midterm

Week 8 (October 15 - October 19): The 1990s: The End of History?

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 5
- Anthony Lake. "From Containment to Enlargement." Delivered at the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University 9/21/93
- Bennett and Shambaugh, TBA

Week 9 (October 22 - October 26): One Approach to Foreign Policy

- Video: Wag the Dog

Week 10 (October 29 - November 2): The Current State of US Foreign Policy

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 23
- Stanley Hoffmann, "Why Don't They Like Us?" American Prospect, Nov 19, 2001
- Bennett and Shambaugh, TBA

Week 11 (November 5 - November 9): The US and the Rest of the World

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 14 & 15
- Bennett and Shambaugh, TBA

Week 12 (November 12 - November 16): Terrorism and the "Long War"

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 19
- Sections III and V of "The National Security Strategy of The United States" Sept 2002:
- Bennett and Shambaugh, TBA

Week 13 (November 19): What the Future Holds

Video: Private Warriors

Week 14 (November 26 - November 30): What the Future Holds II

Readings:

- Cox, Michael and Doug Stokes. 2012. US Foreign Policy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 20 & 21

Week 15 (December 3): Finals Review

Final - 11:00 - 1:30 Friday, December 7