

**Political Science 4013: American Foreign Policy  
Spring 2017**

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Office Hours:  
M,W 9:00-12:00  
or By Appointment

Time and Location:  
R 4:30-7:10  
T-NCB 227

**Course Description**

From Washington's farewell address to the Cold War and to the present War on Terrorism, our country's foreign policy has evolved over time. Often, these concepts seem abstract and distant to a land sheltered between two oceans. Other times, foreign policy becomes a vivid, and real, concern. Whether it is the price of an imported good or the concern for service members overseas, the conduct of our country's foreign policy affects all of us. This course seeks to provide you with the tools to make sense out of the formation and conduct of American Foreign Policy. Throughout, we will address four basic questions. These are:

- WHAT policies has the U.S. pursued? Answering this requires historical knowledge of American actions and their consequences.
- HOW is foreign policy made? Answering this question requires looking at the major actors involved in the formulation of policy and the process by which decisions are made.
- WHY is foreign policy enacted? Answering this tries to get at the motive behind policy. Does the U.S. act out of security concerns? A desire for wealth? Its values?
- How SHOULD the US act in the world? We will engage this question by examining several current issues in American foreign policy.

**Required Readings**

Jentleson, Bruce W. 2014. *American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

I have also assigned various other readings. These are all available on D2L.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Date</u>
Attendance & Participation	10%	-
Midterm	20%	Thursday, March 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Reading Quizzes	10%	Various
Book Review	20%	Thursday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>
Policy Essay	20%	Thursday, May 11 <sup>th</sup>
Final	20%	Thursday, May 11 <sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:50

**Attendance & Participation** - Students are expected to attend class and complete all of the required readings prior to class. I will take attendance at the beginning of class. Late arrivals will be noted. Each student is allowed two (2) "grace days" before absences (excused or unexcused) begin to impact the

final grade. This grade will be calculated proportionally to your actual attendance. If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining notes and any pertinent class news from a classmate.

**Midterm** - The test will be taken in class and consist of 20-25 questions (of various types) and a short essay.

**Quizzes** - I will randomly assign 6 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. During the quiz, you may use 1 page of notes (both sides of the page can be used) to assist you. This is to encourage you to take notes while you read and to build up a supply of notes to assist you in preparation for the exams. An additional bonus is that these questions have a habit of showing up on the two exams. I will drop the lowest quiz score.

**Book Report** - American foreign policy has changed substantially over the centuries, even to the point where former enemies have become crucial allies. The goal of the book report is for you to investigate a specific period/event in American foreign policy, or a common theme that authors have identified in U.S. foreign policy, and determine how those events/themes impact our foreign policy today. The book report should be between 6 and 8 pages, and must include a summary of the book's content, a critique of the author's thesis, and a demonstration of how that book's topic informs our study of contemporary U.S. foreign policy.

The book's topic should cover an event or theme in U.S. foreign policy since 1945. Examples of books that address specific events include Peter Hahn's *Caught in the Middle East: U.S. Policy Toward the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1945-1961*, David Halberstam's *The Best and the Brightest*, Michael Grow's *U.S. Presidents and Latin American Interventions: Pursuing Regime Change in the Cold War*. Examples of books that address common themes in foreign policy include Michael Hunt's *Ideology and U.S. Foreign Policy*, Derek Leebaert's *The Fifty Year Wound*, John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt's *The Israel Lobby* and Thomas Borstelmann's *The Cold War and the Color Line: American Race Relations in the Global Arena*. Students need to email me their book selection by 2:30 PM on February 9, 2017. You may not proceed with the book report until I have approved your selection.

Additional information will be provided in a separate handout posted on D2L. The final draft is due in the D2L dropbox at 4:30 PM on April 27, 2017 and will comprise 20% of your final grade. Late papers will immediately be penalized 10%; a further 10% will be deducted for every 24 hours the paper is late. Book reports will not be accepted for grading after one week past the due date

**Policy Essay** - You will write a 4-6 page policy essay (in the style of the journal *Foreign Affairs*) focusing on an issue of 21st century American foreign policy in a particular geographical region (Western Europe, Russia, China, East Asia, etc.) or within in a particular policy arena (national security, environmental policy, global trade and development, etc...). The paper should examine, analyze, and evaluate the options taken (or not taken), and propose possible alternative solutions to the issue.

- All paper ideas must be discussed with me no later than **March 9<sup>th</sup>**.
- Annotated bibliographies will be due **March 30<sup>th</sup>**
- **The paper is due 6:00pm on exam day (Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>)**

**Final** - The final exam will be taken in class and is cumulative. It will also consist of 20-25 questions, a short essay, and a longer essay integrating everything we have learned.

### **Note**

*Assignment Policy* - All assignments are to be submitted to the pertinent class dropbox on D2L (online.okstate.edu). I will not accept emailed attachments. Compatibility with my office computer (Windows 7 PC) is the responsibility of the student. Late assignments are penalized 10 points each day late.

*Changes to the Syllabus* - I retain the right to amend this syllabus at any point in the semester. Depending on conditions in the classroom and other factors, reading schedules and assignments may be adjusted or completely revised. I will announce any syllabus changes at least one class period prior to the changes taking effect.

*Technology Policy* - There will be a website for the class on D2L. Non-text book readings, the syllabus, and information about deadlines, assignments, and any other relevant information will be posted there. Each student is responsible for checking the website for announcements and to retrieve any assignment in a timely manner. The instructor is not responsible for any technical difficulties encountered when accessing the course website. Technical difficulties with the course website do not serve as an excuse for late assignments. If you do experience technical problems, there is a "Student Help" link on D2L. Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns.

*Email Policy* - Please note that all class-wide emails will be sent to your school email address. If this mail is forwarded to another account, it is your responsibility to receive messages that I send. Failure to adequately and periodically check your email does not serve as an excuse for late/incomplete assignments or absences. Please also be aware that email is not necessarily a secure medium so, as a result, I will not provide grade information via email. If you have a question/concern about your grade, it is your responsibility to meet with me during office hours.

*Incomplete Policy* – University Policy states that "a student must satisfactorily complete the *majority* of course work, and average 'D' or better on work to date, but has been 'unavoidably prevented from completing the remaining work of the course'".

*Class Cancellations* - In the event that class must be cancelled (instructor illness, inclement weather, the actual - better - version of *Rogue One* is released, etc.), I will contact you via your OSU email and I will make note of the cancellation on the D2L course site.

*Meeting with Students* – Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Please note that questions and concerns about grades are easier to solve early in the semester rather than late. I will have Skype on during the times that I am in my office (this is beyond my normal office hours). If you are in Stillwater, my office is located in 208 Murray Hall. If you cannot meet me during that time, I will attempt to accommodate an alternative meeting time. Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns.

### **Course Outline**

## Part I – The Foundations of U.S. Foreign Policy

Week 1 (January 19<sup>th</sup>): Introduction

- Review Syllabus

Week 2 (January 26<sup>th</sup>): Political Foundations

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 1.
- Nau, Henry R. 2007. Why We Fight Over Foreign Policy. *Policy Review* 142: 25-42.
- Snyder, Jack. 2004. One World, Rival Theories. *Foreign Policy* 145: 52-62.

Week 3 (February 2<sup>nd</sup>): Historical Foundations

Readings:

- Federalist papers #3, 5, 8
- McDougall, Walter. 1997. *Promised Land, Crusader State*. Boston: Mariner Books, Chapter 1.
- Paterson, Thomas G. ed. 1978. *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy, Documents and Essays, Volume I: To 1914*. Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath and Co: 85-89.

Week 4 (February 9<sup>th</sup>): Actors and Processes

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapters 2-3.

Week 5 (February 16<sup>th</sup>): From Independence to 1900

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 4
- Mead, Walter Russell. 2002. The American Foreign Policy Legacy. *Foreign Affairs* 81(1): 163-176.
- Paterson, Thomas G. ed. 1978. *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy, Documents and Essays, Volume I: To 1914*. Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath and Co: 167-168, 296-299

Week 6 (February 23<sup>rd</sup>): US Foreign Policy 1900-1945

Readings:

- Kaufman, Joyce P. 2010. *A Concise History of U.S. Foreign Policy*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield. Chapter 3.
- Paterson, Thomas G. ed. 1978. *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy, Documents and Essays, Volume II: Since 1914*. Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath and Co: 64-70, 127-133.
- William E. Borah. "The Case for Non-Entanglement." Delivered to the US Senate 11/19/1919
- Butler, Smedley. 2003. *War is a Racket*. Los Angeles: Feral House, 21-46.

Week 7 (March 2<sup>nd</sup>): Midterm

## Part II – American Foreign Policy Since World War 2

Week 8 (March 9<sup>th</sup>): The Cold War

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 5.
- Keenan, George. 1946. Telegram, George Keenan to George Marshall [“Long Telegram”], Feb. 22, 1946. Harry S Truman Administration File, Elsey Papers.
- Rosenberg, David Alan. 1983. The Origins of Overkill: Nuclear Weapons and American Strategy, 1945-1960. *International Security* 7(4): 3-71

Week 9 (March 16<sup>th</sup>): Spring Break

No Readings

Week 10 (March 23<sup>rd</sup>): The Post Cold War World

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 6
- Thompson, James C. 1968. “How Could Vietnam Happen? An Autopsy.” *The Atlantic*, April.
- Deudney, Daniel and G.John Ikenberry. 1992. Who Won the Cold War? *Foreign Policy* 87: 123-138.

Week 11 (March 30<sup>th</sup>): The Unipolar Moment

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 7.
- Krauthammer, Charles. 1990. The Unipolar Moment. *Foreign Affairs* 70(1): 23-33.
- Wohlforth, William C. 1999. The Stability of a Unipolar World. *International Security* 24(1): 5-41.
- Mearsheimer, John and Stephen Walt. 2003. An Unnecessary War. *Foreign Policy* 134: 50-59.

Week 12 (April 6<sup>th</sup>): Since 9/11

Readings:

- Johnson, Loch K. and Kiki Caruson. 2003. The Seven Sins of American Foreign Policy. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 36(1): 5-10.
- Hoffmann, Stanley. 2001. “Why Don’t They Like Us?” *American Prospect*, Nov 19.
- Van Evera, Stephen. 2007. The War on Terror: Forgotten Lessons from World War II. *Middle East Policy* 14(2): 59-68.

*Part III – Current Foreign Policy Challenges*

Week 13 (April 13<sup>th</sup>): Russia

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 12.
- Kotkin, Stephen. 2016. Russia’s Perpetual Geopolitics. *Foreign Affairs* 95(3): 2-9
- Graham, Thomas and Matthew Rojansky. 2016. “America’s Russia Policy Has Failed.” *Foreign Policy*, October 3.
- Miller, Paul. 2016. “How World War III Could Begin in Latvia.” *Foreign Policy*, November 11.

Week 14 (April 20<sup>th</sup>): Middle East

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 11.
- Haas, Richard. 2013. The Irony of American Strategy: Putting the Middle East in Proper Perspective. *Foreign Affairs* 92(3): 57-67.
- Cronin, Audrey Kurth. 2015. ISIS Is Not a Terrorist Group: Why Counterterrorism Won't Stop the Latest Jihadi Threat. *Foreign Affairs* 94(2): 87-98.

Week 15 (April 27<sup>th</sup>): Asia

Readings:

- Jentleson, Chapter 10.
- Friedburg, Aaron. 2012. Bucking Beijing: An Alternative U.S. China Policy. *Foreign Affairs* 91(5): 48-58.
- Burns, Nicholas. 2014. Passage to India: What Washington Can Do to Revive Relations With New Delhi. *Foreign Affairs* 93(5): 132-141.

Week 16 (May 4<sup>th</sup>): What the Future Holds

Reading:

- Haass, Richard N. 2008. The Age of Nonpolarity: What Will Follow US Dominance. *Foreign Affairs* 87(3): 44-56.
- Brooks, Stephen, G. John Ikenberry, and William C. Wohlforth. 2013. Lean Forward: In Defense of American Engagement. *Foreign Affairs* 92(1): 103-142.
- Review for Final

**FINAL – 6:00-7:50 Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**



## OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY - TULSA ADDENDUM TO SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT SPRING 2017

### HOW TO CONTACT A FACULTY MEMBER

If you have questions regarding your class, talk to your instructor. Faculty members usually include their office hours and/or phone number(s) in the class syllabus. If you cannot locate this information, set a time to meet with the instructor prior to or following your class session. You may check with Faculty Support Services, 918-594-8276 (North Hall) or 918-594-8277 (Main Hall), on when the instructor may be available.

### SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the responsibility of each student with a disability to notify the University of his or her disability and to notify the instructor and request verification of eligibility for accommodations from the Student Success Center, 204 North Hall, 918-594-8354. Please advise the instructor of such disability and desired accommodations at some point before, during, or immediately after the first scheduled class period.

### WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

All admitted students have an assigned academic advisor. Although it is true that only certain categories of students need an advisor's signature or approval on class registration, all students benefit by conferring with their advisor on a regular basis.

Undergraduate students should contact the Academic Advisement Center located in North Hall 130. Please call 918-594-8271 to schedule an appointment for advisement.

Graduate students should contact their assigned faculty advisor with advising questions. Other questions can be directed to the Graduate Student Services Center located in North Hall 130. Please call 918-594-8445 for assistance.

#### Career Services

North Hall 130 / 918-594-8105

Helpful information can be found at <http://hireosugrads.com>

Select a major through career assessments, locate full- or part-time jobs or internships and gain job search skills.

#### Title IX

1405 Main Hall, 918-594-8105

OSU in Tulsa is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. OSU does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities. Examples of sexual misconduct and/or sex discrimination include: sexual violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and intimate partner violence, stalking or gender-based discrimination. OSU encourages any student who thinks that he or she may have been a victim of sexual misconduct or sexual discrimination to immediately report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator (918-594-8105) or Deputy Title IX Coordinators (918-594-8234 or 918-594-8450). Students may also report incidents of sexual misconduct or sex discrimination to a faculty or staff member, who is then required by federal law (Title IX) to notify the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If a reporting student would like to keep the details confidential, the student may speak with staff in the OSU-Tulsa Counseling Center (918-594-8568) or the University's Victim Advocate (918-200-5595). For more information regarding Title IX violations, go to: <https://1is2manytulsa.okstate.edu>.

Library – 918-594-8130

#### Library Hours:

Monday – Thursday	8:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Holiday hours will be posted at: <http://www.osu-tulsa.okstate.edu/library/hours.ohp>

Computer Lab – 918-594-8200

#### Computer Lab Hours

Monday – Friday	8:00 am – 12:00 am
Saturday	9:00 am – 9:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Holiday hours will be posted at: <http://www.osu-tulsa.okstate.edu/it> or [tulsa.helpdesk@okstate.edu](mailto:tulsa.helpdesk@okstate.edu)