

School of Government

STRA 510
DIPLOMACY AND RELIGION
(15 Points)

Trimester One 2007

COURSE OUTLINE

Contact Details

Course Coordinator: **Associate Professor Jim Veitch**
Room RH 1209, Level 12, Rutherford House, Pipitea Campus
Telephone: (04) 463 5394
Fax: (04) 463 5454
Email: jim.veitch@vuw.ac.nz

Please direct all inquiries about the course to Dr Veitch in the first instance.

Administrator: **Darren Morgan**
Room RH 802, Level 8, Rutherford House, Pipitea Campus
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Fax: (04) 463 5454
Email: darren.morgan@vuw.ac.nz

Course Dates, Times and Locations

Dates: Tuesday 20 to Friday 23 March 2007 (inclusive)

Times: 9.00am to 4.00pm each day

Location: The course will be held on the Pipitea Campus of Victoria University and you will be advised of your classroom location one week prior to the course by email.

Course Objectives

The course explores the influence of religion on, and in, international politics, and especially on the formation of foreign policy.

It will focus on the way in which the Judeo - Christian tradition influences the foreign policy of the United States, especially with reference to Middle East policies.

It will discuss the way in which Islam influences the foreign policies of the Muslim world, including such countries as Saudi Arabia and Iran.

It will discuss political Islam and the pressures it brings in the Muslim world.

We will discuss the influence of religious fundamentalism.

Before exploring future prospects, we will discuss the role of oil in the wars of last century and of how oil is shaping the current political situation.

The course aims:

to present an in-depth analysis of the influence of religion on various kinds of foreign policy.

The course has the following objectives:

1. to enable participants to develop a critical and in-depth knowledge of the influence of religion on foreign policy
2. to enable participants to have a working knowledge of Islam in the modern world.

Course Content and Readings

A note on the readings

This outline is being circulated early so that participants in the course may have the time to read the books listed under the heading of set texts. Participants are also encouraged to download for viewing texts from the internet.

DAY ONE will cover an introduction to the course (what is diplomacy) and will then explore the influence of religion (in this case Christianity) on foreign policy by discussing the three part BBC film series, 'The Power of Nightmares'.

DAY TWO will be spent discussing the influence of religion on the foreign policy of the first Bush Administration. This will include a discussion of the set text (David Domke's book, *God Willing?*) and the implications of the writer's ideas for the theme of the course. Attention will also be given to the way religion is used in the resolution of conflict. There will be some discussion of the Just War theory and we will finish discussing the crusades and the question of why these events from so long ago seem to continue to influence events in the modern world.

Set text

David Domke. *God Willing?* Pluto Press London (2004) (available from www.amazon.com)

Background Reading

Rebuilding America's Defences www.newamericancentury.org/defensenationalsecurity.htm

A Clean Break: A New Strategy for Securing the Realm (The paper is from the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies) www.israeleconomy.org

On the religion factor in George Bush's thinking

The Jesus Factor. PBS www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/jesus/view/

President Bush's Religious Rhetoric. PBS

www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/jesus/view/

New Scrutiny of the Role of Religion in Bush's Policies. CSM

www.csmonitor.com/2003/0317/p01s01-uspo.html

God & W. NRO www.nationalreview.com/comment/comment-kengor030503.asp

President or Preacher: Religion in the Media.

www.religionandpluralism.org/ANC_ArticleList.htm

How Bush Got Religion. Time Archive (plus the extras mentioned in this archive)

www.time.com/time/archive/preview/0,10987,457363,00.html

Jim Wallis: *Dangerous Religion: Bush's Theology of Empire*.

www.informationclearinghouse.info/article5402.htm

Pew Forum. *George Bush's Theology* www.pewforum.org/news/display.php?NewsID=1994

On the application of White House principles for Iraq

President Bush on democracy in Iraq

www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/05/images/20040524-10_warcollege2-515h.html

Democracy in Iraq

www.foreignaffairs.org/20030501faessay11218/adeed-i-dawisha-karen-dawisha/how-to-build-a-democratic-iraq.html

For readings on the Just War theory and the crusades, please consult the Wikipedia articles on the internet (www.wikipedia.org).

DAY THREE will start with an introduction to, and an overview of, the Muslim world. It will also cover the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, the influence of the writings of Sayyid Qutb and Al-Zawahiri on the development of political Islam. The day will conclude with an overview of the influence of political Islam on Osama bin Laden.

Set texts

Sayyid Qutb. *Milestones* (Also goes by the name of Signposts). Internet version
www.islamistwatch.org/texts/qutb/milestones

Al-Zawahiri. *Knights Under the Prophets Banner*

Laura Mansfield. *His Own Words: A translation of the Writings of Dr Ayyan al- Zawahiri*.
www.lulu.com (2006) (this text can also be purchased from www.amazon.com)

Bruce Lawrence. *Messages to the World-The Statements of Osama bin Laden*. Verso (2005)

Valuable reading

Peter Bergen. *The Osama bin Laden I know*. Free Press (2006)

Dilip Hiro. *War Without End: The Rise of Islamist Terrorism and the Global Response*.
Routledge (2002)

To download and/or read

The Muslim Brotherhood en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim_Brotherhood

The Muslim Brotherhood www.meforum.org/article/687

Sayyid Qutb en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qutbism

DAY FOUR Saudi Arabia and Iran are two contrasting states where the politics are influenced by two different understandings of Islam. We will spend time discussing the influence of Islam on our current world in the Middle East and in Asia, and in particular, we will examine the role of Iran in the crisis of July/August 2006. We will also discuss the way in which Islam influences the politics of Indonesia. We will explore the roots of the clash between the Muslim world and the West and the implication this has for Muslim/Western relationships. We will discuss the significance of 9/11 and then cover the debate about the influence of religious fundamentalism. Before exploring future prospects, we will discuss the role of oil in the wars of last century in the Middle East and of how oil is shaping the current political situation.

Reading

Tariq Ali. *The Clash of Fundamentalisms - Crusades, Jihads and Modernity*. Verso (2002)

Samuel P Huntington. *The Clash of Civilisations* (1998)

To download and/or read

Fundamentalism. Check the articles in this document.

www.globalpolicy.org/empire/terrorwar/fundamentalism/fundindex.htm

Highly recommended readings as a background to the course as a whole and for ongoing personal study

Anonymous. *Through our Enemies Eyes: Osama bin Laden, Radical Islam and the Future of America* (1992)

Jason Burke. *Al Qaeda: Casting a Shadow of Terror* (2003)

Graham Fuller. *The Future of Political Islam* (2003)

John Gray. *Al Qaeda and What it Means to be Modern* (2003)

Gilles Kepel. *Jihad: The Trail of Political Islam* (2002)

Gilles Kepel. *The War for Muslim Minds - Islam and the West* (2004)

Douglas Johnston. *Faith-based Diplomacy* (2003)

Walter Laqueur. *No End to War: Terrorism in the Twenty First Century* (2003)

Richard P Mitchell. *The Society of the Muslim Brothers* (1969/1993)

Olivier Roy. *The Failure of Political Islam* (1999)

Matthew R Simmons. *Twilight in the desert: The coming Saudi Oil Shock and the World Economy* (2005)

Learning Commitment

The learning objectives set for each course are demanding and, to achieve them, candidates must make a significant commitment in time and effort to reading, studying, thinking, and completion of assessment items outside of contact time. Courses vary in design but all require preparation and learning before the first day of contact. Intensive courses usually also require further study after the contact period. Expressed in input terms, the time commitment required usually translates to 65-95 hours (excluding class contact time) per course.

Assessment Requirements

The course is internally assessed by means of the following:

EITHER

- (a) One major essay of 6,000 words, due by 5.00pm on Friday 20 April 2007. The topic must be approved by the Course Coordinator.

OR

- (b) Two essays, each of between 3,500 and 4,000 words, due by 5.00pm on Thursday 5 April 2007 and Friday 20 April 2007 respectively. The topics must be approved by the Course Coordinator.

Please post / hand-in ALL assignments to:

Francine McGee,
School of Government,
Victoria University of Wellington,
Level 8 Reception,
Rutherford House,
23 Lambton Quay,
P.O. Box 600,
Wellington.

Students should keep a copy of all submitted work.

ANZSOG candidates taking this course as an elective should note that they take it for 24 points, and not 15 points. Accordingly, the learning outcomes to be achieved by ANZSOG candidates are wider and deeper than those expected for non-ANZSOG candidates. The content of those learning outcomes, and the means whereby they will be assessed, will be negotiated and confirmed with the Course Coordinator at the start of the course.

Penalties

The ability to plan for and meet deadlines is a core competency of both advanced study and public management. Failure to meet deadlines disrupts course planning and is unfair on students who do submit their work on time. It is expected therefore that you will complete and hand in assignments by the due date. Marks may be deducted where assignments are submitted after the due date. For out of town students, two calendar days' grace is given to allow for time in the post.

If ill-health, family bereavement or other personal emergencies prevent you from meeting the deadline for submitting a piece of written work or from attending class to make a presentation, you can apply for and may be granted an extension to the due date. Note that this applies only to extreme unforeseen circumstances and is not necessarily awarded. You should let your Course Coordinator know as soon as possible in advance of the deadline if you are seeking an extension.

Mandatory Course Requirements

To fulfil the mandatory course requirements for this course, you are required to:

1. Submit all assignments by the due date, unless you have been granted an extension;
2. Attend all contact sessions of the course. If you are unable to attend a session, you must inform the Course Coordinator as soon as possible and you may be required to submit a further item of assessment.

Communication of Additional Information

Additional information may be provided in class, by post, by email or via Blackboard.

Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices

Railway West Wing (RWW) - FCA Student and Academic Services Office

The Faculty's Student and Academic Services Office is located on the ground and first floors of the Railway West Wing. The ground floor counter is the first point of contact for general enquiries and FCA forms. Student Administration Advisers are available to discuss course status and give further advice about FCA qualifications. To check for opening hours, call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

Easterfield (EA) - FCA/Education/Law Kelburn Office

The Kelburn Campus Office for the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, Education and Law is situated in the Easterfield Building - it includes the ground floor reception desk (EA 005) and offices 125a to 131 (Level 1). The office is available for the following:

- Duty tutors for student contact and advice.
- Information concerning administrative and academic matters.
- Forms for FCA Student and Academic Services (e.g. application for academic transcripts, requests for degree audit, COP requests).
- Examinations-related information during the examination period.

To check for opening hours, call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

General University Policies and Statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied. See the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at www.vuw.ac.nz.

Student and Staff Conduct

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct. The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct.

Academic Grievances

If you have any academic problems with your course, you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean. VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievances Policy which is published on the VUW website at www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means **no cheating**. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other student or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalised severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- An oral or written warning
- Cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- Suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website at www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html.

Notice of Turnitin Use

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine Turnitin (www.turnitin.com). Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the Course Coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Students with Impairments

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the Course Coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building (telephone (04) 463 6070, email disability@vuw.ac.nz). The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each Faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Māori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

In addition, the Student Services Group (email student-services@vuw.ac.nz) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/.

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and Faculty delegates. The Education Office (telephone (04) 463 6983 or (04) 463 6984, email education@vuwsa.org.nz) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.

Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

Manaaki Pihipihinga is an academic mentoring programme for undergraduate Māori and Pacific students in the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Sessions are held at the Kelburn and Pipitea Campuses in the Mentoring Rooms, 14 Kelburn Parade (back courtyard), Room 109D, and Room 210, Level 2, Railway West Wing. There is also a Pacific Support Coordinator who assists Pacific students by linking them to the services and support they need while studying at Victoria. Another feature of the programme is a support network for Postgraduate students with links to Postgraduate workshops and activities around Campus.

For further information, or to register with the programme, email manaaki-pihipihinga-programme@vuw.ac.nz or telephone (04) 463 5233 extension 8977. To contact the Pacific Support Coordinator, email pacific-support-coord@vuw.ac.nz or telephone (04) 463 5842.