



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

INTP 213

Special Topic: American Foreign Policy

TRIMESTER 2 2012

16 July to 17 November 2012

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 16 July to 19 October 2012
Mid-trimester break: 27 August to 9 September 2012

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Joe Burton
Room No.: Murphy (MY) 517
Email: joe.burton@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Tuesdays 10am-12pm

Class times and locations

Can be found on the Victoria website at:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue.aspx>
It is advisable to check the above for any changes to the timetable programme.

Lecture Time: Wednesday, Friday 3.10 – 4.00 pm
Lecture Venue: Hugh Mackenzie (HM) LT002

Tutorial

Tutorial times and venue: See the website below:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/timetables/2012%20Academic%20Timetable%20at%2020120606.html>

Tutorials commence in the *second* week of the course.

Using S-Cubed:

Use your internet browser to go to: <https://signups.vuw.ac.nz>.
Use your normal *student login* and *password* to sign into S-Cubed.
Click on "INTP 213" You will see info about your course and about the different tutorial sessions. Sign up to your preferred session by clicking on the "sign up" button.
Please note: If you do not sign up during the first week of trimester, you may be extremely limited in your choice of tutorial time. The sign-up programme is only available until 17th August 2012. If you have problems please see the School Administrator, Murphy Building, 5th Floor, MY518

Teaching learning summary

The course is taught by two weekly fifty-minute sessions and one fifty-minute tutorial. Class discussion will be based on the assigned readings.

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and tutorial/seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the INTP 213 Blackboard site.

Course prescription

We examine US foreign policy from pre-WWII to the present, covering presidential leadership style, the Cold War, containment, détente, how defence policy is shaped, and current policy in Iraq and Afghanistan. Emphasis is placed not only upon chain of events, but upon political context of time and policy maker perceptions.

Course content**Introduction**

1. Two Faces of American Foreign Policy - Course Overview (18th July)

Part 1 – The Development of US Foreign Policy - From Revolution to Superpower

2. America's Awakening, 1776 - 1890 (20th July)
3. America's World Wars, 1890 - 1945 (25th July)

Part 2 – The Politics of US Foreign Policy

4. Theorising US Foreign Policy (27th July)
5. The Commander in Chief (1st August)
6. Congressional Influence on US Foreign Policy (3rd August)
7. Executive Departments and Agencies (8th August)
8. Who Really Makes the Decisions? (10th August)

Part 3 – US Foreign Policy during the Cold War

9. Atomic Diplomacy (15th August)
10. Containment and the Grand Alliance (17th August)
11. The Cold War in Asia (22nd August)
12. JFK and the Cuban Missile Crisis (24th August) **Essay Due**

Mid trimester break - 27 August to 9 September 2012

13. The Rise and Fall of Détente (12th September)
14. Reagan, Gorbachev and the End of the Cold War (14th September)

Part 4 – America in a New Global Era

Policy Evolution

15. American Foreign Policy in the 1990s - In Search of a Grand Strategy (19th September)
16. 9/11, Afghanistan and the Iraq Crisis (21st September)
17. Bush to Obama - Evolving Strategy (26th September)

Strategic Partnerships

18. The US and Europe - The Ties That Bind (28th September)
19. America, Israel and the Arab Spring (3rd October)
20. The US in Latin America (5th October) (**Essay Due**)

Money and Elections

21. American Foreign Policy and the Global Financial Crisis (10th October)
22. Obama v Romney – Foreign Policy and the 2012 Election (12th October)

Conclusion

23. The Future of America and the Rise of China? *Class Debate* (17th October)
24. **In-class test** (19th October)

Learning objectives

Students who pass this course should:

- Be able to understand the nature and characteristics of American foreign and defence policy (as well as the critical foreign policy events) of the past century.
- Have been exposed to critical analytical skills useful for foreign policy analysis.
- Be able to evaluate the relative contributions of different US foreign policy institutions in the formulation and implementation of policy, such as the Presidency, Congress and Executive Departments and Agencies.
- Be proficient in analysing US Foreign Policy using different theoretical frameworks.

Graduate attributes

As with all Political Science and International Relations courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of logical and critical thinking, conceptual analysis and rational and ethical decision-making. For more details please consult our website <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/psir-overview#grad-attributes>

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to INTP213 throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures, and tutorial/seminars, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

Group work

There is no assessed group work for this course.

Required Readings

1. There is no required reading for the first class.
2. Jerald Combs, "The American Revolution and the Origins of American Diplomacy," in *The History of American Foreign Policy*, Volume 1 (New York: Newbury Award Records, 1986).
3. Thomas J. McCormick, "Seeking Supremacy: The Historical Origins of American Hegemony, 1895-1945", in *America's Half Century: United States Foreign Policy in the Cold War* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989).
4. Steve W. Hook, "Dynamics of Decision Making", *US Foreign Policy*, 2nd Edition, CQ Press, 2nd edition, **pages 64-76**.
5. Eugene R. Wittkopf, Christopher M. Jones, Charles W. Kegley, J. "Presidential Pre-eminence in Foreign Policy Making" in *American Foreign Policy: Pattern and Process*, Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, c2008.
6. James McCormick, "Congressional Prerogatives and the Making of Foreign Policy", in *American Foreign Policy and Process*, Belmont, Calif.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2004.
7. Newt Gingrich, Rogue State Department, *Foreign Policy*, 07/2003, Issue 137, pp. 42 – 48.
8. Steve W. Hook, "Dynamics of Decision Making", *US Foreign Policy*, 2nd Edition, CQ Press, 2nd edition, **pages 76-97**.
9. Gar Alperovitz, Hiroshima: Historians Reassess, *Foreign Policy*, No. 99 (Summer, 1995), pp. 15-34.
10. Robert D. Schulzinger, "The Early Cold War" in *US Diplomacy Since 1900*, Sixth Edition, 2008, Oxford University Press.
11. Spencer L. Robinson, "Did stalemate equal victory? From the Korean to the Vietnam Wars." *American Diplomacy* (November 16th, 2011).
12. Richard M. Pious, The Cuban Missile Crisis and the Limits of Crisis Management, *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 116, No. 1 (Spring, 2001), pp. 81-105.
13. Warren Cohen "The Rise and Fall of Détente" in *The Cambridge History of American Foreign Relations, Volume IV* (Cambridge, CUP, 1993).

14. Robert G. Patman, Reagan, Gorbachev and the Emergence of 'New Political Thinking', *Review of International Studies*, ISSN 0260-2105, 10/1999, Volume 25, Issue 4, pp. 577 – 601.
15. Jeremi Suri, American Grand Strategy from the Cold War's End to 9/11, *Orbis*, ISSN 0030-4387, 2009, Volume 53, Issue 4, pp. 611 – 627.
16. Martha Crenshaw, Why America? The Globalization of Civil War, *Current History*; Dec 2001; 100, 650; ProQuest Central pg. 425.
17. David Skidmore, The Obama Presidency and US Foreign Policy: Where's the Multilateralism?, *International Studies Perspectives*, ISSN 1528-3577, 02/2012, Volume 13, Issue 1, pp. 43 – 64.
18. Stephen M. Walt, The Ties That Fray, *The National Interest*; Winter 1998/1999; 54; ProQuest Central pg. 3.
19. Robert J. Pranger, The Arab Spring: America's Search for Relevancy, *Mediterranean Quarterly* 22:4.
20. Mark Weisbrot, Obama's Latin America Policy: Continuity Without Change, *Latin American Perspectives*, 07/2011, Volume 38, Issue 4, pp. 63 – 72.
21. Martijn Konings & Leo Panitch, US Financial Power in Crisis, *Historical Materialism*, ISSN 1465-4466, 2008, Volume 16, Issue 4, p. 3.
22. Philip A. Klinkner, Mr Bush's War: Foreign Policy in the 2004 Election, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*; Jun 2006; 36, 2; ProQuest Central pg. 281.
23. John Dumbrell, American Power: Crisis or Renewal?, *Politics*, ISSN 0263-3957, 12/2010, Volume 30, pp. 15 – 23.

Further Readings

An extended reading list will be available on blackboard. This should be consulted for essays and the in-class test.

The following texts are recommended as good all-round studies of American Foreign Policy:

- Ambrose, Stephen, *Rise to Globalism: American Foreign Policy Since 1938* (6th edition)
- Cohen, Warren, *America in the Age of Soviet Power, 1945-1990*
- Donaldson, Gary A., *American Foreign Policy: The Twentieth Century in Documents*
- Eckes, Alfred and Thomas Zeiler, *Globalization and the American Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003)
- Gaddis, John Lewis, *Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of Post War American National Security Policy*
- Cox, Michael. and Douglas Stokes, *US Foreign Policy*
- Ikenberry, John G. (ed.), *America Unrivalled: The Future of the Balance of Power*
- Kegley, Charles W. and E.R. Wittkopf, *American Foreign Policy: Pattern and Process* (various editions)
- McCormick, James M., *American Foreign Policy and Process*

- McCormick, Thomas, *America's Half Century: United States Foreign Policy in the Cold War* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989)
- Scott, James M., *Making US Foreign Policy in the Post-Cold War World*

The following journals and newspapers should be regularly consulted throughout the course:

Foreign Affairs	Survival
Foreign Policy	World Politics
International Politics	The World Today
International Security	Diplomatic History
International Studies Perspectives	The Times
The Christian Science Monitor	Review of International Studies
The Economist	Vital Speeches of the Day
World Policy Journal	Current History
US Department of State Dispatch	New York Times
Washington Quarterly	Washington Post
Security Dialogue	Presidential Studies Quarterly

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 9–27 July 2012, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

- 1 essay of 2000 words - 30% - Due on 24th August*
- 1 essay of 2500 words - 40% - Due on 5th October*

The essays are designed to test students' ability to conduct in-depth research and analysis on particular topics in American Foreign Policy and to develop their writing skills.

Essay Guidelines and Marking Criteria:

- Essays should begin with a detailed introduction with your research problem and a short summary of the sections of the essay must be included.
- Essays should not be merely descriptive – analysis and critical engagement with the material is very important.
- Essays must be typed in 12-point type, 1.5 spaced.
- Essays must include a full bibliography and word count. Marks will be deducted if you don't include these. The word limit for the essay excludes footnotes and the bibliography.

- You will be assessed on whether the essay answered the question, the quality of research, the quality of writing (including consistency of referencing, etc.), the use of analysis and critical thought, originality behind the approach to the chosen subject, and the ability to develop a solid argument. Each essay should have a clear argument and be backed up by appropriate supporting material.

1 x 50 minute in-class test - 30% - 19th October

The in-class test will assess students' knowledge of post-Cold War US Foreign Policy issues and events.

Submission of Work

All written work must be typewritten and submitted in **hardcopy**, with the Programme's Declaration Form signed and attached. The Declaration Form (PSIR Assignment Coversheet) is available from the department's main office.

The Programme's policy requires that students also submit an **electronic copy** along with the hardcopy.

The course expects students to submit their assignments on time. Requests for **extensions** should be made with the lecturer in person with proper documentation *before* the due date. Extensions are normally given only to those with a medical certificate, or other evidence of forces beyond your control.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days**. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work) and sit the in-class test;

Return of marked course work

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the School Office in level 5, Murphy Building between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.aspx>. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.