

**IR 483**

**War and Diplomacy: The United States in World Affairs**

Spring 2007

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**Course Description and Objectives**

The course provides an in-depth examination of U.S. foreign policy behavior, especially since its emergence as a global superpower in 1945. Particular focus is paid to how U.S. foreign policy leaders have conceived of America's interests and role in the world during key periods of the last six decades, what factors explain their actions and the impact of these actions. The final segment of the course will focus on the foreign policy opportunities and challenges the United States will face in the future and the approach policy makers might take in addressing them.

The overall objective is to deepen understanding of why and how the United States has acted in international affairs – particularly over the past 60 years; what consequences these actions have entailed; whether alternative lines of action were possible; and what implications follow for the future conduct of U.S. foreign policy.

**Course Requirements**

- 1.) Attend class frequently and punctually, and participate actively in class discussions. Students are expected to attend all classes, to read the assignments each week, and to engage in class discussions. The class roll will be taken at the beginning of each session and occasional quizzes will be conducted.
- 2.) Complete take-home mid-term and final examinations, both of which will require you to write two short analytical essays each no more than 5 pages in length. The mid-term exam is due at 3:30 pm on **Monday, March 19**.

**Grading**

- Attendance and class participation: 20 percent
- Mid-term Exam: 30 percent
- Final Exam: 50 percent

## **Topics and Readings**

Most of the readings are available online at <http://blackboard.usc.edu>. \* = designates readings also available via the electronic resources section of the USC Libraries web site (<http://was.usc.edu/eresources/isd/>); click on "Full-text journals from database collections" on the upper left-hand side of the screen.

### **I.) Determinants of U.S. Foreign Policy**

Roger S. Whitcomb, *The American Approach to Foreign Affairs: An Uncertain Tradition* (Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 1998), pp. 7-58, 81-105

Robert Kagan, "Cowboy Nation," *The New Republic*, October 16, 2006 (available online at <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=18796&prog=zgp&proj=zusr>)

Robert Kagan, "Puritans and Imperialism," *The Globalist*, November 3, 2006 (4 pp) (available online at <http://www.theglobalist.com/storyid.aspx?StoryId=5719>)

\*Minxin Pei, "The Paradoxes of American Nationalism," *Foreign Policy*, No. 136 (May/June 2003), pp. 31-37

John B. Judis, "The Chosen Nation: The Influence of Religion on U.S. Foreign Policy," Policy Brief No. 37 (Washington, DC: Carnegie Endowment for International Policy, March 2005) (available online at <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=16668&prog=zgp&proj=zusr>)

\*Walter Russell Mead, "The Jacksonian Tradition and American Foreign Policy," *The National Interest*, No. 58 (Winter 1999/2000), pp. 5-29

\*Stephen Sestanovich, "American Maximalism," *The National Interest*, No. 79 (Spring 2005), pp. 13-23

Henry Kissinger, *Diplomacy* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994), pp. 29-55

### **II.) The Truman Years**

Melvyn P. Leffler, "The American Conception of National Security and the Beginnings of the Cold War, 1945-48," in G. John Ikenberry, ed., *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., (New York: Longman, 2002), pp. 84-111

Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, pp. 446- 492

### **III.) The Eisenhower Years**

John Lewis Gaddis, *Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of Postwar American National Security Policy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1982), pp. 164-197

Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, pp. 620 – 642

### **IV.) The Kennedy/Johnson Years**

Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, pp. 643-673

\*Leslie H. Gelb, “Vietnam: The System Worked,” *Foreign Policy*, No.3 (Summer 1971), pp. 140-167

### **V.) The Nixon/Ford Years**

Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, pp. 674-732

Stanley Hoffman, “Kissinger’s Flawed and Disastrous Design,” in Thomas G. Paterson, ed., *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy, Vol. II: Since 1914*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath and Company, 1984), pp. 673-691

### **VI.) The Carter Years**

\*Stanley Hoffman, “Requiem,” *Foreign Policy*, No. 42 (Spring 1981), pp. 3-26

Jerel A. Rosati, “The Rise and Fall of America’s First Post-Cold War Foreign Policy,” in Herbert D. Rosenbaum and Alexej Ugrinsky, eds., *Jimmy Carter: Foreign Policy and Post-Presidential Years* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994), pp. 35-52

William Stueck, “Placing Jimmy Carter’s Foreign Policy,” in Gary M. Fink and Hugh Davis Graham, eds., *The Carter Presidency: Policy Choices in the Post-New Deal Era* (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1998), pp. 244-266

### **VII.) The Reagan Years**

Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, pp.762-803

\*Robert W. Tucker, “Reagan’s Foreign Policy,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 68, No. 1 (1989), pp. 1-27

\*Terry L. Deibel, "Reagan's Mixed Legacy," *Foreign Policy*, No. 75 (Summer 1989), pp. 34-55

### **VIII.) The George H.W. Bush Years**

\*Michael Mandelbaum, "The Bush Foreign Policy," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 70, No. 1 (1991), pp. 5-22

\*Alan Tonelson, "Prudence or Inertia? The Bush Administration's Foreign Policy," and Gillian Peele, "The Constrained Presidency of George Bush," both in *Current History*, Vol. 91, No. 564 (April 1992), pp. 145-55

### **IX.) The Clinton Years**

\*Condoleezza Rice, "Promoting the National Interest," and Robert B. Zoellick, "A Republican Foreign Policy," both in *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 79, No.1 (January/February 2000), pp. 45-78

\*Stephen M. Walt, "Two Cheers for Clinton's Foreign Policy," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 79, No. 2 (March/April 2000), pp. 63-79

\*Samuel R. Berger, "A Foreign Policy for the Global Age," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 79, No. 6 (November/December 2000), pp. 22-39

### **X.) The George W. Bush Years**

\*John Lewis Gaddis, "A Grand Strategy of Transformation," *Foreign Policy*, No. 133 (November/December 2002), pp. 50-57

\*Philip Zelikow, "The Transformation of National Security," *The National Interest* (Spring 2003), pp. 17-28

\*G. John Ikenberry, "America's Imperial Ambition," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 81, No.5 (September/October 2002), pp. 44-60

Ivo H. Daalder and James M. Lindsay, "The Bush Revolution: The Remaking of America's Foreign Policy," (Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution, May 2003) (available online at <http://www.brookings.edu/views/papers/daalder/20030425.pdf>)

\*Melvyn P. Leffler, "9/11 and American Foreign Policy," *Diplomatic History*, Vol. 29, No. 3 (June 2005), pp. 395-413

## **XI.) The Future of U.S. Foreign Policy**

\*Robert Jervis, "Why the Bush Doctrine Cannot Be Sustained," *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 120, No. 3 (Fall 2005), pp. 351-77

\*Philip H. Gordon, "The End of the Bush Revolution," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 85, No.4, (July/August 2006), pp. 75-86

\*Norman Podhoretz, "Is the Bush Doctrine Dead?" *Commentary* (September 2006), pp. 17-31

\*Francis Fukuyama, "The Neoconservative Moment," *The National Interest* (Summer 2004), pp.57-68

\*Charles Krauthammer, "In Defense of Democratic Realism," and G. John Ikenberry and Charles A. Kupchan, "Liberal Realism: The Foundations of a Democratic Foreign Policy," both in *The National Interest* (Fall 2004), pp. 15-25, 38-49

Walter Russell Mead, *Power, Terror, Peace, and War: America's Grand Strategy in a World at Risk* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2004), pp. 109-162

\*Richard N. Haass, "The Case for Integration," *The National Interest* (Fall 2005), pp. 22-29