

**PLS 422-001**  
**American Foreign Policy**  
**Spring, 2006**  
**TR 12:30-1:45**  
**LH 111**

**Instructor:** W. Lee Johnson

**Office:** Leutze Hall 267

**Office:** Drop-In Hours are only 30 minutes following class only!

Other Times By Appointment!!!

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**Class Meets:** TR 12:30-1:45, LH 111

\*\*\*Do Not Bring Cell Phones to Class!

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with the structure and basic principles which are the context of American Foreign Policy. The roles and relationships of the President, Departments of State and Defense, the intelligence community, Congress, and the mass media, and the public in the process of making policy are examined. Consideration is directed toward specific concepts (i.e. substance) of foreign policy-containment, balance of power, nationalist revolutions, post-cold war, peace keeping, nation building, terrorism, humanitarian relief, human rights, and power politics.

**Course Requirement**

**The required text is:** Steven W. Hook, U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power, 2005.

Additional readings in the reserve section of the library will be required. The lectures will supplement and highlight the readings. You are expected to participate in class discussions! There are two unexcused cuts; more than two cuts will lower one's final grade by one letter grade! Three late appearances is an absence! Grading is on a 10 point scale. Exams will be essay type. Course requirements include a paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. Topics are to be chosen by January 22 and will be due on March 12. The paper is due in class on March 12; no late papers will be accepted. Reading assignments will be to read 1 chapter plus each week beginning with chapter 1 to chapter 12. There will be a mid-term exam on the date noted, (other quizzes may be given) and a final examination. There are no make-up exams! (Grade components: Midterm 30%; paper 30%; Participation 10%; Final 30%)

**Final Examination:**

Thursday, May 4, 2006, 11:30-2:30, LH 111

- I. US in the World of 2006
  - 1.) Overview
  - 2.) Challenges to US hegemony
  - 3.) Paradox of power
  - 4.) Summary
- Chapter 1

## I. Expansion of US Power

- 1.) Econ. & Terr. Expansion
  - 2.) WWI & WWII
  - 3.) US and Cold War
  - 4.) Post Cold War
    - Bush 41's new world order
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 2

## II. Decision Making in FP

- 1.) Theoretical World Views
    - a.) Realism
    - b.) Liberalism
    - c.) Conservative
  - 2.) Institutional System
  - 3.) Government processes
  - 4.) People Factors –
    - a.) beliefs
    - b.) personality
    - c.) small group
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 3

## Institutions of FP

### III. President

- 1.) Pres/FP
  - 2.) Structures
  - 3.) Informal Power
  - 4.) Limits on President
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 4

Start Studying for Mid-term, if you haven't!

### IV. Congress

- 1.) Activism as a Trend
  - 2.) Institutional Foundations
  - 3.) Leg/FP
  - 4.) Dollars/FP
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 5

### V. Bureaucracy

- 1.) Agency Roles
  - 2.) Diplomacy
  - 3.) Security/New Revised 2006
  - 4.) Intelligence/New Revised 2006
  - 5.) Econ
  - 6.) Summary
- Chapter 6

## **EXAM: Mid-Term on Chapters 1-6!!!**

External Sources

### VI. P.O./ Mass Communication

- 1.) Dem vs. World Power – reality
  - 2.) PO: Divided/United
  - 3.) Control of Media
  - 4.) The world view of US
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 7

### VII. IGs dom/for

- 1.) NGOs Theory
  - 2.) Types of NGOs
  - 3.) Tactics of NGOs
  - 4.) Summary
- Chapter 8

### VIII. Intergovt. Orgs

- 1.) Background
  - 2.) UN
  - 3.) Military Alliances
  - 4.) World Financial Inst.:
    - a.) World Bank
    - b.) IMF
    - c.) WTO
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 9

### IX. Nat Sec/Defense Policy

- 1.) Strategy
  - 2.) The Use of Force
  - 3.) Nuclear Peace
  - 4.) Fighting Terrorism
  - 5.) Summary
- Chapter 10

### X. Economic FP

- 1.) Models
  - 2.) Power
  - 3.) Trade
  - 4.) NI & Aid
  - 5.) Sanctions
  - 6.) Summary
- Chapter 11

### XI. Transnational Policy

- 1.) Global Issues
- 2.) Weapons Proliferation
- 3.) Human Rts/Dem

4.) Summary  
Chapter 12

**Exam: Final on Chapters 7-12  
Spring 2006 Addendum**

Learning and understanding at the University is a two-way street. It requires effort and work i.e. reading and studying. If you are unwilling to acquire the textbook and read it and come to class ready to participate in a dialogue, you should select another class.

If, however, you are ready and capable of learning about our national government and politics, I will do everything a teacher can do to facilitate and enrich your learning experience.

Surely government and politics is important. Americans have been assassinated in NYC and DC and soldiers are fighting and dying in Afghanistan and Iraq. Gas prices have hurt our energy based economic post industrial system.

We have a brewing cultural war in our society that is fraying the very fabric of consensual public life. In consumer consumption of things we have based a culture of Wal-Mart's, SUV's and Enron's and economic tricks/scams. Like it or not politics affect us even here at the eastern "end of I-40".

Guidelines:

- a. Be ready to learn.
- b. Read newspapers, watch TV news, read internet news, etc.
- c. Come to class on time and pay attention.
- d. Leave cell phones, pagers, etc. at home.
- e. Take care of body functions, "calls of nature", before coming to class.
- f. In discussions with peers and with the instructor Be Civil. It's only taxes, "life or death", Afghanistan or Iraq, and partial-birth abortions or Alzheimer's research.
- g. Democracy is based on your enlightened participation. Apathy and ignorance will destroy popular sovereignty as surely as "kudzu covers the South".
- h. Treat others (all of us) as you wish to be treated.
- i. Do Justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your dog.

**Important Dates: Spring 2006**

<b>Class Begins</b>	<b>Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Last Day to Drop</b>	<b>Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Last Withdrawal</b>	<b>Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Spring Vacation</b>	<b>Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Spring Vacation ends</b>	<b>Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Holiday ends</b>	<b>Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Last class</b>	<b>Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Exams</b>	<b>May 3-10</b>
<b>Commencement</b>	<b>May 13th</b>