

**PLS 422**  
**American Foreign Policy**  
Spring 2009

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**I. COURSE MEETINGS**

M, W, F: 1:00-1:50 p.m. (Leutze Hall 110)

**II. OFFICE HOURS**

Mon & Wed, 2:00-4:00 p.m. or By Appointment (seoj@uncw.edu)

**III. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course analyzes how foreign policy is constructed and changed in American political system. Four major elements will be covered throughout the semester: a study of evolution of American foreign policy since 1789, an analysis of institutional dimension of foreign policymaking processes, a discussion of the causes of American foreign policy such as the international system, public opinion, and the media; and an examination of policy areas including national security, global economy, immigration, climate change, and energy independence.

**IV. COURSE READING**

**Three Books are required and available in the university book store.**

Steven W. Hook. 2008. *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. (Washington D.C.: CQ Press)

Peter Trubowitz. 1998. *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy*. (The University of Chicago Press)

Andrew Bennett and George Shambaugh. 2008. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in American Foreign Policy*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. (McGraw Hill)

**Asterixed Readings (\*) will be available through SeaPort** (<http://seaport.uncw.edu>)

## V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Weekly Quiz (10%)
- Midterm Exam (Feb 25) (20%)
- Final Exam (May 4) (20%)
- Debate Presentation (15%) and Participation (15%)
- Research Paper (Due Apr 27) (20%)

**\* This is a demanding course, with a substantial amount of reading.**

**It is imperative that you read all assigned readings before the class for which they are assigned.**

### 1) Weekly Quiz

This will count 10% toward the final grade and consist of several short-answer questions based on course readings. The lowest score quiz could be dropped.

### 2) In-Class Exams

There will be one midterm (20%) and a final Exam (20%). Format is a combination of multiple choice, identification, and short essay. All readings and lectures will be fair game on the exams (50-50!).

### 3) Debate Presentation and Participation

Students are expected to actively participate in course discussions. Debate sessions in particular take place mostly on Fridays. Choose one issue from the syllabus and inform the instructor after Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, W (add/drop final day). Your task is to present your position and manage class debate (15% by peer-review) and to participate in the debate (15%).

### 4) Research Paper

Students will complete a 15 page-long research paper on a topic discussed in advance with the instructor (by March 6<sup>th</sup>). Research paper should be composed of the following four sections: 1) Question, 2) Relevance, 3) Theory, and 4) Evidence. Late papers will be penalized and course total grade will drop 3 points.

\* Letter grades will be assigned according to the following point totals:

A=92.5 or more	A-=89.5-92.49	B+=87.5-89.49	B=82.5-87.49	B-=79.5-82.49
C+=77.5-79.49	C=69.5-77.49	D = 59.5-69.49	F= less than 59.5	

#### IV. READINGS BY CLASS SESSION

**Jan 7 W Course Introduction:**

Study of American Foreign Policy: *American Politics or International Relations?*

\* Joseph S. Nye and Sean M. Lynn-Jones. "International Security Studies: A Report of a Conference on the State of the Field" *International Security* Vol. 12, No. 4 (Spring 1988): 5-27

\*G. John Ikenberry et al. "Introduction: Approaches to Explaining American Foreign Economic Policy" *International Organization*, Vol. 42, No. 1 (Winter 1988):1-14

#### **Part I. The Setting of U.S. Foreign Policy: History and Theory**

**Jan 9 F The United States in a Turbulent World**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 1

\* Martin Shefter. 2002. "War, Trade, and U.S. Party Politics" in Ira Katznelson and Martin Shefter ed. *Shaped by War and Trade: International Influences on American Political Development*. (Princeton University Press), pp. 113-133

\* Peter Trubowitz. 1998. "Regional Conflict and Coalitions of American Foreign Policy" in *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy*. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press), pp. 1-30

**Jan 12 M, 14 W The Expansion of U.S. Power**

# Hook 2008, Chapter 2.

\* Samuel P. Huntington. 1982. "American Ideals vs. American Institutions" *Political Science Quarterly* Vol. 97, No. 1 (Spring 1982): 1-37

\* Fareed Zakaria. 1998. *From Wealth to Power: The Unusual Origins of America's World Role*. (Princeton University Press), pp. 13-43

\* G. John Ikenberry. 2003. "Is American Multilateralism in Decline?" *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol.1, No.3, (September 2003), pp. 533-550.

**Jan 16 F Issue #1: Is American Hegemony Good for the United States and the World?**

**Jan 19 M**     **MLK Holiday**

**Jan 21 W**     **Dynamics of Decision Making I**

# Hook 2008, Chapter 3

\* Peter Gourevitch 1978. "The Second Image Reversed: The International Sources of Domestic Politics" *International Organization*. Vol. 32, No. 4 (Autumn 1978):881-912

\* Robert Jervis. 2001. "International History and International Politics: Why Are They Studied Differently?" in Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman ed. *Bridges and Boundaries: Historians, Political Scientists, and the Study of International Relations*. (Cambridge: the MIT Press), pp. 385-402.

\* Peter Trubowitz. 1998. "North-South Alliance and the Triumph of Internationalism in the 1930s" in *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press), pp. 96-168

**Jan 23 F**     **Issue #3: Should Promoting Democracy Abroad Be a Top U.S. Priority?**

**Jan 26 M, 28 W**     **Dynamics of Decision Making II**

\* Walter Russell Mead. 2002. *Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How It Changed the World*. (New York: Routledge), pp 3-29, 86-98

\* Peter Trubowitz. 1998. "Sectional Conflict and the Great Debates of the 1890s" in *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press), pp. 31-95

\* Aaron L. Friedberg. 2000. *In the Shadow of the Garrison State: America's Anti-Statism and Its Cold War Grand Strategy*. (Princeton University Press), pp. 34-61

**Jan 30 F**     **Issue #4: Was the War in Iraq Justified?**

## **Part II. Inside-Out: Government Sources of Foreign Policy**

**Feb 2 M, 4 W**     **Presidential Power**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 4

- \* Richard Fleisher et al. 2000. "The Demise of the Two Presidencies" *American Politics Research*. Vol. 28, No. 1, (January 2000): 3-25
- \* John Lewis Gaddis. 2005. "Grand Strategy in the Second Term" *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2005
- \* William G. Howell and Jon C. Pevehouse. 2005. "Presidents, Congress, and the Use of Force." *International Organization*, 59, (Winter 2005): 209-232.

**Feb 6 F**      *Issue #5: Should the United States Stay in Iraq?*

**Feb 9 M, 11 W**      **Congress beyond the "Water's Edge"**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 5

\* Broz J. Lawrence. 2005. "Congressional Politics of International Financial Rescues" *American Journal of Political Science*, 49(3):479-496

\* Patrick Cronin and Benjamin O. Fordham. 1999. "Timeless Principles or Today's Fashion?: Testing the Stability of the Linkage Between Ideology and Foreign Policy in the Senate" *The Journal of Politics*, Vol. 61, No. 4, (November 1999):967-998

\* Jeffrey S. Peake. 2002. "Coalition Building and Overcoming Legislative Gridlock in Foreign Policy, 1947-1998" *Presidential Studies Quarterly* Vol. 32, No. 1:61-83

**Feb 13 F**      *Issue #14: Does Domestic Spying Help the United States?*

**Feb 16 M**      **No Class (Instructor for International Studies Association Conference in NY)**

**Feb 18 W**      **The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 6

\* Graham T. Allison. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis" *American Political Science Review* 63(3):689-718

**Feb 20 F**      *Issue #13: Has the Department of Homeland Security Been a Success?*

**Feb 23 M**      **American Foreign Policy and Party Politics**

\* Charles A. Kupchan and Peter L. Trubowitz. 2007. "Dead Center: The Demise of Liberal Internationalism in the United States" *International Security* Vol. 32, No.2 (Fall 2007):7-44

\* Benjamin O. Fordham. 2007. "The Evolution of Republican and Democratic Positions on Cold War Military Spending: A Historical Puzzle" *Social Science History*, 31:4 (Winter 2007):603-636

## **Feb 25 W Midterm Exam**

**Feb 27 F** *Issue #11: Should the United States Seek Negotiations and Engagement with North Korea?*

## **Part III. Outside-In: External Sources of Foreign Policy**

### **Mar 2 M Public Opinion at Home and Abroad**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 7

\* Larry M. Bartels. 1991. "Constituency Opinion and Congressional Policy Making: The Reagan Defense Buildup" *American Political Science Review* 85(2):457-474

### **Mar 4 W The Impact of Mass Communications**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 8

\* B. Dan Wood and Jeffrey S. Peake. 1998. "The Dynamics of Foreign Policy Agenda Setting" *American Political Science Review* 92(1):173-184

\* Michael L. Bressler. 2008. "Congressional Dissent During Times of War: How Congress Goes Public to Influence Foreign Policy" in *Congress and the Iraq War*, Extensions by the Carl Albert Center (Spring 2008), pp 9-14.

### **Mar 6 F Research Paper Discussion**

**Mar 9-13 Spring Break!**

**Mar 16 M, 18 W Social Movements and Interest Groups**

# Hook 2008. Chapter 9

\* Peter Beinart. 2008. "When Politics No Longer Stops at the Water's Edge: Partisan Polarization and Foreign Policy" in Pietro S. Nivola and David W. Brady ed. *Red and Blue Nation?: Consequences and Correction of America's Polarized Politics*. (Washington D.C.: Brookings Institution Press), pp. 151-167

\* David J. Jackson and Steven T. Engel. 2003. "Friends Don't Let Friends Vote For Free Trade: The Dynamics of the Labor PAC Punishment Strategy over PNTR" *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 56, No.4:441-448

**Mar 20 F Issue #21: Can Humanitarian Intervention Be Justified?**

**Part IV. Policy Domains**

**Mar 23 M, 25 W National Security and Defense Policy**

# Hook 2008, Chapter 10

\* Barry M. Blechman and Tamara C. Wittes. 1999. "Defining Moment: The Threat and of Force in American Foreign Policy" *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 14, No.1. (Spring 1999):1-30

\* David Brule. 2006. "Congressional Opposition, the Economy, and U.S. Dispute Initiation, 1946-2000" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol.50, No.4, (August 2006): 463-483

**Mar 27 F Issue #12: Is the Support for Israel a Key Factor in America's Difficulties in the Middle East?**

**Mar 30 M, Apr 1 W Economic Statecraft**

# Hook 2008, Chapter 11.

\* Douglas A. Irwin. 2006. "Historical Aspects of U.S. Trade Policy" *NBER Reporter*, Summer 2006

\* Jeffrey Frieden. 1988. "Sectoral Conflict and Foreign Economic Policy, 1914-1940" *International Organization*, Vol.42, No.1 (Winter 1988):59-90

\* Peter Trubowitz. 1998. "The Rise of the Sunbelt: America Resurgent in the 1980s" in *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press), pp. 169-234

**Apr 3 F**      **No Class (Instructor for MPSA Conferences in Chicago)**

**Apr 6 M**      ***Issue #16: Is Economic Globalization Good for the United States?***

**Apr 8 W**      **Transnational Policy Problems I**

# Hook 2008, Chapter 12

\* Daniel Tichenor. 2002. "The Politics of Immigration Control: Understanding the Rise and Fall of Policy Regimes" in *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America*. (Princeton University Press), pp 16-45.

\* Jungkun Seo. 2009. "From the Party of Lincoln to the Party of Chinese-must-go: The Chinese Exclusion Debate and Party Building in the post-Reconstruction Era, 1879-1882" *Manuscript*, University of North Carolina, Wilmington.

**Apr 10F**      **No Class (Good Friday Holiday!)**

**Apr 13M**      ***Issue #15: Is Loosening Immigration Regulations Good for the United States?***

**Apr 15W**      **Transnational Policy Problems II**

\* Marc Labonte and Gail Makinen. 2000. "Energy Independence: Would It Free the United States From Oil Price Shocks?" CRS Report for Congress, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C. November 2000)

\* Josh Busby. 2008. "Who Cares about the Weather?: Climate Change and U.S. National Security" *Security Studies*, July 2008.

**Apr 17F**      ***Issue #19: Is It Realistic for the United States to Move Toward Greater Energy Independence?***

**Apr 20M, 22 W**      **Geopolitics, Globalization, and American Foreign Policy**

\* Barry Eichengreen. 2002. "The Globalization Wars: An Economist Reports From the Lines," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2002

\* Peter Trubowitz. 1998. "Geopolitics and Foreign Policy" in *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press), pp. 235-245

\* G. John Ikenberry. "The Rise of China and the Future of the West: Can the Liberal System Survive?" *Foreign Affairs*, Vol.87, No.1, January/February 2008

**Apr 24F**     *Issue #10: Is China's Rise Threatening to the United States?*

**Apr 27M**     **Last Class Day and Course Summary**

**May 4 M**     **Final Exam (11:30 am - 2:30 pm)**