

American Foreign Policy

Winter 2014

Instructor: Professor Tomohito Shinoda
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About this course: This class seeks to provide students with a thorough understanding of American foreign relations. It will first cover the basic history of American diplomacy from the independence war to WWII, and the Cold-War period. Then, it will turn the decision making process of the current US foreign policy.

Organization: This course is lecture-based class, but the instructor encourages students to participate discussion in order to find out more details of the contents.

Course Grade: The course grade will be based on mid-term and final exam (60%), one oral report to the seminar on an journal article of choice (20%), and class attendance and participation in classroom discussions (20%) will account for the remainder of the course grade. In order to pass the class, you need to get at least 50 out of 100 points.

Policies: The students are expected to read all the reading materials and attend all the classes. One week absence would result in the deduction of 4 points. The adjustment can be made for the following two cases: sickness and family emergency. If you miss 40 percent of class without reasonable causes, you fail to pass.

Main Textbooks: The main textbook is Daniel S. Papp, Loch K. Johnson and John E. Endicott, *American Foreign Policy: History, Politics and Policy*, Pearson, 2005. In addition, the main readings are Henry Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, Touchstone Books, 1994; and James Nathan and James K. Oliver, *Foreign Policy Making and the American Political System*, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.

- Week 1** **The Key Concepts and Principles of American Foreign Policy**
International setting including the Balance of Power, Realism vs. Idealism,
American principles of isolationism, moralism, pragmatism and unilateralism
Required: Papp, Ch. 1-2.
- Week 2** **American Foreign Policy to WWII**
This week deals with independence, early-period diplomacy, Monroe Doctrine,
Manifest Destiny, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, and Isolationism
Required: Papp, Ch. 3-5.
Kissinger, Ch.1,2, 3 and 4.
Recommended: Walter Lippman, *U.S. Foreign Policy: Shield of the Republic*,
Little, Brown and Company, 1943: 11-26.
R.W. Van Alstyne, *The Rising American Empire*, W.W. Norton and Company,
1960: 28-53, 100-146.
Robert E. Osgood, *Ideals and Self Interest in America's Foreign Relations*,
University of Chicago Press, 1953.
- Week 3** **The Cold-War Period**
Roosevelt to Johnson Administrations and the strategy of Containment
Nixon to Reagan administrations. Détente and the collapse of the Cold War

system

Required: Papp, Ch. 6

Recommended: Kissinger, Ch. 17-19, 25-30.

- Week 4** **The Post Cold-War Period**
Bush-Clinton-Bush-Obama, the Gulf War to the 2003 Iraq War and Afghan
Required: Papp, Ch.7
- Week 5** **Mid-term Exam**
- U.S. Policy Toward Asia**
U.S. policy toward Japan, China and Korean Peninsula
Required: Richard Armitage and Joseph Nye, “The U.S.-Japan Alliance:
Getting Asia Right through 2020” available at
http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070216_asia2020.pdf
- Week 6** **Presidency and Bureaucracy in Foreign Policy**
The presidency and the foreign policy bureaucracy
Required: Papp, Ch.8
Nathan and Oliver Chaps2-4.
- Week 7** **Congress and Foreign Policy**
Congressional power, oversight
Required: Papp, Ch.9
Nathan and Oliver Chaps5-7.
- Week 8** **Interest Groups, Media, Public Opinion**
Non-government actors and pluralism
Required: Nathan and Oliver Chaps9-11.
- Week 9** **National Security Policy**
War, diplomacy, aid and other instruments of foreign policy
Required: Papp, Ch.10, 11, 14
Nathan and Oliver Chaps8, 12.
- Week 10** **Economic and Trade Policy**
International Macroeconomic policy and trade issues
Required: Papp, Ch.13

Foreign policy was also shaped by the domino theory, which claimed that if one country in a region fell to communism, the other countries in that area would quickly follow. Eisenhower first outlined the theory in response to events in Indochina. France's long struggle to hold on to its colony in Asia ended in 1954 with the signing of the Geneva Accords. American policy at the juncture was twofold: The United States offered support, including military In part, this foreign policy shift sprung from Euro-American relations and public fear. On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland; Britain and France subsequently declared war on Germany, marking the start of World War II. In an address to the American People two days later, President Roosevelt assured the nation that he would do all he could to keep them out of war. The End of World Order and American Foreign Policy. The United States should respond to the COVID-19 reordering moment and stop deterioration in the balance of power with China, bolster relations with India and Europe, and reform the way it deals with allies and partners. The CFR's mission, to provide the analysis and context necessary to inform America's foreign policy choices and to increase public understanding of the world and why it matters, remains as urgent today as at any time in the past century. January 5, 2021.