

POLITICAL SCIENCE 142A: UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLITY

Summer Session I (June 27 – July 30, 2011)
MW 2:00 – 4:50PM
WLH 2206
Office Hours: Tues 1:30 - 3:00 PM
TA: Rupal Mehta (E-mail: mmehta@ucsd.edu)

Professor Erik Gartzke
Office: 327 SSB (Poli Sci)
Phone: (858) 534-8211
E-mail: egartzke@ucsd.edu
Web: <http://dss.ucsd.edu/~egartzke>

Course Description:

Foreign policy stands at the nexus of domestic politics and international relations. This course is designed to familiarize students with U.S. foreign policy from three basic perspectives: history, politics, and current events. While instruction and materials focus on U.S. foreign policy, the tools acquired and insights developed in the course should be applicable to other countries as well.

Course structure is dictated by the limited duration of instruction and by the three perspectives: Lectures will alternate focus on either politics and policy, or on the history of U.S. foreign policy. A review and debate of current events and issues of foreign policy will be ongoing. We will carve out part of each session for a discussion on evolving contemporary topics (Afghanistan, China).

Course Requirements:

- **Class Participation** (20% of course grade): Come to class. We will be taking attendance through the quizzes (see below). There will be opportunities to comment on the materials, on the lecture, and on current events. You are encouraged to ask questions and to discuss your ideas. There is a ***much larger premium*** on being willing to talk than on being ‘right.’
- **Quizzes** (40% of course grade): *Held most days.* These are short quizzes at the beginning of class. We will ask for brief factual information about the readings. Grading is pass/fail and there are no make-ups. To do well, read the assignments and come to class on time.
- **Final Exam** (40% of course grade): Essay exam, choice of questions. Bring exam book.

Note #1: Students are encouraged to study and learn together. However, all written assignments must be the sole product of the person submitting the work. Don’t cheat and don’t plagiarize. If you have any questions about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, please see me.

Note #2: It is your responsibility to apprise me of any factor that may interfere with your ability to perform in this class well in advance of scheduled assignments. Appropriate measures for disabilities and other concerns will be taken in accordance with University of California policy.

Note #3: In order to document requests, students seeking a change of grade must prepare a written memo detailing his or her request and citing reasons for requesting the proposed change.

Required Readings:

Two textbooks are required (The textbooks are available at the UCSD bookstore or online):

- Papp, Daniel, Loch Johnson, John E. Endicott. 2005. *AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY: HISTORY, POLITICS AND POLICY*. New York: Pearson Longman. (“**Papp**”)
- Bernell, David. 2008. *READINGS IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY*. New York: Pearson Longman. (“**Bernell**”)

Students are also encouraged to familiarize themselves with major periodicals with a focus on international relations/foreign policy and follow the international section of major newspapers:

- Financial Times (<http://news.ft.com/world>)
- The New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/index.html>)
- Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/world>)
- Foreign Affairs (<http://www.foreignaffairs.org>)
- Foreign Policy in Focus (<http://www.fpif.org/>)
- The National Interest (<http://www.nationalinterest.org>)
- Foreign Policy Association (<http://www.fpa.org/>)
- Council on Foreign Relations (<http://www.cfr.org/>)

DATE

TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT

WEEK 1 (June 27, 29): Studying Foreign Policy/The New Nation (Framing Foreign Policy)

Monday June 27: Introduction/Syllabus/Levels, Methods, and Concepts, **Papp 1&2**
(**Discussion:** Is the United States an exceptional country? If so, how?)

Wednesday June 29: Designing a Nation, **Papp 3, Bernell 1**

(**Discussion:** Is there such a thing as an American style of foreign policy?)

WEEK 2 (July 4, 6): Second Image/Empire (Embracing Expansion/Shunning the World)

Monday July 4: [NO CLASS – Holiday] Happy 4th!

Watch “Bush’s War” PBS Frontline online:

www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/bushswar/etc/synopsis.html)

Wednesday July 6: Domestic Politics (Institutions/Actors), **Papp 8, 9, Bernell Part 2**

(**Discussion:** Are special interests too powerful?),

WEEK 3 (July 11, 13): Third Image/A Great Power (Nuclear Weapons/Proliferation)

Monday July 11: Expansion and Empire, **Papp 4&5**

(**Discussion:** Is the United States an “empire”? Should it be?)

Wednesday July 13: International Politics (Power), **Papp 10, 11, Bernell Part 4**

(**Discussion:** Should the United States keep its nuclear weapons?)

WEEK 4 (July 18, 20): First Image/ It's a New World Order (Globalization)

Monday July 18: Capitalist Cold Warrior, **Papp 6**

(**Discussion:** What should the U.S. do about its dependence on foreign oil?).

Wednesday July 20: Economics and Intervention, **Papp 13, 14, Bernell Part 5**

(**Discussion:** Is the United States too pro-free trade?)

WEEK 5 (July 25, 27): Hegemony and After (War on Terror, Nation Building, Rise of BRICs)

Monday July 25: Structure, Strife, and Stability, **Papp 7, Bernell Part 2**

(**Discussion:** Should the United States allow more or less immigration?)

Wednesday July 27: Democracy and Terror, **Papp 12, 15, Bernell Part 6**

(**Discussion:** “In” or “out” in Afghanistan?), **Review Frontline “Bush’s War”**

Friday July 29: * FINAL EXAM: 3 – 5:59PM Location TBA *****