

## POLITICAL SCIENCE 142A: UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLITY

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Summer Session I (July 3 – August 5, 2017)

MW 5:00PM – 7:50PM

Peterson Hall 103

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30 - 3:00 PM

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### 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 between politics and policy, or focus 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 portions of sessions to discuss evolving issues (Middle East/ISIS, China, Russia, Cyber).

### Course Requirements:

- **Attendance (10%):** You are required to attend class. Attendance is based on quizzes.
- **Class Participation (10% of course grade):** Read up on the news each day. There will be opportunities to ask questions, to comment on the readings and to discuss current events.
- **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. There is no partial grading and 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):

- Hastedt, Glenn P. 2015. *AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE, 10<sup>th</sup> ed.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. (referred to below as “**H**”)
- Kaufman, Joyce P. 2014. *A CONCISE HISTORY OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. (referred to below as “**K**”)

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 (July 3, 5): Studying Foreign Policy/A New Nation (Framing Foreign Policy)*

Monday July 3: Introduction/Syllabus/Levels, Methods, and Concepts, **H 1; K 1**

(**Discussion:** What is “foreign policy”? How do we evaluate success/failure?)

Wednesday July 5: Designing a Nation, **H 2; K 2**

(**Discussion:** Is China’s “nine-dash line” just like the U.S. “Monroe Doctrine”?)

*WEEK 2 (July 10, 12): Second Image/Empire (Embracing Expansion/Shunning the World)*

Monday July 10: Expansion and Empire, **H 3, 4; K 3**

(**Discussion:** Is the U.S. “exceptional”? Is there a U.S. style of foreign policy?)

Wednesday July 12: Domestic Politics (Institutions/Actors), **H 5-7**

(**Discussion:** What do Americans “need to know” in foreign policy? When [if ever] does it make sense for U.S. officials to conceal information from the public?)

*WEEK 3 (July 17, 19): Third Image/A Great Power (Nuclear Weapons/Proliferation)*

Monday July 17: “Bush’s War” ([www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/bushswar/view/](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/bushswar/view/)),  
**[watch the second episode of “Bush’s War” at home after class Monday]**

(**Discussion:** Is bombing ISIS a wise and useful policy? Will it succeed?)

Wednesday July 19: International Politics (Power), **H 8, 9**

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

*WEEK 4 (July 24, 26): First Image/It’s a New World Order (Globalization)*

Monday July 24: Capitalist Cold Warrior, **K 4, 5**

(**Discussion:** What is to be done about Ukraine? When should the U.S. intervene?)

Wednesday July 26: Economics and Intervention, **H 10, 11**

(**Discussion:** Should the United States continue to favor free trade? What are the benefits and costs of a large standing army? Should we re-institute conscription?)

*WEEK 5 (July 31, August 2): Hegemony & After (War on Terror, Nation Building, Rise of BRICs)*

Monday July 31: Structure, Strife, and Stability, **H 12, 13; K 6, 7**

(**Discussion:** Is the Iran nuclear weapons deal (JCPOA) a good or bad bargain?)

Wednesday August 2: Democracy and Terror, **H 14; K 8**

(**Discussion:** How should the U.S. manage its relations with China in the future?)

**Friday August 4: \*\*\* FINAL EXAM: 7:00PM – 9:59PM Location TBA \*\*\***