

Professor David L. Fisk
Spring Quarter 2012
Lecture Schedule: 11:00-11:50 MWF
Lecture Location: CNTR 115
Office Hours: TBA
Office Location: TBA
Teaching Assistant(s): Matt Kearney (mckearney@ucsd.edu), Rupal Mehta (rnmehta@ucsd.edu)
Course Website: TBA

POLI 142A: UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY

Course Description: This course is designed to expose students to the framework and history of American foreign policy from the American Revolution to the present. We will also investigate the actors, beliefs, institutions, and other factors which shape American foreign policy. Although this course expects no prior knowledge in the field of foreign policy, familiarity with the concepts presented in POLI 12 (Introduction to International Relations) or POLI 145C (International Relations after the Cold War) will be useful.

Course Objectives:

1. Provide the tools necessary to become a discerning consumer of information as it relates to US foreign policy.
2. Trace the historical evolution of United States foreign policy.
3. Examine the internal and external factors which shape US foreign policy.
4. Evaluate US foreign policy in light of current international challenges.
5. Develop a framework with which to evaluate US foreign policy.

Course Grading/Assignments: The grade for this course will be calculated as follows:

Course Participation: 10%

Midterm: 45%

Final Examination: 45%

Participation: Students are expected to attend lecture having completed the assigned reading and able to participate in course discussions. Current events discussion will occur at the beginning of each lecture, so students are strongly encouraged to be on time and ready to participate. Students are encouraged to read the *Economist* or another reputable news source on a regular basis. Please note that this list is not exhaustive:

New York Times Online (<http://www.nytimes.com>)

Economist Online (<http://www.economist.com>)

CNN (<http://www.cnn.com>)

BBC News (<http://news.bbc.co.uk>)

Financial Times (<http://www.ft.com>)

Al Jazeera English (<http://english.aljazeera.net>)

Course Papers: The midterm and final examination will be 6-8 pages in length. Materials relating to format of the midterm and final examinations will be placed on the course website and will also be discussed in class. A handout for writing social sciences papers will be made available.

Late Assignments/Academic Integrity: Barring documented emergencies, **no late assignments will be accepted**. Additionally, a hard copy of each paper is required; e-mail attachments will **not** be accepted. While issues of plagiarism are not expected, course assignments are to be completed on an individual basis. Incidents of plagiarism will be dealt with according to department and university procedures. Please be advised that credit will **NOT** be given for any work found to violate university policies on academic integrity.

Course Conduct: We are aware that students face a variety of pressures during their academic careers and while we are sympathetic to frustrations which arise from time to time we will **NOT** tolerate threatening, disrespectful or violent behavior aimed at the teaching staff, departmental staff, and/or other students. Please be aware that **ANY** behavior which violates university policy will be forwarded to relevant administrator or campus police for investigation.

Reading Schedule: As this is an upper division course, required readings for the course are extensive. As course examinations draw heavily from course readings and lecture material, students are strongly discouraged from depending solely on lecture material as course assignments showing little evidence of familiarity with course readings will be penalized. Strategies for tackling academic readings can be found at: <http://www.si.umich.edu/~pne/PDF/howtoread.pdf>. Electronic versions of all readings from *Foreign Affairs* can be obtained via ROGER using the following URL: http://ucelinks.cdlib.org:8888/sfx_local?sid=SCP:SCP&genre=article&char_set=utf8&issn=0015-7120. Please be advised that electronic versions of courses readings must be accessed from a UC location or through a proxy network. Please refer any questions about ROGER to the Geisel Library.

Books (required):

Cox, M and D. Stokes. U.S. Foreign Policy

Carter, R. Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy 4th Ed.

Beasley et al. Foreign Policy in Comparative Perspective. 1st Ed.

(NOTE: The 2nd edition will not be available until May, so we will use the 1st edition of this book).

Reserve readings

Week 1 (2-6 April):

Course Logistics

Theme: Why Do We Care about US Foreign Policy?

Cox and Stokes Introduction

Theme: Approaches to US Foreign Policy

Cox and Stokes CH 1, 2 and 10

Walt (Foreign Policy November 2011) <http://bit.ly/pV8CUH>

Friedman and Mandelbaum (Foreign Policy 2011) <http://bit.ly/rr7NNS>

Week 2 (9-13 April):

Theme: Historical Contexts and US Foreign Policy

Cox and Stokes CH 3-5

Fukuyama (End of History) <http://www.wesjones.com/eoh.htm>

Huntington (Foreign Affairs-Summer 1993)

Week 3 (16-20 April):

Theme: Actors/Factors in US Foreign Policy-Institutions

Cox and Stokes CH 6 and 7

Carter CH 2

Theme: Actors/Factors in US Foreign Policy-Media/Public Opinion

Cox and Stokes CH 8 and 9

Week 4 (23-27 April):

Theme: US Foreign Policy and 9/11

Cox and Stokes CH 18 and 20

Bush: <http://bit.ly/qtQD1V>

Obama: <http://1.usa.gov/aZrfUd>

Lake (Rational Extremism): <http://bit.ly/re9UhU>

Pape (Suicide Terrorism): <http://bit.ly/4MsXJ7>

MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED

Week 5 (30 April-4 May):

Theme: US Foreign Policy and the Middle East

Cox and Stokes CH 11

US-Israeli Foreign Policy

Beasley CH 9

Walt and Mearsheimer <http://bit.ly/1AJqHK>

Dershowitz <http://bit.ly/yP6PfV>

US-Iranian Foreign Policy

Beasley CH 10

Carter CH 4

Edelman et al. (Foreign Affairs-January/February 2011)

Lindsay and Takeyh (Foreign Affairs-March/April 2010)

Week 6 (7-11 May):

Theme: The Transatlantic Relationship

Cox and Stokes CH 12

US-British, French, German Foreign Policy

Beasley CH 2-4

Kagan (Power and Weakness): <http://bit.ly/olYeTD>

Moravcsik (Foreign Affairs-July/August 2003)

Brzezinski (Foreign Affairs-January/February 2012)

MIDTERM DUE

Week 7 (14-18 May):

Theme: US and Asian Pacific Relations

Cox and Stokes CH 14

US/Japanese Foreign Policy

Beasley CH 7

Heginbotham et al. (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2011)

Packard (Foreign Affairs-March/April 2010)

US/Chinese Foreign Policy

Beasley CH 6

Carter CH 12

Economy and Segal (Foreign Affairs-May/June 2009)

Pei (Foreign Policy July/Aug 2009) <http://bit.ly/zdNFDo>

Week 8 (21-25 May):

Theme: US/Russian Relations

Cox and Stokes CH 13

Beasley CH 5

Simes (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2007)

King (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2008)

FINAL DISTRIBUTED

Week 9 (30 May-1 June):

Theme: New Challenges for US Foreign Policy-Hegemony and the Security Trap

Cox and Stokes CH 21

Gelb (Foreign Affairs-May/June 2009)

Nye: (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2010)

Maintaining US Hegemony

Ferguson TBA-Reserves

Bacevich TBA-Reserves

Zakaria (Rise of the Rest): <http://bit.ly/pPN0uL>

Joffe (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2009)

Week 10 (4-8 June)

Theme: Prospects for US Foreign Policy

Cox and Stokes CH 22

Romney (Foreign Policy-July/August 2007)

Obama (Foreign Policy-July/August 2007)

FINAL EXAMINATION DUE: 11:30-2:30 on 15 June 2012 (Location TBA on Tritonlink)

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to provide an overview of the course. You cannot claim any rights from it. While the information included within the syllabus should be a reliable guide for the course, scheduling and dates may change. Official announcements are always those made in lecture.