

Professor David L. Fisk  
Spring Quarter 2018  
Lecture Schedule: 2:00-2:50 MWF  
Lecture Location: Warren Lecture Hall 2111  
Office Hours: 4:15-6:15 W  
Office Location: SSB 325  
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Teaching Assistants:  
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## **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:** This course will provide the tools necessary to become a discerning consumer of information as it relates to US foreign policy and at the end of the quarter, students will be able to:

1. Trace the historical evolution of United States foreign policy.
2. Examine the internal and external factors which shape US foreign policy.
3. Evaluate US foreign policy considering current international challenges.
4. Develop a framework with which to evaluate US foreign policy.
5. Become more discerning consumers of political media.
6. Improve written and oral communication skills.

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

Participation: 10%  
Midterm Examination: 45%  
Final Examination: 45%

**Peer Instruction:** The academic literature on teaching and learning has documented a strong causal relationship between active participation, course content discussion, and student learning, but structuring active discussion can be difficult in large lecture courses. To facilitate active participation and discussion, I will use a relatively new pedagogy, Peer Instruction, which, together with clicker technology, can assist in the facilitation of both small and large group discussions which research suggests promotes student learning gains. Subsequently, each student is required to have a clicker and to bring it to every lecture. **We will begin “practicing” with Peer Instruction and clickers during the first and second weeks of class, with clicker participation factoring into your participation grade during the third week.** If you do not already have a clicker, this will allow you time to find, borrow, or purchase one. Please note that if you buy your clicker online, purchase the I-clicker brand, which is what UCSD’s infrastructure supports. Additionally, if you

want to sell the clicker back to the UCSD bookstore, you should purchase the I-clicker 2, because although the I-clicker 1 works for the class, the UCSD Bookstore will not buy back I-clicker 1 remotes at the end of the quarter. **Please remember to register your clicker on TritonEd (the link is on course home page, last item on upper left menu), because participation points will not register to your course participation grade if your clicker is not registered.**

**Clicker Question Expectations:** Peer Instruction questions will be geared toward enhancing your understanding of course readings, current events, and lecture material and will help you prepare for course examinations. In general, I will ask two different types of clicker questions. One type of question (reading/application) will focus on a central point from your readings/lectures and may test your ability to apply theoretical concepts learned in the readings or lectures towards explaining current events. Pedagogically, reading/application questions are used to strengthen critical reading and thinking skills, and ensure that central concepts are generally understood. A second type of question (discussion) will be a “polling” question, asking you to take a stand on an issue related to European integration. Pedagogically, these questions are designed to hone critical thinking skills and, specifically, the ability to articulate persuasive arguments to support particular positions, based on logic and compelling evidence.

**Current Events Discussion:** I will open each lecture with a discussion of relevant news topics, followed by a reading/application question which will ask you to identify key concepts in the reading and/or how current events reflect theoretical discussions reflected in the reading or from lecture. For reading/application questions, you will receive full credit (1 pt.) for getting the question correct and half credit (.5 pt.) simply for participating. To ensure that you can build connections between theoretical material and current events, keeping up with course readings (and current events) will be useful. In order to apply theoretical discussions to the analysis of political phenomenon, students should become familiar with various news resources providing extensive coverage of international politics. The following is a list of websites which may be of interest:

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Lecture Discussion:** In addition to current events discussions, I may also ask clicker questions throughout lecture. Reading/application questions posed during lecture will be scored in the same manner listed above (i.e., full credit for giving the correct answer, half credit for participating). I may also ask discussion questions during lecture, which will ask you to discuss/debate pressing issues in European politics. For discussion questions, you will receive full credit (1 pt.) for participating.

**Grading Participation:** In assessing your grade for the participation component of the course, 20% of the total clicker points during the official counting period can be missed without penalty. Approximately 1 – 3 clicker questions will be asked per class period, so if you miss a session or forget your clicker, that should not negatively impact your participation grade. Failure to click in on more than 20% of the clicker questions will, however, negatively impact your participation grade and lost participation credit cannot be “made up”. Subsequently, as this course requires regular attendance and active participation, you should keep these responsibilities in mind as you decide whether to remain in this course.

**Course Behavior:** While issues of threatening or inappropriate behavior are not expected at the university level, please be advised that inappropriate, insensitive, and/or threatening behavior directed towards other students or the teaching staff will not be tolerated. Any violation of UCSD's student conduct code will be referred to the appropriate administrative office for review.

**Midterm and Final Examinations:** Both course examinations will be 6-8 pages in length and the topic and due dates will be discussed in lecture. Please be advised that course examinations build on both lecture information and course readings, subsequently, papers which do not show familiarity with both will be penalized. **For both examinations, we require BOTH a hard copy submitted in class AND an electronic copy submitted to turnitin.com. We will NOT grade any examination which does not include BOTH submissions.**

**Late Assignments:** **Barring emergencies accompanied by valid documentation, no late assignments will be accepted. Please be advised that this includes BOTH hard copy submissions and electronic copy submissions.** Students should notify us prior to an assignment's deadline of any emergency which may preclude them from submitting an assignment on time (i.e., we will **NOT** typically entertain any emergency requests received after the paper is due).

**E-Mail Attachments:** Please be advised that a hard copy of each assignment is required to be submitted prior to the deadline for the assignment; e-mail attachments will not be accepted.

**Academic Integrity:** 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 under no circumstances will credit be given for any assignment which is deemed to violate UCSD's policies on academic integrity, subsequently, if either examination is found to violate UCSD's policies on academic integrity, no credit will be given for the assignment and a grade of "F" will be posted for the course. Additionally, "clicking in" on behalf of another student is a violation of Academic Integrity and will be dealt with according to university procedures regarding academic integrity, subsequently, any student found responsible for violating UCSD policies on academic integrity related to clicker participation will receive a grade of "0" for the course participation component of the course.

**Books (required):**

Cox, M and D. Stokes. U.S. Foreign Policy. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.

Beasley et al. Foreign Policy in Comparative Perspective. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.

Reserve readings

**Course Readings:** As this is an upper division course, required readings are extensive (although it is nothing compared to what you will see in any graduate program). As course examinations will draw heavily from course readings and lecture material, students are strongly discouraged from depending solely on lecture material for course assignments as course assignments that show 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](http://ucelinks.cdlib.org:8888/sfx_local?sid=SCP:SCP&genre=article&_char_set=utf8&issn=0015-7120). Electronic versions of all readings from *Foreign Policy* can be obtained via ROGER using the following URL: <http://roger.ucsd.edu/search~S9?/tFOREIGN+POLICY+/tforeign+policy/1%2C270%2C354%2CE/2exact&FF=tforeign+policy&1%2C4%2C> 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 regarding electronic access to Geisel articles via ROGER to library staff.

# **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

## **UNIT ONE: EVOLUTION OF US FOREIGN POLICY**

### **Week 1 (2-6 April): Approaches to US Foreign Policy**

Cox and Stokes CH 1 and 2

Walt (Foreign Policy November 2011)

Friedman and Mandlebaum (Foreign Policy 2011)

**NO CLASS 4-6 APRIL DUE TO CONFERENCE**

### **Week 2 (9-13 April): Historical Context**

Cox and Stokes CH 3-5

## **UNIT TWO: SHAPING US FOREIGN POLICY**

### **Week 3 (16-20 April): Institutions Shaping US Foreign Policy**

Cox and Stokes CH 7, 9 and 10

## **UNIT THREE: US FOREIGN POLICY AND WORLD POLITICS**

### **Week 4 (23-27 April): US Foreign Policy Post 9/11**

Cox and Stokes CH 21

Trump National Security Strategy (NSS)\*: Introduction and Pillar I

#### **Terrorism and US Foreign Policy**

Cox and Stokes CH 19

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

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

Pape (It's the Occupation Stupid): <http://atfp.co/1ZhKDR4>

#### **MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED**

### **Week 5 (30 April – 4 May): US Foreign Policy and the Middle East**

Cox and Stokes CH 12

Trump NSS Middle East \*

AND *ONE* OF THE FOLLOWING CASES:

#### **US-Israel: Does the “Special Relationship” Serve US Interests?**

Drake\*

Blackwill and Gordon: <https://bit.ly/2H4dOVl>

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

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

Gramer: <https://goo.gl/4I88Z1>

**US-Iran: Does the Nuclear Deal Serve US Interests?**

Beasley CH 10

Zarif (Foreign Affairs-May/June 2014)

Ganji (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2013)

Cohen, Edelman and Takeyh (Foreign Affairs-January/February 2016)

BBC News (Key Points): <http://bbc.in/1J0zKxe>

**Week 6 (7-11 May): US Foreign Policy and Europe (UK, France, and Germany)**

Cox and Stokes CH 13

Beasley CH 2, 3 **OR** 4

Trump NSS Pillars II-IV and Europe

**US-Europe: Is There a Future for the Transatlantic Relationship?**

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

Moravcsik (Foreign Affairs-July/August 2003)

Moisi (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2003)

**MIDTERM DUE**

**Week 7 (14-18 May): US Foreign Policy and Asia (Japan and China)**

Cox and Stokes CH 15

Trump NSS Indo-Pacific and South and Central Asia

AND *ONE* OF THE FOLLOWING CASES:

**US-China: Managing a G-2 World?**

Beasley CH 6

Leonard (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2013)

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

Pei (Foreign Policy July/Aug 2009)\*

Shambaugh (Foreign Affairs July/August 2015)

**US-Japan: Is it Time to “Re-Think” the US/Japan Alliance?**

Beasley CH 7

Packard (Foreign Affairs March/April 2010)

Curtis (Foreign Affairs March/April 2013)

Miller and Yokota (Foreign Affairs January 2013)

Brooks et al. (Foreign Affairs-January/February 2013)

**Week 8 (21-25 May): US Foreign Policy and Russia**

Cox and Stokes CH 14

Beasley CH 5

**US-Russia: Are We Witnessing a “New Cold War”?**

Trenin (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2009)

Mearsheimer (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2014)

Legvold (Foreign Affairs-July/August 2014)

Sarotte (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2014)

CFR (Trump and Russia): <https://goo.gl/oSCd6i>

## **UNIT FOUR: HEGEMONY AND US FOREIGN POLICY**

### **Week 9 (28 May-1 June): Hegemony and the Security Trap**

Cox and Stokes CH 22

Goldberg (The Obama Doctrine): <http://theatlantic.com/1UUZ50W>

Luttwak (Enough Hysterics. Trump's Foreign Policy...): <https://goo.gl/f6Pu4g>

Kitfield (The Knowns and Unknowns of Donald...): <https://goo.gl/HSmx5O>

### **FINAL DISTRIBUTED**

### **Week 10 (4-8 June): Prospects for US Hegemony**

#### **Perspectives on Hegemony**

Cox and Stokes CH 23

Trump NSS Conclusions

#### **AND CHOOSE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING:**

Ferguson (Colossus)\*

Bacevich (Limits of Power)\*

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

Joffe (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2009)

Haass (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2014)

Kagan (End of Dreams): <http://hvr.co/1A67Rxo>

### **FINAL EXAMINATION DUE: 3:00-5:59 PM ON 15 JUNE 2018**

**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.*