

Professor David L. Fisk
Winter Quarter 2015
Lecture Schedule: 2:00-2:50 MWF
Lecture Location: Pepper Canyon Hall 121
Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MF
Office Location: SSB 325
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Teaching Assistants:
Heidi Hall (h1hall@ucsd.edu-SSB 343)
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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 semester, 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 in light of 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 Grading/Assignments: The grade for this course will be calculated as follows:

Participation/Attendance: 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 particularly 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>)

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>)

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. All assignments in this course require both a hard copy and an electronic copy to be submitted into turnitin.com before the deadline. **Under NO circumstances will we grade an assignment which does not include both a hard copy and an electronic submission.** Subsequently, **if you do not submit both you will receive a zero on the assignment and you will fail the course.** Please be advised that it is your responsibility to submit both submissions and that issues of fairness preclude us from deviating from this policy. 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. While we are sympathetic to the 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.

Books (required):

Cox, M and D. Stokes. U.S. Foreign Policy. 2nd Ed.

Beasley et al. Foreign Policy in Comparative Perspective. 2nd 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. 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.

UNIT ONE: EVOLUTION OF US FOREIGN POLICY

Week 1 (5-9 January): Why Do We Care?

Cox and Stokes Introduction

Approaches to US Foreign Policy

Cox and Stokes CH 1, 2 and 11

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

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

Week 2 (12-16 January): Historical Context

Cox and Stokes CH 3-5

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

Huntington (Foreign Affairs-Summer 1993)

UNIT TWO: SHAPING US FOREIGN POLICY

Week 3 (19-25 January): Actors/Factors Shaping US Foreign Policy

Cox and Stokes CH 7-10

NO CLASS 19 January: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

UNIT THREE: US FOREIGN POLICY AND WORLD POLITICS

Week 4 (26-30 January): US Foreign Policy Post 9/11

Cox and Stokes CH 6 and 19

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

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

MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED

Week 5 (2-6 February): US Foreign Policy and the Middle East

Cox and Stokes CH 12

US-Israeli Foreign Policy

Drake*

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

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

Ratnam: <http://atfp.co/1BfLzcb>

Runkle: <http://atfp.co/1vDjk3n>

US-Iranian Foreign Policy

Beasley CH 10

Zarif (Foreign Affairs-May/June 2014)

Ganji (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2013)

Pollack and Takeyh (Foreign Affairs-May/June 2014)

Week 6 (9-13 February): US Foreign Policy and Europe (UK, France, Germany)

Cox and Stokes CH 13

Beasley CH 2-4

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

Moravcsik (Foreign Affairs-July/August 2003)

Moisi (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2003)

Brzezinski (Foreign Affairs-January/February 2012)

MIDTERM DUE

Week 7 (16-20 February): US Foreign Policy and Asia (Japan and China)

Cox and Stokes CH 15

Beasley CH 6 and 7

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

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

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

NO CLASS 16 February: Presidents Day

Week 8 (23-27 February): US Foreign Policy and Russia

Cox and Stokes CH 14

Beasley CH 5

Trenin (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2009)

Mearsheimer (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2014)

Levgold (Foreign Affairs-July/August 2014)

Sarotte (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2014)

FINAL DISTRIBUTED

UNIT FOUR: HEGEMONY AND US FOREIGN POLICY

Week 9 (2-6 March): Hegemony and the Security Trap

Cox and Stokes CH 21

Ferguson (Colossus)*

Bacevich (Limits of Power)*

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

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

Week 10 (9-13 March): Prospects

Cox and Stokes CH 22 and 23

Joffe (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2009)

Fukuyama (Foreign Affairs-September/October 2014)

Haass (Foreign Affairs-November/December 2014)

FINAL EXAMINATION DUE: 3:00-6:00pm on 16 March 2015

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.*