

Political Science 245
The United States in World Politics
Autumn 2006

Tuesday & Thursday 03:30-05:18 PM
Room: Smith Laboratory (SM) 1048

Office Hours: W 2 – 4 PM
or by appointment
Website: <http://psweb.sbs.ohio-state.edu/grads/ysulaimn/>

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Course Description

What drives the American foreign policy? That is the main question that we are going to answer in this class. Thus, the goal of this course is to provide analytical tools necessary for students to understand and to explain the conducts of the United States in the world politics.

The first part of the class will discuss important concepts in international relations such as levels of analysis and basic theoretical perspectives of international relations, notably realism and liberalism, building the theoretical foundations necessary to understand the conducts in foreign policy. The second part of this class will apply the concepts that we have discussed in the first part of this class to analyze the United States foreign policy since the Second World War.

A word of warning: this is a theoretically heavy course involving lots of readings.

GEC Goals

1. Diversity: International Issues courses help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world.
2. Courses in social science help students understand human behavior and cognition, and the structures of human societies, cultures and institutions.

GEC Learning Objectives

1. Students exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture.
2. Students understand the theories and methods of scientific inquiry as they are applied to the studies of individuals, groups, organizations, and societies.
3. Students comprehend human differences and similarities in various psychological, social, cultural, economic, geographic, and political contexts.
4. Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and social values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Course Requirements

- Quizzes 2.5%

• Simulation	7.5%
• Midterm	30%
• Research paper (6-8 pages)	30%
• Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Readings

All books are available at the University Bookstore, UBX, SBX, and Internet bookstores such as at Amazon.com, Barnesnoble.com, or Booksamillion.com. I don't care where you buy the books, as long as you read them before coming to class.

- Hook, Steven W., *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power* (Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2005)
- Walt, Stephen M., *Taming American Power* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2006)

Academic Honesty

I expect all of the work you do in this course to be your own. I will tolerate absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas without proper citation). I will report any cases of cheating or plagiarism to the university committee on academic misconduct, and they will be handled according to university policy.

Disability

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs, and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so.

Quizzes

There will be at least five quizzes which I will hold at random during the entire quarter, except during the midterm week. I will drop the lowest score and **only use four** for your final grade. The materials will be from the required readings of that week. **WARNING:** While the quiz is only 2.5% of your entire grade, that 2.5% often influences whether you will get a B or B+, B- or B, etc.

Website

Some of the readings required for this class can be found on the website. All of them can be downloaded from the campus or if you are living off campus, visit <http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu> to log on the university's system and then you can download all the required readings.

In addition, the outline of the lectures will be available on my website. After I finish the lecture, I will post the completed lecture on my website. In addition, announcements, a copy of this syllabus, midterm and final exam guides will also be posted on my website. So, make sure you check it once a week.

E-mail

You are required to have activated your osu.edu e-mail account. Every time I need to send you announcements or personal communications, I will send it to your osu.edu account. I will not accept any excuses such as you never check your OSU e-mail account.

"Virtual World" Simulation

Every Tuesday we will engage in a "virtual world" simulation. Participatory in this simulation is mandatory. Failure to participate without proper excuse would result in point deduction from the total you can get from this simulation. Three unexcused absences will result in zero points for this part of the grade.

For this simulation, it is recommended that you bring calculator to the class due to the numbers of calculations that you may have to perform.

Starting on October 5, you are required to turn in "Simulation Memo" (or reflection paper) at the beginning of each simulation session (one page in length, single-spaced, though more is acceptable). The memo is basically an ongoing journal about your experience in this simulation – what do you feel as a president, minister of defense, minister of economy, or minister of technology, depending your "role" in this simulation. **Each member of the team MUST submit a memo every week.**

Satisfactory completion of the memos and participation in this simulation will give you full credit for the simulation part of the grade. *Failure to submit your reflection paper means that the **maximum grade you can get from this simulation is C+ and the paper **MUST BE TYPED.** No late submission is accepted unless with my permission.***

Schedule of Classes

- September 21 **Introduction**
Readings: Hook Ch. 1 (1-20)
- 26 **Introduction to "Virtual World" Simulation**
Readings: the manual
- 28 **Conceptual foundations of International Relations**
Readings: Hook Ch. 3 (58-90)
- October 3 **Systemic influence on American Foreign Policy**
Readings: Walt, Stephen M., "International Relations: One World, Many Theories" In *Foreign Policy* 110 (Spring 1998) – Available on the website
- 5 **Institutional Constraints (I): Presidential Power**
Readings: Hook Ch. 4 (93-120)
- 10 **Institutional Constraints (II): Congressional Power**
Readings: Hook Ch. 5 (121-150)
- 12 **Institutional Constraints (III): Bureaucratic Politics**
Readings: Allison, Graham T., "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," In *American Political Science Review* 63, No. 3 (September 1969): 689-718 – JSTOR – link on the website

Hook Ch. 6 (153-186)
- 17 **Public Opinion and Foreign Policy**
Readings: Hook Ch. 7 (189-220)
- 19 **Interest Groups and Foreign Policy**
Readings: Hook Ch. 8 (222-254)
- 24 **Historical Context of American Foreign Policy/Review**
Readings: Hook Ch. 2 (23-57)
- 26 **Midterm Exam**
- 31 **International Institution**
Readings: Hook Ch. 9 (257-89)
- November 2 **Issues in National Security: Introduction**
Readings: Hook Ch. 10 (293-327)

7 **New Direction in Foreign Policy?**

Readings: Krauthammer, Charles, "The Unipolar Moment" In *Foreign Affairs* (1990) – Available on the website

Walt: Introduction and Ch 1 (13-61)

You should have started your paper by now. Please see me during office hours or schedule an appointment if you want to discuss your paper.

9 **Post Cold War Debate: The Roots of Resentment?**

Readings: Rodman, Peter, " The World's Resentment: Anti-Americanism as a Global Phenomenon" In *the National Interest* (Summer 2000) – Available on the website

Walt: Ch. 2-3

14 **Post Cold War Debate: Ongoing debates**

Readings: Krauthammer, Charles, "The Unipolar Moment Revisited" In *the National Interest* (Winter 2002/3) – Available on the website

Walt: Ch. 4-5

16 **The Future of the United States' Foreign Policy**

Readings: Huntington, Samuel P., "The Lonely Superpower" In *Foreign Affairs*, Vol 78, No. 2 (March-April 1999) – Available on the website

21 **Economic Statecraft**

Readings: Hook Ch. 11 (329-59)

Paper due

28 **Transnational Policy Problems**

Readings: Hook Ch. 12 (361-89)

30 **Conclusion + Review**

December

5 **FINAL EXAM**

NOTE: IT IS HELD AT REGULAR CLASS HOUR

Additional resources:

- Classical Realists:
 - Carr, Edmund Hale, *The Twenty Years Crisis* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2001)
 - Morgenthau, Hans J., *Politics Among Nations* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985)
 - --, *Scientific Man and Power Politics* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1946)

- Defensive Realists:
 - Van Evera, Stephen, "Offense, Defense, and the Causes of War" *International Security* 22:4 (Spring 1998)
 - Walt, Stephen, *The Origin of Alliances* (Cornell: Cornell University Press, 1987)
 - Waltz, Kenneth N., *Theory of International Politics* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1979)

- Offensive Realists:
 - Mearsheimer, John J., "Back to the Future: Instability in Europe after the Cold War" *International Security* 15:1 (Summer 1990)
 - ---, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2001)

- Neoclassical Realists:
 - Schweller, Randall L., *Deadly Imbalance* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1998)
 - Zakaria, Fareed, *From Wealth to Power* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999)

- Neoliberal Institutionalists:
 - Keohane, Robert, *After Hegemony* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984)

- Constructivists
 - Hopf, Ted, *Social Construction of International Politics* (Cornell: Cornell University Press, 2002)
 - --, "The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory," *International Security* 23:1 (Summer 1998)

- Second Level Analysis
 - Allison, Graham and Philip Zelikow, *Essence of Decision* (New York: Pearson Longman, 1999)
 - Snyder, Jack, *Myth of Empire* (Cornell: Cornell University Press, 1993)
(defensive realist perspective on domestic politics)

- First level analysis
 - Jervis, Robert, *Perception and Misperception in International Relations* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1976)
 - Samuels, Richard J., *Machiavelli's Children* (Cornell: Cornell University Press, 2003)