

**Western University**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**American Foreign Policy 4401F / 9754A**  
**Fall 2014**  
**Wednesday, 1:30-3:30, SH 3355**

Instructor: Steven Seligman  
Email: sseligma@uwo.ca  
Phone: 519-661-2111 X 85182

Office: SSC 4139  
Office Hour: Wednesday 12:30-1:30

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course provides an advanced introduction to the study of American foreign policy. The first section of the course covers major theoretical frameworks that have been used by scholars to explain the conduct of American foreign policy. The second section of the course addresses the key actors that shape American foreign policy and also examines some foreign policy issues and the policy instruments used by the United States to address these issues. The third section of the course uses a variety of case studies to examine American foreign policy toward different countries and regions throughout the world.

### **PREREQUISITES**

Political Science 2244E or Political Science 2231E or International Relations 2701E

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE RE PREREQUISITES/ANTIREQUISITES**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course requisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

- Office of the Dean, Faculty of Social Science

## **BOOKS AND READINGS**

There is one required book for purchase, which is available at The Bookstore at Western. Other required readings are available online using the OWL system: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

The required book is:

Steven W. Hook and Christopher M. Jones, eds., *Routledge Handbook of American Foreign Policy*. (New York: Routledge 2012).

## **GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

- 1) Seminar Participation: 20%
- 2) Short Paper (Due in class October 8): 20%
- 3) Research Paper (Due in class November 26): 60%

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1) Seminar Participation: As this course is a seminar and not a lecture, students are expected to arrive to each class having done the readings and prepared to engage in a discussion about them. The instructor will facilitate discussion by introducing key concepts, posing questions about the readings and answering questions students may have. Attendance will be taken each class, but the bulk of the seminar participation grade will be based on active participation in the discussion and not merely attending.

2) Short Paper: Students will write a paper of approximately 5-7 pages (double spaced, 12 point font) in response to a question provided by the instructor. Students will have some choice among a few questions provided, which will address material covered during the first section of the course. More information will be provided on the first day of class.

3) Research Paper: Students will write a research paper of approximately 15-18 pages (double spaced, 12 point font) on a topic of their choice that pertains to American foreign policy. It is recommended that students briefly consult with the instructor about their topic and central argument prior to beginning the assignment. More information will be provided on the first day of class.

## **WEEKLY READINGS AND TOPICS**

### **September 10 - Introduction**

No readings

## **SECTION 1 - THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS**

### **September 17 - International Relations Theory and American Foreign Policy**

Steven W. Hook and Christopher M. Jones, eds., *Routledge Handbook of American Foreign Policy*.

Chapter 5: *Realism*

Chapter 6: *Liberalism*

Chapter 7: *Critical Theories*

Chapter 8: *Constructivism*

Chapter 9: *Bureaucratic Politics*

Chapter 10: *Individual and Group Decision Making*

Chapter 31: *The Balance of Power*

### **September 24 - Ideas and American Foreign Policy**

Walter Russell Mead, *Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How It Changed the World*.

Chapter 3: *Changing the Paradigms* (Read only pages 79-98)

Chapter 4: *The Serpent and The Dove: The Hamiltonian Way*

Chapter 5: *The Connecticut Yankee in the Court of King Arthur: Wilsonianism and Its Mission*

Chapter 6: *"Vindicator Only of Her Own: The Jeffersonian Tradition*

Chapter 7: *Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright: The School of Andrew Jackson*

## **SECTION 2 - ACTORS, POLICY INSTRUMENTS AND ISSUES**

### **October 1 - State Actors**

Steven W. Hook and Christopher M. Jones, eds., *Routledge Handbook of American Foreign Policy*.

Chapter 11: *The Presidency*

Chapter 12: *The National Security Council*

Chapter 13: *The Department of State*

Chapter 14: *The Department of Defense*  
Chapter 15: *National Security Intelligence*  
Chapter 16: *The Foreign Economic Bureaucracy*  
Chapter 17: *Congress*  
Chapter 18: *Law and Courts*

### **October 8 - Non-State Actors**

\*\*\* Short Paper due in class today \*\*\*

Steven W. Hook and Christopher M. Jones, eds., *Routledge Handbook of American Foreign Policy*.

Chapter 19: *Public Opinion*  
Chapter 20: *News Media*  
Chapter 21: *Interest Groups*  
Chapter 22: *Multilateralism*

### **October 15 - Policy Instruments and Issues**

Steven W. Hook and Christopher M. Jones, eds., *Routledge Handbook of American Foreign Policy*.

Chapter 23: *The Use of Military Force*  
Chapter 24: *Economic Sanctions*  
Chapter 25: *Foreign Aid*  
Chapter 26: *Weapons Proliferation and Arms Control*  
Chapter 27: *Counterterrorism*  
Chapter 28: *Global Trade*  
Chapter 29: *Human Rights*  
Chapter 30: *Environmental Policy*

## **SECTION 3 - CASE STUDIES**

### **October 22 - American Foreign Policy toward Canada**

John Herd Thompson and Stephen J. Randall. *Canada and the United States: Ambivalent Allies*.

Chapter 6: *Canada in the New American Empire, 1948-1960*  
Chapter 7: *The Moose That Roared, 1961-1968*  
Chapter 8: *The Ambivalent Ally, 1968-1984*  
Chapter 9: *Republicans and Tories, 1984-1993*

Chapter 10: *A North American Trajectory? 1994-2000*  
Chapter 11: *Playing by New American Rules, 2001-2007*

Derek H. Burney and Fen Osler Hampson. "How Obama Lost Canada." *Foreign Affairs* (June 21, 2012).

Roland Paris. "Whither Canada-US Relations?" *OpenCanada.org* (June 29, 2012).

### **October 29 - American Foreign Policy toward Europe**

Robert Kagan. "Power and Weakness." *Policy Review* (June/July 2002): 3-28.

David Hastings Dunn. "Assessing the Debate, Assessing the Damage: Transatlantic Relations after Bush." *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations* (2009) 11 (1): 4-24.

Daniel Hamilton and Nikolas Foster. "The Obama Administration and Europe," in *The Obama Moment: European and American Perspectives*, eds., Álvaro de Vasconcelos and Marcin Zaborowski.

Tamara J. Resler. "The United States and Central Europe: Principles and Pragmatism in the Evolving Partnership," in *Regional and International Relations of Central Europe*, eds. Zlatko Šabič and Petr Drulák.

An Open Letter to the Obama Administration from Central and Eastern Europe.

### **November 5 - American Foreign Policy toward Russia**

Angela E. Stent. *The Limits of Partnership: US-Russian Relations in the Twenty-First Century*.

Chapter 3: *Bush and Putin in the Age of Terror*

Chapter 5: *The Color Revolutions*

Chapter 7: *From Kosovo to Georgia: Things Fall Apart*

Chapter 8: *Economics and Energy: The Stakeholder Challenge*

Chapter 9: *Reset or Overload? The Obama Initiative*

Chapter 10: *From Berlin to Damascus: Disagreements Old and New*

### **November 12 - American Foreign Policy toward China**

David Shambaugh, ed., *Tangled Titans: The United States and China*.

Chapter 2: *The Evolution of US-China Relations*

Chapter 5: *Domestic American Influences on US-China Relations*  
Chapter 7: *The Diplomatic Relationship: Substance and Process*  
Chapter 8: *The Commercial and Economic Relationship*  
Chapter 10: *The Military-Security Relationship*

### **November 19 - American Foreign Policy toward the Middle East**

*David W. Lesch and Mark L. Haas, eds., The Middle East and the United States: History, Politics and Ideologies.*

Chapter 13: *The United States and Israel: The Nature of a Special Relationship*  
Chapter 14: *From Madrid and Oslo to Camp David: The United States and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1991-2001*  
Chapter 15: *George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*  
Chapter 17: *The United States in the Persian Gulf: From Twin Pillars to Dual Containment*  
Chapter 18: *From “Over the Horizon” to “Into the Backyard”: The US-Saudi Relationship in the Gulf*  
Chapter 19: *The Iraq War of 2003: Why Did the United States Decide to Invade?*  
Chapter 20: *What Went Wrong in Iraq?*  
Chapter 21: *The Push and Pull of Strategic Cooperation: The US Relationship with Turkey in the Middle East*  
Chapter 22: *The United States and Afghanistan: From Marginality to Strategic Concern*  
Chapter 23: *Ideology and Iran’s American Policies, 1997-2008*  
Chapter 28: *The United States and the Arab Spring: Threats and Opportunities in a Revolutionary Era*

### **November 26 - American Foreign Policy toward Latin America**

\*\*\* Research Paper due in class today \*\*\*

Jorge I. Domínguez and Rafael Fernández de Castro, eds., *Contemporary US-Latin American Relations: Cooperation or Conflict in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?*

Chapter 2: *US-Mexican Relations in the Twenty-First Century*  
Chapter 3: *The United States and Cuba since 2000*  
Chapter 7: *Brazil-US Relations: Getting Better All the Time*  
Chapter 9: *Colombia and the United States: Strategic Partners or Uncertain Allies?*  
Chapter 11: *Relations between the United States and Venezuela, 2001-2009: A Bridge in Need of Repairs*

## **December 3 - American Foreign Policy toward Africa**

Donald Rothchild and Edmond J. Keller, eds. *African-US Relations: Strategic Encounters*

Chapter 2: *African Peacekeeping*

Chapter 3: *A Strategic Approach to Terrorism*

Chapter 4: *US Intervention in Africa's Ethnic Conflicts: The Scope for Action*

Chapter 6: *Human Security*

Chapter 9: *Debt and Debt Relief*

Chapter 10: *Aid and Trade Policies: Shifting the Debate*

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility**

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

**Essay course requirements**

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

**Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")**

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

**Security and Confidentiality of Student Work** (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar*

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>)

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

**Duplication of work**

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

**Grade adjustments**

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

**Academic Offences**

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."



## Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS **MUST** BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

## Plagiarism

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking:** "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ( <http://www.turnitin.com> )."

**Multiple-choice tests/exams:** "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

### PLAGIARISM\*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

**A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.**

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

**B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.**

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

\*Reprinted by permission of the Department of History

Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

**Accessibility at Western:** Please contact [poliscie@uwo.ca](mailto:poliscie@uwo.ca) if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

**SUPPORT SERVICES**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.