

# American Foreign Policy

## Winter 2014

**Instructor: Professor Tomohito Shinoda**  
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**About this course:** This class seeks to provide students with a thorough understanding of American foreign relations. It will first cover the basic history of American diplomacy from the independence war to WWII, and the Cold-War period. Then, it will turn the decision making process of the current US foreign policy.

**Organization:** This course is lecture-based class, but the instructor encourages students to participate discussion in order to find out more details of the contents.

**Course Grade:** The course grade will be based on mid-term and final exam (60%), one oral report to the seminar on an journal article of choice (20%), and class attendance and participation in classroom discussions (20%) will account for the remainder of the course grade. In order to pass the class, you need to get at least 50 out of 100 points.

**Policies:** The students are expected to read all the reading materials and attend all the classes. One week absence would result in the deduction of 4 points. The adjustment can be made for the following two cases: sickness and family emergency. If you miss 40 percent of class without reasonable causes, you fail to pass.

**Main Textbooks:** The main textbook is Daniel S. Papp, Loch K. Johnson and John E. Endicott, *American Foreign Policy: History, Politics and Policy*, Pearson, 2005. In addition, the main readings are Henry Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, Touchstone Books, 1994; and James Nathan and James K. Oliver, *Foreign Policy Making and the American Political System*, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.

- Week 1**                    **The Key Concepts and Principles of American Foreign Policy**  
International setting including the Balance of Power, Realism vs. Idealism,  
American principles of isolationism, moralism, pragmatism and unilateralism  
**Required:** Papp, Ch. 1-2.
- Week 2**                    **American Foreign Policy to WWII**  
This week deals with independence, early-period diplomacy, Monroe Doctrine,  
Manifest Destiny, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, and Isolationism  
**Required:** Papp, Ch. 3-5.  
Kissinger, Ch.1,2, 3 and 4.  
**Recommended:** Walter Lippman, *U.S. Foreign Policy: Shield of the Republic*,  
Little, Brown and Company, 1943: 11-26.  
R.W. Van Alstyne, *The Rising American Empire*, W.W. Norton and Company,  
1960: 28-53, 100-146.  
Robert E. Osgood, *Ideals and Self Interest in America's Foreign Relations*,  
University of Chicago Press, 1953.
- Week 3**                    **The Cold-War Period**  
Roosevelt to Johnson Administrations and the strategy of Containment  
Nixon to Reagan administrations. Détente and the collapse of the Cold War

system

**Required:** Papp, Ch. 6

**Recommended:** Kissinger, Ch. 17-19, 25-30.

- Week 4**            **The Post Cold-War Period**  
Bush-Clinton-Bush-Obama, the Gulf War to the 2003 Iraq War and Afghan  
**Required:** Papp, Ch.7
- Week 5**            **Mid-term Exam**
- U.S. Policy Toward Asia**  
U.S. policy toward Japan, China and Korean Peninsula  
**Required:** Richard Armitage and Joseph Nye, “The U.S.-Japan Alliance:  
Getting Asia Right through 2020” available at  
[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070216\\_asia2020.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070216_asia2020.pdf)
- Week 6**            **Presidency and Bureaucracy in Foreign Policy**  
The presidency and the foreign policy bureaucracy  
**Required:** Papp, Ch.8  
Nathan and Oliver Chaps2-4.
- Week 7**            **Congress and Foreign Policy**  
Congressional power, oversight  
**Required:** Papp, Ch.9  
Nathan and Oliver Chaps5-7.
- Week 8**            **Interest Groups, Media, Public Opinion**  
Non-government actors and pluralism  
**Required:** Nathan and Oliver Chaps9-11.
- Week 9**            **National Security Policy**  
War, diplomacy, aid and other instruments of foreign policy  
**Required:** Papp, Ch.10, 11, 14  
Nathan and Oliver Chaps8, 12.
- Week 10**           **Economic and Trade Policy**  
International Macroeconomic policy and trade issues  
**Required:** Papp, Ch.13

Foreign policy was also shaped by the domino theory, which claimed that if one country in a region fell to communism, the other countries in that area would quickly follow. Eisenhower first outlined the theory in response to events in Indochina. France's long struggle to hold on to its colony in Asia ended in 1954 with the signing of the Geneva Accords. American policy at the juncture was twofold: The United States offered support, including military. In part, this foreign policy shift sprung from Euro-American relations and public fear. On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland; Britain and France subsequently declared war on Germany, marking the start of World War II. In an address to the American People two days later, President Roosevelt assured the nation that he would do all he could to keep them out of war. For close to four decades, the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC) has played an essential role in the U.S. foreign policy debate. No matter how warm relations between Washington and Delhi become, history shows that some level of non-alignment will always be part of India's policies. [Read More >](#). Joe Biden's Secret Weapon For Resetting Iran Policy. February 17, 2021 Ilan I. Berman POLITICO. VOA can play a crucial role in outreach to the Iranian people. The End of World Order and American Foreign Policy. The United States should respond to the COVID-19 reordering moment and stop deterioration in the balance of power with China, bolster relations with India and Europe, and reform the way it deals with allies and partners. The CFR's mission, to provide the analysis and context necessary to inform America's foreign policy choices and to increase public understanding of the world and why it matters, remains as urgent today as at any time in the past century. January 5, 2021. Foreign policy analysts Hachigian and Sutphen in their book *The Next American Century* suggest all six powers have similar vested interests in stability and terrorism prevention and trade; if they can find common ground, then the next decades may be marked by peaceful growth and prosperity.[9]. Law. Main articles: Treaty and Treaty Clause. United States foreign policy affirms its alliance with the United Kingdom as its most important bilateral relationship in the world, evidenced by aligned political affairs

American foreign policy was isolationist; that is, U.S. leaders saw little reason to get involved in world affairs, particularly outside the Western Hemisphere. The Monroe Doctrine (1823) stated that the United States would not interfere in European affairs and it would oppose any European attempt to colonize the Americas. American foreign policy took a new direction during the 1970s. United States foreign policy has changed dramatically from George Washington's day. Although Americans always pay attention to the advice of their revered founder, the world is of course not the same. The many people that shape American foreign policy today accept the fact that the United States is a member of a world community that cannot afford to ignore the importance of getting along. U.S. State Department The United States doesn't exist in a vacuum; it must interact and communicate with its global neighbors. U.S. Foreign Policy. Transition 2021 Series: South Asia and Geopolitical Competition. Panelists discuss the future of U.S. policy towards India and Pakistan under the Biden administration, including humanitarian aid and the recent COVID-19 spike in India, China's geopolitical influence in the region, the domestic turmoil of each country, and the status of democratic norms throughout South Asia. Rethinking American Grand Strategy, With Beverly Gage, Christopher Nichols, and Andrew Preston. For close to four decades, the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC) has played an essential role in the U.S. foreign policy debate. Space should not be seen as a bill to pay, but rather as an investment that generates tangible returns. Read More >. Foreign Actors Are Hacking America's Democracy. May 30, 2021 Ilan I. Berman The National Interest. A growing number of authoritarian regimes are turning to technology in their efforts to demolish trust in democratic principles and institutions. What will our foreign policy mean for American workers and their families? What do we need to do around the world to make us stronger here at home? And what do we need to do at home to make us stronger in the world? These are the eight top foreign policy priorities of the Biden administration. You may notice some things about that list. First, important items are not on it. That doesn't mean they don't matter to us or that we won't work hard on them.