SYLLABUS: AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY (INS 560 BX)

SPRING 2008

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Office Hours: M: 8:30-9:30 am; 2:00-3:30 pm
Office: Ferre Building, # 125
Class Hours: M: 9:30- 12:00 pm
Class Room: AF 126

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

This course will examine the leading approaches to the analysis of, and the key issues in, American foreign policy during the 20th Century and at the outset of the 21st. Particular emphasis will be placed on the Cold War period, the post-Soviet era and the new challenges to U.S. foreign policy following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The course will be conducted as a seminar. Students will be expected to complete the readings assigned for each session (approximately 250 pages per week) prior to each class meeting and to participate actively in class discussions. One (or more) students (depending on the size of the class) will be assigned responsibility for reviewing the readings orally during each session prior to the general discussion. A short review essay or rapporteur’s report (5-8 typed, double-spaced pages in length; ESSAYS LONGER THAN 8 PAGES WILL BE PENALIZED ONE FULL GRADE) covering all the required readings for one class session will be due twenty four (24) hours prior to the presentation of the oral report and should be sent to the entire class by email.

All class members will be required to write research papers (15-20 double spaced pages in length plus endnotes for undergraduates and 20-25 pages in length for graduate students) on a topic/country/issue of their choice. You need not restrict yourself to the countries/policies examined in class. All seminar participants must submit a one-page description of the project plus an initial bibliography to me by the seventh meeting of the course (March 3).

Rapporteurs for each session should discuss their presentations with me after class the week prior to their session. Presentations should be critical and comparative. A bare-bones outline of the argument developed by the author(s) should be presented briefly (10 minutes) and then critiqued (10 minutes). Each presentation should identify the theoretical focus, methodological approach and the major substantive conclusions of the works discussed. Each rapporteur must prepare a 5-8 page written summary of his/her presentation for distribution by email prior to the scheduled class. Following the oral
presentation and class discussion, each rapporteur will have one week to re-write and submit a final version of their rapporteur report for grading.

Final grades in the course will be based on the following weighting system:

1. Oral presentation – 20%;
2. Rapporteur’s essay – 30%;
3. Final paper or examination – 50%.

The following books will be used in the course:


NOTE: These books are available in the University of Miami Book Store on the Coral Gables Campus. They may also be purchased, often at discount prices, online at Amazon.com. Most will be posted on Blackboard.
CLASS SCHEDULE

1. ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION (January 14)

NOTE: MONDAY JANUARY 21 IS MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY. NO CLASS

2. REALISM AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY (January 28)

   Required Reading


   Supplementary Reading


3. NEO-REALISM, IR THEORY AND FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS (February 4)

   Required Reading


   Supplementary Reading


4. LIBERALISM AND CONSTRUCTIVISM IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS (February 11)

Required Reading

Robert O. Keohane and Joseph S. Nye, Power and Interdependence: World Politics in Transition. Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1977, 243p. (Note: Only the rapporteur(s) for this session are required to read this book).


Supplementary Reading


5. NEOMARXIST APPROACHES AND DEPENDENCY THEORY (February 18)

Required Reading


Supplementary Reading

------------------,”States, Firms and Diplomacy,” International Affairs, No. 68, pp. 1-15.
6. THE POST-COLD WAR ERA, INTERDEPENDENCE AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY (February 25)

Required Reading


Supplementary Reading

Ole R. Holsti, “Models of International Relations and Foreign Policy,” In Ikenberry, ed., Ibid, pp. 37-64.

7. FOREIGN POLICY AND THE DECLINE/RENEWAL OF U.S. HEGEMONY (March 3).

NOTE: Final essay outlines and bibliographies are due on March 3.

Required Reading

Christopher Layne, Op cit., pp. 134-203.

Supplementary Reading

Christopher Layne, “Realism Redux: Strategic Interdependence in a Multipolar World,” *SAIS Review*, (Summer-Fall 1989).

8. STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS OF THE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY MAKING PROCESS (March 17)

Required Reading


**Supplementary Reading**


9. THE PRESIDENCY AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH POLICY MAKING (March 24)

Required Reading


Supplementary Reading


Note: Class will not be held on Monday March 31, 2008. Dr. Bagley will attend the International Studies Association (ISA) meeting in San Francisco, CA from March 25-31, 2008.


**Required Reading**


**Supplementary Reading**


11. U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND COERCIVE DIPLOMACY: THEORY AND PRACTICE (April 14)

**Required Reading**

Supplementary Reading


12. U.S. HEGEMONY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (April 21)

Required Reading
Supplementary Reading


Required Reading


Supplementary Reading


**SPRING 2008 CALENDAR**

March 3 Final essay outlines and bibliographies are due in class or by email
March 8-16 Spring recess
April 25 Classes end (A make-up class will be held on Monday, April 28)
April 26-29 Reading Days
April 30-May 7 Final Exams (There is no final exam in this course)
May 7 Final essays due electronically by 5 PM
May 12 Final Grades Due

**SUMMER AND FALL 2008 CALENDAR**

May 14-June 20 First Summer Session 2008
June 25-Aug 1 Second Summer Session 2008
August 27 Classes begin, fall semester 2008