

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

Political Science 543
Kansas State University
Fall 2003

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Office Hours:
Tuesday 3:30 - 4:30 pm
Thursday 3:30 - 5:00 pm
-and by appointment

Purpose

This course surveys American foreign policy from 1945 to the present. The first half of the course will examine the history and the process of American foreign policy-making. Patterns of US foreign policy during the Cold War and in the more dynamic post-Cold War era will be studied, as will the central actors in the foreign policy-making process — the President, Congress, and executive agencies (the State Department, the Department of Defense, and the intelligence agencies). In addition, important societal influences that can affect the formulation of foreign policy will be analyzed, such as the media, interest groups, and public opinion. The second half of the course will begin with a discussion of three important policy instruments American foreign policy decision-makers have at their disposal: diplomacy, economic instruments such as sanctions, and military force. We will round out the course by surveying American foreign policy in two important regions: Europe and East Asia.

This course has one prerequisite: for students to have taken either Political Science 325 or 333. Exposure to other policy-making or international relations courses will be useful as well; but such courses are not mandatory, or an assumed common denominator.

Readings

Three textbooks have been assigned:

- 1) Glenn P. Hastedt, *American Foreign Policy: Past, Present, Future*, 5th edition, Prentice Hall, 2003.
- 2) Robert J. Lieber, *Eagle Rules? Foreign Policy and American Primacy in the Twenty-First Century*, Prentice Hall, 2002.
- 3) Raymond Tanter, *Rogue Regimes*, updated edition, St. Martin's Press, 1999.

These texts are available at the KSU bookstore and at Varney's.

Requirements

You will be expected to contribute to the purposes stated above in several ways - by reading, writing, speaking, and questioning. To this end we have several set pieces: two exams, one 10 page research paper, and one group presentation. Exams will cover assigned readings, lectures, and class discussions and will include both objective and essay questions. Group presentations will be given on five Thursday class

periods and will be on either 1) 'pivotal' states for US foreign relations in certain regions or 2) 'rogue' regimes which provide serious and consistent threats to US interests in the world. Student presentations will be roughly *30 minutes in length* and will be followed by short question and answer sessions. The paper assignment will also be on the 'pivotal' or 'rogue' regime of the student's choice. Details on both the group presentation and the paper will be handed out well in advance of their deadlines.

Examinations will be given on **October 9** and **December 15**. The paper is due on **December 4**. The course grade is weighted in the following way:

Group Presentation	15%
Paper	25%
Mid-term Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

Although it is not a formal portion of your grade, regular participation is considered an essential element of this course. It allows the instructor to gauge the students' understanding of the material and helps in rating their overall performance. The quality of class participation will be especially important in the case of borderline grades. Steady class attendance is therefore highly recommended.

Also, it should be noted that make-up exams will be given only if arranged *before* an exam, and late papers will be penalized the standard one letter grade for each day late.

On a less restrictive note, the professor is available for any questions and/or worries about the course. Please do not hesitate to visit during office hours (or by appointment) for any matter of concern.

Any student with a disability who needs accommodation or other assistance should make an appointment to speak with me as soon as possible.

CALENDAR OF REQUIRED READINGS

* H refers to our main textbook, Hastedt's American Foreign Policy. Lieber refers to our supplemental text Eagle Rules? The volume by Raymond Tanter on Rogue Regimes will be read throughout the semester in conjunction with student presentations (see next page).

I. The Setting

Aug. 21	Introduction and the Changing International Context	H, chs. 1, 2
Aug. 26-28	Student Holiday - American Political Science Association meetings	
Sept. 2-4	US Foreign Policy Culture	H, chs. 3, 4

II. The Politics of US Foreign Policymaking

Sept. 9-18	The President	H, chs. 7, 8 Lieber, ch. 1
Sept. 23-Oct. 2	Executive Agencies	H, chs. 10, 14
Oct. 7	The Congress	H, ch. 9 Lieber, ch. 3
October 9	Midterm Exam	
Oct. 14	Fall Break	
Oct. 16-23	Foreign Policy Simulation	H, ch. 11
Oct. 28-30	Outside Influences: The Public, Media, etc.	H, ch. 6 Lieber, ch. 2

III. Policy Tools

Nov. 4-6	Diplomacy	H, ch. 13
Nov. 11-13	Economic and Military Instruments	H, ch. 15 Lieber, chs. 11, 12

IV. Regional Policies and Problems

Nov. 18-25	Europe	Lieber, chs. 4, 5
Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Holiday	
Dec. 2-4	East Asia	Lieber, ch. 9
December 4	Research Paper Due	
Dec. 9-11	Conclusions	H, ch. 18
December 15	Final Exam: 9:40 am - 11:30 am	

PIVOTAL STATES AND ROGUE REGIMES PROJECT

The reading/presentation schedule for our Thursday afternoon group presentations is listed below. The Pivotal States project is an essential component of the course, allowing students to learn from one another while also gaining important knowledge on regional hotspots that will concern US foreign policymakers in coming decades. Consequently, the following reading is considered fundamental to the course. It will be included in our exams.

Presentation Schedule

Required Readings

Rogue Gallery:

Sept. 11	Iran	Tanter, chs. 1, 2
		Lieber, ch. 8
	Iraq	Tanter, ch. 3
Sept. 25	Libya	Tanter, ch. 4
	Syria	Tanter, ch. 5

Midterm Exam October 9

Oct. 16	North Korea	Tanter, chs. 6, 7
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Five Pivotal States in US Foreign Policy:

Oct. 16	Turkey (pivotal state in Europe and Central Asia)	No readings*
Nov. 13	India (pivotal in South Asia)	No readings
	Pakistan (pivotal in South Asia)	No readings
Dec. 4	Indonesia (pivotal in Southeast Asia)	No readings
	South Africa (pivotal in Sub-Saharan Africa)	No readings

Final Exam December 15

* Students that present on pivotal states should consult Robert Chase, Emily Hill, and Paul Kennedy (eds) *The Pivotal States: A New Framework for US Policy in the Developing World* (Norton, 1999). Separate chapters cover each of the pivotal states we will discuss. This book is on reserve in the library.