

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY - 84609 - INTA 3110-A
Fall 2015

Eliza Markley

Class Meetings: MWF 12-12.50, Instructional Center 113

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Prerequisites

One of these courses: HIST 2111, HIST 2112, PUBP 3000, INTA 1200, POL 1101, AP US History.

Core Area

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the role of diverse interests and groups in shaping the history, politics, society or institutions of the United States.

Course Description

This course will critically examine several key aspects of US foreign policy, including the theoretical issues that shape foreign policy making and the system in which foreign policy decisions are made. It will also explore the history and construction of the United States foreign policy since 1945 and the current foreign policy issues and problems facing United States. The course will consider the changing nature of international relations and the possible future role that the US will play in the world. The course is designed to encourage students to think critically about the United States' role in foreign affairs and to become more informed on foreign policy.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to describe the role of history and political, social, and economic system in shaping the United States foreign policy.

Students will understand theoretical issues in relation to the US foreign policy.

Students will be able to use their knowledge of international affairs in a practical problem-solving way to address issues of immediate international concern.

Students will become more aware of the diversity of cultural and ethical systems in the world.

Students will think critically about the United States' role in the global system.

Students will be able to work in small groups in a way that demonstrates respect for their colleagues and efficiency in working collaboratively towards projects and goals.

Required Textbook

Jentleson, Bruce. (2014). American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century (5th edition).

Additional required readings will be posted on T-square.

Course Requirements

1. Class Participation

Students will be expected to attend all classes, complete all assigned readings, and participate in classroom discussions on the subjects addressed in the readings and lectures. Lectures during the course may not cover the readings and will often present new ideas and information. You are responsible for the information contained in the reading, whether it is covered or not in lectures, as well as for the information in the lectures.

In addition to the regularly course readings, students are encouraged to read a **major daily newspaper in its print or internet media version** and watch one of the **nightly news broadcasts** in order to stay informed on current foreign policy issues.

Participation in class will comprise **5%** of your final grade.

2. Quizzes and Examinations

There will be occasional, unannounced quizzes on the readings and/or material provided during the lecture. **There will be no make up quizzes.** If you miss a quiz and have an approved excuse or you took the quiz but no grade has been posted, you must make that known to the **instructor within a week of the date of the quiz.** If you fail to do so, you will not be given credit for an excused absence. If you have an excused absence, your overall quiz grade will be the average of the quizzes you took. Quizzes count for **10%** of your final grade.

Examinations will include multiple choice, true v. false and identification terms, and short essay questions. Exams will only be given on the announced dates. A medical or other Georgia Tech approved excuse is the only permissible reasons for missing quizzes or examinations. All electronic equipment (cell phones, computers, etc.) must be **put away/hidden from view** during exams. Students found using any such electronic devices will receive an automatic zero for the exam. Exams are currently **tentatively scheduled** on the following dates (see below). However, dates may change. It is the student's responsibility to stay current on the course schedule. Examinations missed for authorized reasons must be taken as soon as possible. Altogether the exams will make up **60%** of your final grade (more detailed weight of each exam is found under Grading).

- Exam 1 – October 5
- Exam 2 – December 9

3. Research Paper.

Students are expected to write a 7-8-page paper examining the position on issues of nuclear nonproliferation and arms control of a country that will be assigned to them. The country's position needs to be researched in relation to its historical position and any domestic and international constraints on that country. Furthermore, students are expected to decide on their country's negotiation position, consider barriers to their country's treaty aims, think about the terms they are willing to accept, intend to use, and would deem unacceptable.

This assignment is in preparation of the Simulation exercise described below. Students must submit a **Topic Proposal** that outlines and explains why and how the particular country's nuclear policy is relevant to the US and the world, and include a brief preliminary bibliography of at least 5 sources. This Topic Proposal should be about one-page and is due **September 9**. The final Research Paper is due **October 30** and will make up **15%** of your final grade. Your research paper will be submitted on T-square and will be automatically checked for plagiarism through turnitin.com.

4. Foreign Policy Simulation Project and Paper.

All students are required to participate in a foreign policy simulation project that will take place on **October 31st** between 10 am and 3 pm. Please make necessary arrangements, for October 31st is a Saturday. Two to three class meetings (depending on the length of the Simulation exercise) will be cancelled throughout the semester to make up for the time students spend in the Simulation.

Once the Simulation is completed, students will be required to write a short 3-page Reflection Paper analyzing the events of the simulation. The paper will be due **November 23**. More specific information regarding the project and the papers will be given at a later date. The simulation assignment (participation and the 3-page paper) will make up for **10%** of your final grade.

Grading and Assessment

A = 89.5-100; B = 79.5-89.4; C = 69.5-79.4; D = 59.5-69.5; F = below 59.5

- A: Outstanding and original work; well-argued, well-organized, without significant error or omission.
- B: Very fine work, reasonably argued, clearly organized, with only slight error or omission; clearly well above the average.
- C: Solid work of a quite satisfactory nature; clear evidence of engagement and comprehension, but with some organizational, factual, or interpretive errors/omissions.

- D: Passing, but only marginally acceptable work with clear deficiencies of length, fact, organization, or interpretation; incomplete work.
- F: Unacceptable work submitted with such significant deficiencies that no credit can be awarded.

Grading of Exam questions will be based on the accuracy of the factual information, your ability to evaluate and express the political significance of terms. For essay questions, your grade will be based on accuracy and detail of the factual information, your ability to synthesize the material from the course and make important connections between issues and concepts.

Grading of research paper will be based on the following important factors: accuracy and detail of the factual information, your ability to synthesize the material from the course and make important connections between issues and concepts; clear and concise arguments, use of appropriate grammar, spelling and word choice.

- Participation 5%
- Exam 1 30%
- Exam 2 (Final) 30%
- Quizzes 10%
- Research Paper 15%
- Simulation 10% (Simulation Participation 5% and Reflection Paper 5%)

Late Paper Policy

Late papers will receive 5 points deduction for each calendar day (this includes weekends) they are late.

Other Class Policies

- Class discussions may lead, from time to time, to highly contentious political issues. I expect all students to be respectful of one another, even if they disagree about certain issues. High levels of civility should characterize our class debates.
- Laptop computers can be used in class, but only for note taking purposes. Any student found to be abusing their computer privileges will be prohibited from using their computer for the rest of the semester (no email, Facebook, twitter, etc)
- Cell phone should be turned off or put on silent. Disruptions from such devices will adversely affect your participation grade.
- For assignment that will be submitted through T-square, students need to ensure that assignments can be opened and are readable. To ensure this, students should attach all written assignments in either .doc or .pdf formats.
- The instructor will make any effort to return your graded assignments in a timely manner (usually within two weeks).
- The instructor will respond to all emails (sent M-F) within 48 hours. If you do not receive a response in 48 hours, I probably did not receive your message and you should resend it.

Additional Information and Services

1. The Office of Disability Services – adaptsinfo@gatech.edu (404-894-0285)

2. Academic Honor Code

The Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code states: “Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. The immediate objective of an Academic Honor Code is to prevent any Students from gaining an unfair advantage over other Students through academic misconduct. Academic misconduct is any act that does or could improperly distort Student grades or other Student academic records.” Such acts include, for instance, plagiarism.

Plagiarism means using an author’s exact or paraphrased words without citation or acknowledging the source of information. Whether intentional or not, plagiarism is considered cheating and will not be tolerated. If you are unsure whether something should be cited, please ask.

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

Date	Topics and Readings	Assignments due
Introduction		
Aug 17	Course introduction	
Aug 19, 21	Introduction to American Foreign Policy and the “National Interest” Review of key international theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 1, AFP ➤ Mearsheimer, “Realism,” Reading 1.1, p 216-219, AFP ➤ Keohane, “Governance in a Partially Globalized World,” Reading 1.2, p 220-224 AFP ➤ Kolko, “The United States and The World Economic Power,” Reading 1.3, p. 225-228 AFP ➤ Smith, “ The United States and the Global Struggle for Democracy,” Reading 1.4, p 229-233 AFP Issues for Discussion: America’s National Interest; Realism; Idealism; Liberalism	
The Domestic Context of American Foreign Policy		
Aug 24, 26	Foreign Policy Making Powers: The President and Congress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 2, p 27-45, AFP ➤ Schlesinger, Reading 2.1, “The President, Congress and War Powers,” p 234-236, AFP Issues for Discussion: Tensions between the President and Congress regarding foreign policy	

Aug 28	<p>Bureaucracy and Models of Foreign Policy Decision-Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 2, p 45-53, AFP ➤ Allison, “Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis,” Reading 2.2, p 237-238, AFP ➤ Janis, “Groupthink Among Policy Makers.”* <p>Issues for Discussion: Models of Decision Making</p>	
Aug 31, Sep 2, 4	<p>The Role of Interest Groups, the Media and Public Opinion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 3, AFP ➤ Cooke, “The Press in Wartime,” Reading 3.1, p 239-241, AFP, ➤ Holsti, “Public Opinion and Foreign Policy,” Reading 3.2, p 242-249, AFP <p>Issues for Discussion: Media influences on foreign policy (and public opinion); Importance of public opinion on foreign policy.</p>	
Sep 7	No School – Labor Day	
Historical Debates in American Foreign Policy		
Sep 9, 11	<p>“Great Debates” in American Foreign Policy (1789-1945)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 4, AFP ➤ Kissinger, “Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Coming of World War II,” p 231-238, AFP <p>Issues for Discussion: Isolationism vs. Internationalism; Defense Spending; US Imperialism; National Security vs. Civil Liberties</p>	Topic Proposal due Sep 9
Historical Context of American Foreign Policy: The Cold War and Beyond		
Sep 14, 16, 18	<p>The Cold War Context: Origin and First Stages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 5, AFP ➤ Brodie, “Strategy in the Missile Age,” Reading 5.1, p 265-270, AFP ➤ Kennan, “The Sources of Soviet Conduct,” Reading 5.2, p 271-274, AFP <p>Issues for Discussion: Strategy of Containment; Korean War; Deterrence; Decision Making and the Cuban Missile Crisis.</p>	
Sep 21, 23, 25	<p>The Cold War Context: Lessons and Legacies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 6, AFP ➤ Gelb, “Vietnam: The System Worked,” Reading 6.1, p 275-278, AFP ➤ Gaddis, “The Unexpected Ronald Reagan,” Reading 6.2, p 279-281, AFP ➤ Gorbachev, “The Soviet Union’s Crucial Role, 	

	Reading 6.3, p 282-284, AFP. Issues for Discussion: Vietnam War, Détente and China, End of Cold War	
Sep 28, 30,	Case Studies	
Oct 2	Review	
Oct 5		Exam 1
American Foreign Policy in a New Era		
Oct 7, 9	Grand Strategy for a New Era: Power and Peace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 7, AFP ➤ Lieber, “Anti-Declinism,” Reading 7.1, p 596-597, AFP ➤ Ikenberry, “Liberal Internationalism 3.0,” Reading 7.1, p 598-600, AFP ➤ Kupchan, “No one’s World,” Reading 7.3, p 601-602, AFP ➤ *Jackson and Carter, “The International Criminal Court: National versus International Norm”* Issues for Discussion: Unilateralism vs. Multilateralism; Force vs. Diplomacy; Policy of Preemption; Deterrence; Role of the UN and other International Institutions	
Oct 12	Fall Recess	
Oct 14, 16	Grand Strategy for a New Era: Prosperity and Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 8, AFP ➤ Stiglitz, “Making Globalization Work,” Reading 8.1, p 603-605, AFP ➤ “UNAIDS Report on Global AIDS Epidemic,” Reading 8.2, p 606-608, AFP ➤ US National Research Council, “Climate Change as a National Security Concern,” Reading 8.3, p 609-610, AFP ➤ Mansfield and Snyder, “Democratization and the Danger of War,” Reading 8.4, p 611-617, AFP Issues of Discussion: Globalization, International Trade and Finance; Global Public Health; Global Environment Issues; Promotion of Global Democracy	
Oct 19, 21, 23.	Post Cold War Foreign Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 9, AFP ➤ National War Powers Commission, “President, Congress and the War Powers,” Reading 9.1, p 618-621, AFP ➤ Keck and Sikking, “Transnational Network in International Politics,” Reading 9.2, p 622-630, AFP ➤ Baum, “Soft News and Foreign Policy,” Reading 	

	9.3, p 631-634 Issues for Discussion: The War Powers; Foreign Policies and Executive Branch Politics of Recent Presidents; Current Role of the Media and Public Opinion (Revisiting Themes of Chapters 2 and 3 with recent administrations and developments)	
Current American Foreign Policy Around the World		
Oct 26, 28, 30	Issues in the Middle East <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 11, AFP ➤ Bush, “Pre-Emption and National Security Strategy, Reading 11.1, p 634-644, AFP ➤ Caldwell, “US Policy Toward Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq,” Reading 11.2, p 645-647, AFP ➤ Lynch, “The Big Think Behind the Arab Spring,” Reading 11.3, p 648-650, AFP ➤ Lindsay and Takeyh, “After Iran Gets the Bomb”* ➤ *Additional current events readings related to Iran’s nuclear program.* 	Research Paper due Oct 30
Saturday Oct 31	Simulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 11 am – 3pm 	
Nov 2, 4, 6	Asia and the Rise of China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 10, AFP ➤ Lieberthal and Jisi, “US-China Strategic Distrust,” Reading 10.1, p 635-638, AFP ➤ Indian Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses, “India’s Grand Strategy,” Reading 10.2, p 639-642, AFP ➤ *Layne, China’s Challenge to US Hegemony”* <p>Issues for Discussion: US-China Relations; China as a rising power; US-Indian Relations; North Korea and Nuclear Weapons; Asian Security</p>	
Nov 9, 11, 13	US Relations with Europe and Russia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 12, AFP ➤ Grevi, “Renewing EU Foreign Policy,” Reading 12.1, p 651-653, AFP ➤ Primakov, “Russia in a Polycentric World,” Reading 12.2, p 654-656, AFP <p>Issues for Discussion: The Current Status and Future of NATO; US-EU Relations; US-Russia Relations</p>	
Nov 16, 18	No classes – make up for Simulation	
Nov 20, 23	US Relations with the Americas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 13, AFP ➤ Sweig, “US-Latin American Relations,” Reading 	Reflection Paper due Nov 23

	<p>13.1, p 657-658, AFP</p> <p>Issues for Discussion: US Regional Hegemony and the Americas; the War on Drugs; US-Mexico Relations; Change US-Cuba Relations; Haiti; US-Canadian Relations</p>	
Nov 25, 27	Thanksgiving Break	
Nov 30, Dec 2, 4	<p>US Relations with Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 14, AFP ➤ Obama Administration, “US Strategy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa,” Reading 14.1, p 664-668, AFP ➤ World Bank, “Africa’s Future,” Reading 14.w, p 669-672, AFP <p>Issues for Discussion: Conflict in Africa; Chinese Influence in Africa; Democracy; Public health and Development</p>	
Dec 9		Exam 2