

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

**U.S. FOREIGN POLICY - INTA 3110**  
**Fall 2023**

**Dr. Eliza Maria Markley**

Class Meetings: T, Th 3.30 pm – 4.45 pm, Habersham, G 17

Office Hours: Thursday, 12.30 – 1.30 pm, Habersham, Room 141

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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 be able to demonstrate knowledge of principal contemporary global challenges in the field of international affairs
- Students will be able to apply research skills to address problems in the field of international affairs.
- 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.

- Student will be able to think critically about the United States' role in the global system.

### **Required Textbook**

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

Additional required readings will be posted in Canvas.

In addition to the regularly assigned course readings, students are encouraged to follow events in international relations by reading respectable news publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, etc. Foreign policy analyses can be found in magazines such as Foreign Policy and Foreign Affairs or podcasts such as Deep State Radio and Foreign Policy. (News aggregator websites, such as [www.RealClearWorld.com](http://www.RealClearWorld.com), are also recommended).

### **Course Requirements**

#### 1. Class Participation – 10% of course grade

This course will combine lectures and class discussion. Students are expected to complete all required readings before class and be prepared to discuss, compare and critically analyze the readings. Required reading consists of assigned textbook chapters AND articles posted in the Discussion Board and Canvas.

Participation grade is based on active and constructive contribution to class discussions, as well as on attendance. Please note that for every two unexcused absences you will lose one participation point.

#### 2. Discussion Lead – 10% of course grade

Each student will present a short oral summary and critique of one news/analysis/research article and will prepare questions for class discussions. Your grade will be based on the quality of selected article, summary and critique, as well as of posed questions.

- a. Select one chapter (topic/region) based on your research interests. A list of chapters/topics will be shared in class.
- b. Choose one news/analysis/research article related to your chapter/topic and upload it in Canvas under the Discussion Board corresponding to your chapter. Your chosen article will be mandatory reading for all your colleagues.
- c. Summarize the article claims into a one-page, bullet-point format paper and formulate five discussion questions aimed at facilitating a classroom discussion. Submit them in Assignments under “Articles summaries and questions.” The length of the presentation should be about five minutes per student and the discussion about 20 minutes.

- d. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Upload your article, summary, and questions a week before starting to cover your chapter/topic in class (follow the Syllabus and in-class/Canvas announcements).

3. Exams – 60% of course grade

Examinations will include multiple choice, true/false and identification terms, and short essay questions. 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.

- Exam 1            Oct 3 (20%)
- Exam 2            Oct 24 (20%)
- Exam 3            Nov 9 (20%)

4. Foreign Policy Analysis – 20% of course grade

Students will be required to complete a foreign policy analysis consisting of a 2,700-3,000-word (indicate word count) paper that analyzes a past or current foreign policy initiative. This analysis should follow a format that will be provided by the instructor.

**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 Foreign Policy Analyses 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 sources and make important connections between issues and concepts; clear and concise arguments, use of appropriate grammar, spelling and word choice.

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|---------------------------|-----|
| ○ Participation           | 10% |
| ○ Discussion Lead         | 10% |
| ○ Exams                   | 60% |
| ○ Foreign Policy Analysis | 20% |

### **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 – online or in-person - 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.
- All assignments will be submitted through Canvas. Students need to ensure that assignments can be opened and are readable.
- 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](mailto: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

**NOTE: the schedule is subject to revisions. I will provide ample notice for any adjustment**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics and Readings</b>
Aug 22	Course introduction
Aug 24	Case study 1 – India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Warburg, Gerald F., “Nonproliferation Policy Crossroads: The US - India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement,” in Ralph Carter’s Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), 2014.</li> </ul>
Sep 29, 31	Introduction to American Foreign Policy and the “National Interest” Review of key international theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 1, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 1.1-1.4, AFP, pages 216-234.</li> <li>➤ Drezner, Daniel W., “Night of the Living Wonks: Toward an International Relations Theory of Zombies,” Foreign Policy, July/August 2010*</li> <li>➤ Walt, Stephen M., “International Relations: One World, Many Theories,” Foreign Policy, No. 110 (Spring 1998), pp. 29-46*</li> <li>➤ Kroenig, Matthew, “International Relations Theory Suggests Great-Power War Is Coming Back,” Foreign Policy, 2022*</li> <li>➤ Walt, Stephen, “An International Relations Theory Guide to the War in Ukraine,” Foreign Policy, 2022 *</li> <li>➤ Turker, Hasim, “The Dawn of a New 30 Years’ Crisis,” Geopolitical Monitor, 2021*</li> <li>➤ Rice, Condoleezza, “Rethinking the National Interest,” Foreign Affairs, 2008*</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> America’s National Interest; Realism; Idealism; Liberalism</p>
Sep 5	Library presentation in Crosland Tower, Room TBD
Sep 7, 12	Foreign Policy Making Powers: The President and Congress Bureaucracy and Models of Foreign Policy Decision-Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 2, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 2.1-2.2, AFP, pages 234-239.</li> <li>➤ Ornstein, Norman J., and Thomas E. Mann, “When Congress Checks Out,” Foreign Affairs, November/December 2006*</li> <li>➤ Johnson, Toni, “Congress and U.S. Foreign Policy,” Council on Foreign Relations, 2013.*</li> <li>➤ Janis, “Groupthink Among Policy Makers,” in Craig Comstock’s Sanctions for Evil, 1971.*</li> <li>➤ Clinton, Hillary, “Leading through Civilian Power,” Foreign Policy, 2010.*</li> <li>➤ McMahon, Robert, “Balance of War Powers: The US President and Congress,” Council of Foreign Relations, 2011.*</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ McMahon, Deborah, “Foreign Policy Isn’t Just Up to Trump,” The Atlantic, 2019*</li> <li>➤ Masters, Jonathan, “US Foreign Policy Powers: Congress and the President,” Council of Foreign Relations, 2017.</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> Tensions between the President and Congress regarding foreign policy, Models of Decision Making</p>
Sep 14	<p>Case study 2 – Assassinating bin Laden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Dixit, Priya, “Assassinating bin Laden: Right or Wrong?,” in Ralph Carter’s Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), 2014.</li> </ul>
Sep 19	<p>The Role of Interest Groups, the Media and Public Opinion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 3, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 3.1 and 3.2, pages 239-249, AFP,</li> <li>➤ Keating, Joshua, “Does Hollywood Have a Foreign Policy?” Foreign Policy, Feb. 24, 2013*</li> <li>➤ WATCH: “Buying the War,” Bill Moyers Journal, PBS, April 25, 2007 (90 minutes). Available: <a href="https://vimeo.com/33033186">https://vimeo.com/33033186</a></li> <li>➤ John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, "The Israel Lobby" – book review, 2006.*</li> <li>➤ 2022 Chicago Council Survey of American Public Opinion and US Foreign Policy*</li> <li>➤ Hayes, Danny and Matt Guardino, “Whose Views Made the News? Media Coverage and the March to War in Iraq,” Political Communication, 2010.*</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> Media influences on foreign policy (and public opinion); Importance of public opinion on foreign policy.</p>
Sep 21	<p>Meet the author: Bruce Jentleson will visit our class. Meeting will take place in Home Park Room, Exhibition Hall.</p>
Sep 26	<p>The Role of Interest Groups, the Media, and Public Opinion – CONT’D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 3, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 3.1 and 3.2, pages 239-249, AFP,</li> <li>➤ Keating, Joshua, “Does Hollywood Have a Foreign Policy?” Foreign Policy, Feb. 24, 2013*</li> <li>➤ WATCH: “Buying the War,” Bill Moyers Journal, PBS, April 25, 2007 (90 minutes). Available: <a href="https://vimeo.com/33033186">https://vimeo.com/33033186</a></li> <li>➤ John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, "The Israel Lobby" – book review, 2006.*</li> <li>➤ 2022 Chicago Council Survey of American Public Opinion and US Foreign Policy*</li> <li>➤ Hayes, Danny and Matt Guardino, “Whose Views Made the News? Media Coverage and the March to War in Iraq,” Political Communication, 2010.</li> </ul>
Sep 28	<p>Case study 3 – The Arab Spring</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Zunes, Stephen, “Friendly Tyrants? The Arab Spring and the Egyptian Revolution,” in Ralph Carter’s Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), 2014.*</li> </ul>
<b>Oct 3</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>
Oct 5	<p>The Historical Context: Great Debates in American Foreign Policy (1789-1945)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 4, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 4.1, 4.2, pages 250-265, AFP</li> <li>➤ Gellman, Barton and Laura Poitras, "U.S., British intelligence mining data from nine US. Internet companies in broad secret program," Washington Post, June 6, 2013. Available: <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/usintelligence-mining-data-from-nine-us-internet-companies-in-broad-secretprogram/2013/06/06/3a0c0da8-cebf-11e2-8845-d970ccb04497_story.html">http://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/usintelligence-mining-data-from-nine-us-internet-companies-in-broad-secretprogram/2013/06/06/3a0c0da8-cebf-11e2-8845-d970ccb04497_story.html</a></li> <li>➤ Charlie Rose Show, interview with Guardian (UK) editors, Alan Rusbridger and Janine Gibson, on publication of NSA leaks, July 28, 2013. Available: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pdzzZB7Xgo">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pdzzZB7Xgo</a></li> <li>➤ Walt, Stephen, “How Do You Sustain Public Support for Wars of Choice?” Foreign Policy, 2012.*</li> <li>➤ Case study: Fisher, Louis, “National security surveillance: Unchecked or Limited Presidential Powers,” in Ralph Carter’s Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), 2014.*</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> Isolationism vs. Internationalism; Defense Spending; US Imperialism; National Security vs. Civil Liberties</p>
Oct 10	Fall Break
Oct 12	<p>The Cold War Context: Origin and First Stages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 5, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 5.1 and 5.2, pages 265-275, AFP.</li> <li>➤ Council on Foreign Relations. “U.S. Cuba Relations.” *</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> Strategy of Containment; Korean War; Deterrence; Decision Making and the Cuban Missile Crisis.</p>
Oct 17, 19	<p>The Cold War Context: Lessons and Legacies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 6, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 6.1 - 6.3, pages 275-286, AFP</li> <li>➤ Gorbachev, “The Soviet Union’s Crucial Role, Reading 6.3, p 282-284, AFP.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Film “The Fog of War” (<a href="https://documentaryheaven.com/the-fog-of-war/">https://documentaryheaven.com/the-fog-of-war/</a> (Links to an external site.)).</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> Vietnam War, Détente and China, End of Cold War</p>
<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>
Oct 26	<p>Grand Strategy for a New Era: Power and Peace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Chapter 7</b>, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 7.1-7.3, pages 596-602, AFP</li> <li>➤ “The Cold War Is Over”, New York Times (Opinion), April 2, 1989. Available: <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/1989/04/02/opinion/the-cold-war-is-over.html">http://www.nytimes.com/1989/04/02/opinion/the-cold-war-is-over.html</a></li> <li>➤ Case study: Jackson, Donald and Ralph Carter, “The International Criminal Court: National Interests versus International Norms,” in Ralph Carter’s Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), 2014.*</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> Unilateralism vs. Multilateralism; Force vs. Diplomacy; Policy of Preemption; Deterrence; Role of the UN and other International Institutions</p>
Oct 31	<p>Grand Strategy for a New Era: Prosperity and Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Chapter 8</b>, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 8.1-8.4, pages 603-617, AFP</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues of Discussion:</b> Globalization, International Trade and Finance; Global Public Health; Global Environment Issues; Promotion of Global Democracy</p>
Nov 2	<p>Post Cold War Foreign Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Chapter 9</b>, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 9.1-9.3, pages 618-634, AFP</li> <li>➤ Case study: Gagnon, Frederick and Ryan Hendrickson, “The US versus terrorism: From Embassy Bombings in Tanzania and Kenya to the Surge and Drawdown of Forces in Afghanistan,” in Ralph Carter’s Contemporary Cases in US Foreign Policy (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), 2014.*</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> 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)</p>
Nov 7	Guest Speaker: General Breedlove
<b>Nov 9</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>
Nov 14	<p>Asia and the Rise of China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 10, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 10.1, 10.2, pages 635-642, AFP</li> </ul>



	<b>Issues for Discussion:</b> US-China Relations; China as a rising power; US-Indian Relations; North Korea and Nuclear Weapons; Asian Security
Nov 16	Issues in the Middle East <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 11, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 11.1-11.3, pages 643-650, AFP.</li> <li>➤ Lindsay and Takeyh, “After Iran Gets the Bomb”*</li> </ul>
Nov 21, 28	US Relations with Europe and Russia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 12, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 12.1, 12.2, pages 656-656, AFP.</li> <li>➤ Strategy of relations with Russia*</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> The Current Status and Future of NATO; US-EU Relations; US-Russia Relations</p>
Nov 30	US Relations with the Americas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 13, AFP</li> <li>➤ Readings 13.1-13.3, pages 657-663, AFP.</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues for Discussion:</b> US Regional Hegemony and the Americas; the War on Drugs; US-Mexico Relations; Change US-Cuba Relations; Haiti; US-Canadian Relations</p>
Dec 5	US Relations with Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 14, AFP</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 12</b>	<b>Foreign Policy Analysis due @ 5 pm</b>

Note: \* represents articles posted in Canvas or provided by the instructor in printed version.