

**American Foreign Policy (PSCI 3327.001)**  
**Course Syllabus (tentative)**  
*The University of Texas at Dallas – Fall 2013*  
**Tuesday/Thursday, 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. in GR 2.530**

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***Instructor Contact Information:***

**Ms. Laura N. Bell, Ph.D. Candidate – Political Science**

**Office: Green Hall 3.314**

**Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday (2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. or by appointment)**

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**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions:**

*None*

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**Course Description**

Examines the way in which policy-making process structures the premises, concepts, and objectives of U.S. policy and the U.S. role in international politics.

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**Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

Participants in this course will be introduced to various analytic and theoretical frameworks for making sense of historical and contemporary events in American foreign policy. Students will develop an understanding of the history and evolution of U.S. foreign policy, the political and bureaucratic actors involved, the major frameworks for analyzing foreign policy decisions and the public sources of foreign policy. Additionally, we will examine the role leaders play in foreign policy decision-making and utilize contemporary case studies to highlight the dynamics and complexities of foreign policy.

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**Required Textbooks and Materials**

- **Jentleson, Bruce W.** 2010. *American Foreign Policy*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Norton Publishing. ISBN: 978-0-393-93357-4
  - **Carter, Ralph G. (ed).** 2011. *Contemporary Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy: From Terrorism to Trade*. 4th Edition. CQ Press. ISBN: 978-1-60426-731-0
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**Suggested Course Materials**

- Breuning, Marijke. 2007. *Foreign Policy Analysis: A Comparative Introduction*. Palgrave MacMillan. ISBN-13: 978-0-312-29620-9. NOTE: This text is optional. We will cover material from this book in class and any required readings will be posted on eLearning.
  - Participants are strongly encouraged to read weekly news magazines or any well-respected publication to stay abreast of current events in order to enhance the learning experience and provide more fruitful class discussions. Suggestions include *The Economist*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Foreign Policy*.
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**Assignments & Academic Calendar (subject to change at Instructor's discretion)**

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Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> Introduction. Review Syllabus.

Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> Jentleson - Chapter 1 and US State Department: read the DOS Mission Statement and browse the "About State" section of the website. <http://www.state.gov/>

Tuesday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jentleson - Chapter 2 & Carter, Case #8 - National Security Surveillance: Unchecked or Limited President Power? - Louis Fisher

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- Thursday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Breuning - *Chapter 2 - Do Leaders Shape Foreign Policy?* (posted on eLearning) and Hermann, Margaret G. and Joe D. Hagan "International Decision Making: Leadership Matters", *Foreign Policy*, No. 110, Special Edition: Frontiers of Knowledge (Spring, 1998), pp.124-137
- Tuesday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> Historical Context: Jentleson, Chapter 3 and Reading 3.1 -- Kissinger: *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Coming of World War II*
- Thursday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> Historical Context: Jentleson, Chapter 4 and Reading 4.3 -- Mr. X [George Kennan]: *The Sources of Soviet Conduct*
- Tuesday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> Historical Context: Jentleson, Chapter 5 and Readings 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 -- George: *Detente: The Search for a "Constructive" Relationship*; Gaddis: *The Unexpected Ronald Reagan*; and Gorbachev: *The Soviet Union's Crucial Role*.
- Thursday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> DVD: *Three Men Go to War: The Cuban Missile Crisis*
- Tuesday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> **Exam I**
- Thursday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> Jentleson, Chapter 6 and Readings 6.1 and 6.2 -- Krauthammer: *The Unipolar Moment Revisited*; and Annan: *We the Peoples*
- Tuesday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> Carter, Case #1: The United States versus Terrorism: From the Embassy Bombings in Tanzania & Kenya to the Surge in Afghanistan -- Frederick Gagnon & Ryan C. Hendrickson
- Thursday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jentleson, Chapter 7 and Reading 7.2 -- Nye: *The Paradox of American Power*
- Tuesday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> Carter, Case #5: The U.S. and North Korea: Avoiding a Worst-Case Scenario -- Patrick James & Ozgur Ozdamar and Case # 6: Hitting the Reset Button: Changing the Direction of US-Russian Relations? -- Ralph G. Carter & James M. Scott
- Thursday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> Carter, Case #4: The Nuclear Standoff between the U.S. and Iran: Seeking a Diplomatic Path through a Minefield of Mutual Distrust -- Thomas Preston & Michael P. Infranco
- Tuesday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> Carter, Case # 3: Colombia and U.S. Foreign Policy: Coca, Security and Human Rights -- Jennifer S. Holmes
- Thursday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> Carter, Case #9: Immigration Policy: US-Mexican Relations Confront US Political Realities -- Marc R. Rosenblum
- Tuesday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> Jentleson, Chapter 8 and Readings 8.1 and 8.2 -- Bush: *Pre-Emption and National Security Strategy*; and Ikenberry: *America's Imperial Ambition*
- Thursday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> Carter, Case # 2: The Return of the Imperial Presidency? The Bush Doctrine and the US Intervention in Iraq -- Jeffrey S. Lantis & Eric Moskowitz
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<u>Tuesday, Oct 29th</u>	Jentleson, Chapter 9 and Readings 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 -- ICISS: <i>The Case for Humanitarian Intervention</i> ; GPTF: <i>Preventing Genocide: A Blueprint for US Policymakers</i> ; and Strobel: <i>The Media and US Policies Toward Intervention: A Closer Look at the "CNN Effect"</i>
<u>Thursday, Oct. 31st</u>	<b>Exam II</b>
<u>Tuesday, Nov. 5th</u>	Jentleson, Chapter 10 and Readings 10.1 & 10.3: <i>Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic and Keck &amp; Sikkink: Transnational Networks in International Politics: An Introduction</i>
<u>Thursday, Nov. 7th</u>	Carter, Case #11: Why Do We Still Have an Embargo of Cuba? -- Patrick J. Haney and Case #12: US-China Trade Relations: Privatizing Foreign Policy -- Steven W. Hook & Franklin Barr Lebo
<u>Tuesday, Nov. 12th</u>	<b>International Law Issues:</b> Carter, Case #14: The International Criminal Court: National Interests versus International Norms -- Donald W. Jackson and Ralph G. Carter
<u>Thursday, Nov. 14th</u>	Carter, Case #7: Maritime Piracy as a US Foreign Policy Problem: The Case of the <i>Maersk Alabama</i> -- Peter Lehr; and Case #15: The Rights of Detainees: Determining the Limits of Law -- Linda Cornett and Mark Gibney
<u>Tuesday, Nov. 19th</u>	<b>In-Class Simulation</b>
<u>Thursday, Nov. 21st</u>	<b>In-Class Simulation</b>
<u>Tuesday, Nov. 26th &amp; Thursday Nov. 28th</u>	<b>Fall Break &amp; Thanksgiving -- NO CLASSES.</b>
<u>Tuesday, Dec. 3rd</u>	Jentleson, Chapter 11 and Readings 11.2 and 11.3 -- Huntington: <i>The Clash of Civilizations?</i> ; and Mansfield & Snyder: <i>Democratization and The Danger of War</i>
<u>Thursday, Dec. 5th</u>	<b>Simulation Reports Due.</b> Wrap Chapter 11
<u>Tuesday, Dec. 10th</u>	<b>Exam III.</b> Last day of class.
<u>Tuesday, Dec. 17th</u>	<b>Make-Up Comprehensive Final (Time to be determined)</b>

### **Grading Policy (point system) – 600 possible points**

<i>Exam I</i>	<i>100 pts</i>
<i>Exam II</i>	<i>100 pts</i>
<i>Exam III</i>	<i>100 pts</i>
<i>Discussion Questions/Quizzes</i>	<i>100 pts</i>
<i>In-Class Simulation &amp; Report</i>	<i>100 pts</i>
<i>Attendance &amp; Participation</i>	<i>100 pts</i>

## GRADING SCALE:

A = 564-600  
A- = 540-563  
B+ = 522-539  
B = 504-521  
B- = 480-503  
C+ = 462-479  
C = 444-461  
C- = 420-443  
D+ = 402-419  
D = 384-401  
D- = 360-383  
F = 359 and below

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### Grading & Assignment Policies

- **Quizzes & Discussion Questions.** Unannounced reading and current event quizzes may be given during the course of the term. Announcements may also be made on eLearning. Discussion questions may be given from time to time on topics from your readings or discussed in class. The questions will be announced 2 days before the due date. Answers to discussion questions should be thoughtful responses to the question(s) posed and should be typed with 11 or 12 point font with one inch margins. No late papers accepted.
- **Attendance.** Attendance will be taken and is part of your grade. Points will also be awarded for participation in class discussions. Participation is vital to the educational experience and adequate preparation is required before each class. Please do not hesitate to ask questions and/or ask for clarification. Remember -- quizzes over reading material will be given randomly (and unannounced) throughout the session.
- **Make Up Exams.** **NO make-up exams** will be given. If you miss an exam for any reason, you may substitute one exam grade by taking a comprehensive final exam during final exam week.
- **eLearning.** eLearning will be used in this course for distribution of course announcements, potential quiz topics and any communication to or from students. Please be certain that you have access to eLearning and check it for course announcements and/or updates regularly.
- **Extra Credit.** You may elect to write a 4-5 page book report for extra credit. You will be eligible for up to 12 extra credit points added to you end of semester point total if you submit a book report on a approved book by Thursday, November 14th. Reports will NOT be accepted after this date. See the end of the syllabus for book suggestions.

### Course & Instructor Policies

- **Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy.** Using a cell phone or any other electronic device in class is **strictly prohibited**. You are subject to immediate drop from the class if you use such devices. **Please be certain that cell phones are set to silent before class begins.** You are allowed to use your personal computers during class for note taking or logging on to e-Learning for course purposes, however, internet surfing during class time is strictly prohibited. **Additionally, any use of a cell phone or other electronic device during an exam will result in an automatic 0 on the exam.**
- **Inappropriate Behavior.** Students who display inappropriate or disrespectful behavior will be immediately removed from the classroom and reported to the Associate Dean of Students.
- **Scholastic Dishonesty.** Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. All students will be held responsible for plagiarism, cheating and/or collusion.

- **Grade Appeals.** If you wish to challenge a grade on an assignment or essay question, you may do so by providing a written memo explaining why you believe you deserve a grade change and you must provide a reasonable explanation (i.e., support your challenge with logic) within one week of the return of the assignment.
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**UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures.** The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

***The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change without prior notice at the discretion of the Instructor.***

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### **Suggested Books:**

Albright, Madeline. 2003 or 2013. Madame Secretary: A Memoir

Bowden, Mark. 2006. Guests of the Ayatollah: The Iran Hostage Crisis

Carter, Jimmy. 2006. Palestine Peace Not Apartheid

Chalk, Peter. 2008. The Maritime Dimension of International Security: Terrorism, Piracy and Challenges for the United States.

Evans, Gareth. 2009. The Responsibility to Protect.

Hahn, Peter L. Crisis and Crossfire: The United States and the Middle East Since 1945

MacNamara, Robert. 1995. In Retrospect: The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam

MacMillan, Margaret O. 2002. Paris 1919: Six Months that Changed the World

Matlock, Jack F. 2004. Reagan and Gorbachev

Mertus, Julie. 2004. Bait and Switch: Human Rights and US Foreign Policy

Nye, Joseph. 2004. Soft Power: The Means to Success in World Politics

Rice, Condoleezza. 2011. No Higher Honor

Riddell, Roger C. 2007. Does Foreign Aid Work?

Reynolds, David. 2007. Summits: Six Meetings that Shaped the 20th Century

Schlesinger, Stephen. 2004. Act of Creation: The Founding of the United Nations

Spain, James W. 1998. In Those Days: A Diplomat Remembers