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PSC 335.01: Foreign Policy

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Political Science 335
American Foreign Policy

Summer, 2001
Office: LA 349
Office Hours: 11-12

Textbook:

John Spanier and Steven Hook, American Foreign Policy Since World War II (15th edition)

Items marked with * are on reserve.

Course Objectives:

This course is a review of the substance of American foreign policy since the end of World War II. This includes the identification and description of the problems facing the US during the period and the policy responses to them. Second, the effectiveness of these policies will be assessed in terms of their effectiveness. Third, the relationship between foreign policy and American national self-interest will be considered.

Assessment:

Familiarity with the facts and details of American foreign policy since World War II will be assessed by means of five quizzes consisting of ten identification-type questions. These quizzes will be on Fridays: June 8, June 15, June 22, and June 29. These exams will be OBJECTIVE in that they will consist ONLY of identification questions (names, dates, events, policies and the like). These questions can be answered in one or two paragraphs. USE BLUEBOOKS ONLY

Effectiveness of American foreign policy and its connection to national interest will be assessed by means of an analytical research paper. The paper should be a minimum of ten pages in length.

This is a "W" course so part of the course grade will be determined by an assessment of the mechanics of writing. The paper should focus on some aspect of American foreign policy since World War II. Some examples: a geographical focus such as US policy toward Latin America, or topical such as economic policy, alliance policy, human rights policy, or the policy of a particular administration such as the Eisenhower doctrine. This paper is to be analytical and interpretive dealing with the issues of national interest and the goals of foreign policy. A preliminary draft of the paper is due June 18. After the paper has been graded and returned (on June 22), it should be revised and improved. This final draft, which includes additions and corrections, also affords an opportunity for personal, critical

judgement. The final draft is due June 29. Format for the paper should follow the Turabian manual of style.

The material for these papers is to come primarily from the textbook but should include at least one additional source.
PLEASE RETURN THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT ALONG WITH THE FINAL PAPER.

Grades: Draft paper	= 30%
Final paper	= 10%
Quizzes (10% each)	= 40%
Discussion	= 10%

For purposes of the pass/no pass option, a grade of C or better is required for a "pass".

NOTE: Three absences will be permitted. Each absence beyond three will result in a 1% grade reduction.

The course will be organized according to the following topic sequence. Please follow the reading assignments as indicated since class time will be devoted primarily to discussion rather than lecture:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
The US Approach to Foreign Policy	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 1
US Policy Before WW II	Schulzinger, Ch. 2-3*
The World After World War II	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 2
FIRST QUIZ	JUNE 8
The Containment Doctrine	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 3
The US and the Third World	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 4
SECOND QUIZ	JUNE 15
Vietnam	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 5
<u>FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE</u>	<u>JUNE 18</u>
Détente	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 6
Cold War II	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 7-8
THIRD QUIZ	JUNE 22

Post Cold War

Spanier/Hook, Ch. 9

New World Order

Spanier/Hook, Ch.10-11

Globalization

Spanier/Hook, Ch.12-13

FOURTH QUIZ

JUNE 29

FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE

JUNE 29