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PSC 335.01: Foreign Policy

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PSC 335: American Foreign Policy
Professor Michael Punke
Spring 2006

Part I: An Introduction to National Security Policy-Making

January 24, 2006. Course Overview.

January 26, 2006. American Foreign Policy: A Brief History

Reading: Jordan et al, American National Security ("Jordan"), Chapters 4 and 3, Forward (pages vii-ix).

Part II: The Institutions of American Foreign Policy

January 31, 2006. The Institution of the Presidency.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 5. US Constitution, Article II.

February 2, 2006. The National Security Council.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 10.

February 7, 2006. The Department of Defense.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 8. 9-11 Commission Report, pages 95-98.

February 9, 2006. The Intelligence Community.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 9. 9-11 Commission Report, pages 86-93, 407-419.

Due Date: topic selection for projects, including honors and graduate papers

February 14, 2006. The Department of Homeland Security.

Reading: Stephen E. Flynn, "America the Vulnerable," *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2002. 9-11 Commission Report, 385-393.

Discussion: Writing Project I

February 16, 2006. The Department of State.

Reading: Jordan et al, pp 105-109, 152. 9-11 Commission Report, pages 93-95.

February 21, 2006. Public Opinion, Congress, and the Press.

Reading: Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*, "A Note to the Reader," pp 31-34;
Jordan et al Chapter 6; US Constitution, Article I. 9-11 Commission Report,
pages 419-423.

February 23, 2006. Economic Agencies: The NEC, Treasury and USTR.

Reading: Robert Rubin, *In an Uncertain World*

Part III: Case Studies in American Foreign Policy

February 28, 2006. The Cuban Missile Crisis.

Reading: Allison, *Essence of Decision*, Chapters 2, 6.

March 2, 2006. The Cuban Missile Crisis (cont.)

Reading: Allison, *Essence of Decision*, pp 13-23; 143-147; 255-258.

March 7, 2006. The First Gulf War

Reading: Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*, Chapters 16-21.

March 9, 2006. The First Gulf War: (cont.)

Reading: Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*, Chapters 22-25.

March 14, 2006. 9-11— Before and During

Reading: 9-11 Commission Report, pages 1-14; Chapter 2, pages 160-169,
Chapters 8 and 10.

March 16, 2006. 9-11 – After

Reading: Woodward, *Plan of Attack*

Due Date: Writing Project I

Discussion: Writing Project II

March 21, 2006. Afghanistan/Iraq.

Reading: Reserve: Woodward, *Bush at War*

March 23, 2006. Test Preview. Discuss Oral Presentations.

Reading: 2004 Exam

March 28, 2006. Spring Break.

March 30, 2006. Spring Break.

April 4, 2006. Iraq

Reading: Woodward, Plan of Attack

April 6, 2006. Lessons of 9/11 and Iraq.

Reading: Woodward, Plan of Attack

The 9-11 Commission Report, Chapters 11 and 13.

Part IV: Current Issues in American Foreign Policy

April 11, 2006. Student Presentations.

Due Date: Writing Project II

April 13, 2006. Student Presentations.

April 18, 2006. Student Presentations.

April 20, 2006. Globalization.

Reading: Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*

April 25, 2006. International Trade.

Reading: to be assigned.

April 27, 2006. Human Rights

Reading: Suettinger, Beyond Tiananmen.

May 2, 2006. National Security and Politics.

Reading: to be provided

Due Date: Writing Project III (Honors and Graduate students)

May 4, 2006. Topic to be determined based on current events.

May 9, 2006. Final exam: 8:00 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Books.

Jordan, Taylor, and Mazarr, *American National Security*
Graham Allison and Philip Zelikow, *Essence of Decision, 2nd Edition*
The 9-11 Commission Report
Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*
Bob Woodward, *Plan of Attack*
Thomas Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*

Class participation. This will be an active class, with an emphasis on discussion as much as lecturing. I will use a Socratic format (like law school), calling upon pre-designated students to draw out key parts of assigned readings. Much of what you learn will come from your classmates. Because of this format, I will expect that students arrive at class prepared, having completed the assigned reading. Part of your grade will be determined by your class participation.

Writing assignments. In addition to the substance of American foreign policy, this class will emphasize writing. In particular, the class will emphasize the type of writing done commonly in policy-oriented jobs (e.g., legislative assistant, White House aide). Each student will complete two short projects, both of which will relate to a ten-minute class presentation in April. ***In fairness to your classmates, failure to meet a deadline for any assignment will result in a reduction in your grade.***

Honors/Graduate increment. Honors students, graduate students (and any other student wishing to do so) will complete an additional writing project ("Writing Project III"); details to be discussed individually.

Grading. Grades will be based on the following breakdown:

Class Participation:	5%
Writing Project I:	25%
Writing Project II:	20%
Final Exam:	50%

(Honors/Graduate Students/Others electing to complete Writing Project III: Same as above except that the final exam will count for 25% and Writing Project III will count for 25%.)

Possible Topics for Writing Projects/Oral Presentation

In consultation with me, you will pick a *single research topic* that will form the background for Writing Project I, Writing Project II, and the short oral presentation. (In other words, you will *not* pick a different subject for each of these three projects.) **No two people can pick the same topic, so reserve a topic early if you are passionate about a particular subject.** Pick your topic by emailing me; the first student to email me gets the topic. Once you have confirmed your

topic selection with me, visit me during office hours so that we can narrow your research. Other specifics of these projects will be discussed in class.

You should feel free to propose your own topic, subject to my approval. Possible subjects include the following:

Bird flu and US national security
New challenges in Latin America: Argentina and/or Bolivia
Public opinion and the War in Iraq
Post-election Iraq
Post-Sharon Israel
Middle East peace talks
Humanitarian relief
China/Taiwan dispute
US-China relations in the new century
US-Japan relations in the new century
Donald Rumsfeld's role in formulating National Security Policy
Condoleezza Rice's role in formulating National Security Policy
Bush's immigration policy and the US relationship with Mexico
Europe's role in international security
IEDs
US-Canadian Trade Relations
Drug interdiction and the US relationship with Colombia
Current US global efforts to halt the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
US efforts to keep North Korea from building nuclear weapons
The US relationship with Saudi Arabia
US efforts to combat AIDS internationally
US efforts to combat global warming
The role of the United States in the United Nations
The role of the United States in the World Trade Organization
Foreign Policy and Montana

Office Hours. I will maintain office hours from 9:30 to 10:30 on Tuesday and Thursday (after class). My office is located at DHC #106. If this time does not work for you (e.g., because of conflict with another class), please contact me to arrange another time. I can also be contacted by email at mpunke@michaelpunke.com.