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PSCI 335.01: American Foreign Policy

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PSCI 335*

American Foreign Policy

Course description

America's dealings with the world have been shaped by continuity and change. The goal of the course is to provide a basic understanding of the foreign policy making process in the U.S. since World War II, its contemporary issues and future challenges. The first two weeks focus on the policy, its history, decision-making models, the perception of U.S. foreign policy by other countries as well as the interplay of U.S. institutions that shape the U.S.' role in the world today. The class ends with exploring how cyber challenges foreign policy and its future. In addition to readings and lectures, students taking this class are expected to perform independent research and demonstrate their knowledge in online discussions.

Location and times

January, 2nd to 19th, 2018

Class units and assignments are held in MT time

Instructor information

Eva-Maria Maggi, PhD

Email: evamaggi@mso.umt.edu

Virtual office hours: Mondays 10am-12pm (by email)

website: www.evamaggi.com

Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes

- Develop basic knowledge about American Foreign Policy and the world
- Gain an increased understanding of a variety of methodological approaches to addressing social science questions
- Nurture critical thinking skills through independent country study research

* This class includes sections 400 (writing credit), 595 (graduate).

TOPICS

WEEK 1			
Day	Lecture	Readings	Assignments
Tuesday, 1/2 Introduction & Foreign Policy	I. <i>"How to get an A in this class"</i> II. <i>"The American Approach to Foreign policy"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus Hastedt, 2018, Chapter 1 <p><u>Additional:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hastedt (ed.) Part I (1, 3) 	✓ Introduce yourself in Moodle
Wednesday, 1/3 History	<i>"The Cold War (continued)"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hastedt, 2018, Chapter 4 Osnos, Evan, et al. "Active Measures." New Yorker, vol. 93, no. 3, 06 Mar. 2017, pp. 40-55. Hook, Spanier 2015, The end of the Cold War (book chapter) <p><u>Additional:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levy, Jack S. "Learning and Foreign Policy: Sweeping a Conceptual Minefield." International Organization, vol. 48, no. 2, 1994, pp. 279–312. 	✓ Quiz opens 6am (closes Friday 10pm) <i>Note: complete all lectures and readings before taking the quiz)</i>
Thursday, 1/4 Policy Making Models	<i>"How to make policy that works"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hastedt, 2018, Chapter 9 <p><u>Additional:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hastedt (ed.) Part IV 	✓ Online discussion: Which decision making model applies best to U.S. FP and why? <i>Open 6am-10pm</i>
Friday, 1/5 Quiz prep		<i>Review readings and lectures</i>	✓ Quiz closes Friday, January 5, 10pm

WEEK 2			
Day	Lecture	Readings	Assignments
Monday, 1/8 Domestic politics	<i>"The battle of institutions"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hastedt, 2018</i>, chapter 6, 7, 8 <u>Additional:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hastedt (ed.)</i> Part IV (15, 17)	✓ Online discussion: Discuss which U.S. institution is the most important to US FP and why. <i>Open 6am-10pm</i>
Tuesday, 1/9 Global Context	<i>"The End of Internationalism?"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hastedt, 2018</i>, chapter 2 & 3 <u>Additional:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hastedt (ed.)</i> Part II (5,7,10)	
Wednesday, 1/10 Soft vs. hard power	<i>"War or diplomacy"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hastedt, 2018</i>, chapter 12 & 13 <u>Additional:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hastedt (ed.)</i> Part IV (18) Part VI (25, 27)	✓ Online discussion: Have military interventions or diplomacy shaped U.S. foreign policy? <i>Open 6am-10pm</i>
Thursday, 1/11 <i>Research day</i>		Friday, 1/12 Assignment: <i>All essays due at 10pm</i>	
WEEK 3			
Day	Lecture	Readings	Assignments
Monday, 1/15 <i>No class</i> <i>Martin Luther King day</i>			

Tuesday, 1/16 Cybersecurity	<i>"Cyber – the new dimension of Foreign Policy"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Hastedt, 2018, chapter 10</i> <u>Additional:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Hastedt (ed.) Part IV (19,20)</i> 	
Wednesday, 1/17 Future of U.S. Foreign Policy	<i>"Change to stay the same?"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Hastedt, 2018, chapter 14</i> <u>Additional:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Hastedt (ed.) Part VI (24, 26)</i> 	✓ Online discussion: Discuss the three main challenges of U.S. FP today. <i>Open 6am-10pm</i>
Thursday, 1/18 Writing day		Friday, January 19 <i>Final paper due at 10pm</i>	

Course Format and Teaching Methods

This course is taught entirely online, with daily lectures from the instructor as well as discussions amongst the students. The lectures for this course can be accessed through Moodle, and will be posted at the start of each unit (see course schedule below for details). Every student will discuss important issues of American Foreign policy in online discussions and analyze the perception of the policy by other nations through independent writing and research.

Required readings

For graduate section additional (for others optional):

Hastedt, Glenn P. (ed), 2018, *Readings in American Foreign Policy : Problems and Responses*, 2nd edition, Westview Press.

Articles & book chapters
(all made available on Moodle)

Drop Policy, Grading Options, and Incompletes

University policy regarding grades and grading systems is available at:

<https://www.umt.edu/registrar/PDF/gradematrix.pdf>

The 15th day of the semester is the last day to drop the class or change the grading option without my signature on an override form. If you wish to drop or change the grading option after that, you must provide documentation of an emergency or other serious situation in which you are directly involved that has made it impossible for you to complete the course. For UM's policy on incompletes, see http://archive.umt.edu/catalog/14_15/academics/academic-policy-procedure.php

The plus/minus grading system will be used. Grades may be curved, but the following distribution is the lowest I will use (*i.e.*, if you earn 93% of all possible points you are assured of an A in the course):

93-100 A	83-86 B	73-76 C	63-66 D
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-62 D-
87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+	0-59

A breakdown of final grade calculations is as follows:

Participation/Online discussion = 40%

Quiz = 15%

Essay = 15%

Final paper = 30%

- *Participation*

Your participation grade depends on the degree to which you engage in "thoughtful conversation" on the online discussion forum. "Thoughtful conversation" involves posting one original response to the discussion question of the week (between 200 and 300 words), as well as responding to at least one of your peers' original posts (minimum 100 words). You are also expected to respond to questions posed by your peers in response to your original post. **The discussion should make direct reference to all required readings and lecture(s) of each week.** All contributions to the

discussion forum are expected to be courteous and collegial in tone and content. Posts must be completed by 10pm.

For the Graduate 500-level:

You are expected to respond to two posts and refer in your discussions to all required and recommended readings as well as the lectures.

- *Quiz*

The first unit ends with a multiple choice quiz covering the readings and lectures of week 1 as well as current events. The quiz is set on a timer (60 minutes) and you should have finished all the readings before opening the quiz. You have one attempt to finish the quiz. Do not walk away and do not close the quiz because you won't be able to reopen it. **The quiz will be open from Wednesday, January 3 at 6am to Friday, January 5 at 10pm.**

For the Graduate 500-level:

You will have to take the 500-level quiz version that covers all required and additional readings as well as current events. Same restrictions apply.

- *Essay - U.S. foreign policy from another country's perspective.*

Pick one country from the moodle list and examine its views on U.S. foreign policy. Discuss one topic of agreement and one of disagreement. This essay has to be between 500 and 650 words of length (double spaced) based on a minimum of **4 academic sources** and **needs to be submitted in the Moodle dropbox by Friday, January 12 at 10pm**. Please cite properly and note that Wikipedia is not a legitimate academic source. A grading rubric will be posted on moodle at the beginning of class.

Available countries: Germany, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, China, Russia, France, UK, Japan, Australia, Mexico, Canada

For PSCI 400:

Political Science majors may use this course to complete PSCI 400 (the upper-division writing requirement in the major). Your essay needs to be 3-4pages long. You will receive feedback shortly after submission and are expected to rewrite and resubmit **this paper in the Moodle dropbox by Friday, January 19 at 10pm. Your grade for PSCI 400 will consist of the country brief (50%) and the resubmission (50%).**

For the Graduate 500-level:

Pick two countries with contrary views from the list and discuss their positioning towards U.S. foreign policy. This essay should be between 650-1000 words. Same restrictions apply.

- *Final paper*

Choose one policy making models discussed in week 1 and analyze one of the policy issues discussed in Week 2-3. The paper should not be longer than 1800 words and be based on a min. of 10 **academic** references. Please cite properly and note that Wikipedia is not a legitimate academic source.

A grading rubric will be posted on moodle at the beginning of class.

Your final paper is due in the Moodle dropbox on January 19 at 10pm.

For the Graduate 500-level:

You are expected to write a 7 page research paper referring to 15 academic sources.

Formulate and **discuss the research question within the topics of week 2-3 with me by January 12th.**

Assignment/Testing/Schedule/ Due Dates

- ✓ Quiz is available on Moodle from **Wednesday, January 3 at 6am to Friday, January 5 at 10pm.**
- ✓ 4 online discussions run from 6am through 10pm (see course schedule for dates and topics)
- ✓ Essay is due in the Moodle dropbox on **Friday, January 12, 10pm**
- ✓ Final paper is due on **January 19 at 10pm.**

Late Work Policy

As a rule, work will not be accepted beyond the terms described in this syllabus, except in case of documented emergency or illness. You may petition the professor in writing for an exception if you feel you have a compelling reason for turning work in late.

Attendance policy

The UM's policy concerning Class Attendance and Administrative Drops is available at:

<https://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/attendance.php> &
<https://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/dropadd.php>

"Classroom" Behavior

To foster a positive learning environment, students must conduct themselves respectfully in online discussions. Any comments that are derogatory or threatening will not be tolerated, and appropriate action will be taken through University channels.

The University of Montana's Student Code of Conduct prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to one's self. See:

https://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

Accessibility and Accommodations

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

If you have reasonable accommodations, please plan to email me to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Student Code of Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UM Code of Conduct as described: https://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism available at: <http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter/docs/plagiarism.pdf>

Selling class notes and/or other course materials to other students or to a third party for resale is not permitted without the instructor's express written consent. Violations to this and other course rules are subject to the Student Code of Conduct and may result in course sanctions. Additionally, students who use Moodle or UM email to sell or buy these copyrighted materials are subject to Code of Conduct Violations for misuse of student email addresses. This conduct may also constitute copyright infringement.

Confidentiality of Student Records

<http://www.umt.edu/business-services/Students/Student%20Accounts/Student%20Confidentiality.php>

Subject to Change Statement

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.