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PSC 335.01: American Foreign Policy

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The University Of Montana

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Political Science 335
American Foreign Policy

Summer, 2000
Office: LA 349
Office Hours: 11-12

Textbook:

John Spanier and Steven Hook, American Foreign Policy Since World War II (14th edition)

Course Requirements:

This course consists of three elements: (1) the substance of American foreign policy, i.e., the facts; (2) analysis and interpretation of the effectiveness of foreign policy in terms of national self-interest and broader ethical issues; and (3) writing. The first part (the facts) are to be obtained from the textbook and lectures and will be covered in four short identification-type quizzes. These will be on Fridays: July 7, 14, 21, 28. 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

This is a "W" course so major emphasis will be placed on the mechanics of writing. The first and second elements of the course will be the subject of a 10-15 page paper. (The paper should focus on some aspect of American foreign policy. Some examples: a geographical focus such as US policy toward Latin America, or topical such as economic policy, alliance policy, human rights policy.) This paper is to be analytical and interpretive dealing with the issues of national interest and ethics. A preliminary draft of the paper is due July 19. After the paper has been graded and returned, it should be revised and improved. This final draft, which includes additions and corrections, also affords an opportunity for critical judgement.

Final paper is due July 28.

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	= 20%
	Quizzes (10% each)	= 40%
	Attendance/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 sequence. Please follow the reading assignments as indicated since there will be primary emphasis upon discussion rather than lecture:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
The Bases of Foreign Policy	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 1
US Policy Before WW II	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 2
The World After World War II	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 3
FIRST QUIZ	JULY 7
Cold War I	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 4-6
SECOND QUIZ	JULY 14
Human Rights Issues	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 7-8
Cold War II	Spanier/Hook, Ch. 9-10
THIRD QUIZ	JULY 21
Post Cold War	Spanier, Ch. 11
Conclusion	Spanier, Ch. 12
FOURTH QUIZ	JULY 28