

# **U. S. Foreign Policy since the End of the Cold War**

## **Spring 2008**

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**Purpose.** This course examines the formulation and conduct of U. S. foreign policy since the end of post-Cold War. We are interested in four questions:

How have U. S. strategic priorities and methods evolved since the end of the Cold War?

How did the World's Only Superpower so quickly reach the limits of its power?

What are the chief lessons of the Global War on Terror?

Looking to the post-Bush era, what principles should provide the basis for a sound and sustainable national security policy?

Further, we will seek answers to these questions in ways that will sharpen student analytical and writing skills and provide students with opportunities to make formal oral presentations.

### **Course Requirements.**

- Oral participation (20%)
- Oral presentation (20%)
- Information memo (20%) [Due one week after the oral presentation]
- Policy memorandum (40%) [Due at noon, May 5, 2008]

**Office hours.** 10:00-noon, Monday and Friday

### **Course Administration.**

- Students are expected to attend all meetings of the course. Inform me if circumstances will prevent you from coming to class.
- Students are expected to submit written assignments on time. Late submissions will be penalized.
- Students are expected to adhere to all provisions of the CAS Academic Code.
- The last date for dropping the course (no "W" grade) is February 16 and for withdrawing (with "W" grade) is March 9.

## **Lesson 1. Introduction**

### **Lesson 2. Assessing American Power**

Read: Stephen Burman, *The State of the American Empire*

Key discussion questions: What strengths? What vulnerabilities? What trends?

### **Lesson 3. Post-Cold War Foreign Policy before G. W. Bush**

Read: Andrew J. Bacevich, *American Empire*, chapters 1 through 7.

Key discussion question: What did Bush inherit?

### **Lesson 4. Basic Statements of Policy**

Read: Condoleezza Rice, "Promoting the National Interest," *Foreign Affairs* (January / February 2000); George W. Bush, "Address to a Joint Session of Congress," (September 20, 2001); George W. Bush, "Commencement Address at West Point," (June 1, 2002); *National Security Strategy of the United States* (September 2002); George W. Bush, "Second Inaugural Address," (January 20, 2005).

Key discussion questions: Strategic response to 9/11?

### **Lesson 5. Iraq**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Bush policy prior to 9/11 (including campaign statements)? Immediate policy impact of 9/11? Evolution of policy since 9/11? Bush's prospective legacy?

### **Lesson 6. Turkey, Lebanon, and Iran**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

### **Lesson 7. The Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

### **Lesson 8. Central Asia (to include Afghanistan)**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

**Lesson 9. Pakistan and India**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

**Lesson 10. East Asia (especially China, Japan, and the Korean Peninsula)**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

**Lesson 11. Europe, Russia and the Balkans**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

**Lesson 12. Sub-Saharan Africa (especially Sudan and Somalia) and Latin America (trade, investment, drugs, and immigration)**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

**Lesson 13. Global Issues (weapons proliferation and climate change)**

Oral Presentation:

Key discussion questions: Same as Lesson 4.

**Preparing an Oral Presentation**

Meet with instructor before beginning preparation.

Identify readings not later than one week before presentation.

Rehearse presentation for instructor one week before presentation.

Answer follow up questions at the lesson following the presentation.

Provide to the instructor a memo summarizing findings one week following presentation.

**Guidance for Information Memo**

Not longer than five pages, excluding attached maps and charts.

Double-spaced, typed.

Bullet point format permitted and encouraged.

**Guidance for Policy Memorandum.** Maximum length ten pages, excluding maps and charts; double-spaced, typed; addressed to the chair of the Democratic Party's National Security Study Group; the aim of the paper is to outline the basic national security policy and priorities of the next administration.

**Grading template used for both papers and oral presentations**

Clear and concise	0-10 points
Comprehensive	0-10 points
Logical	0-10 points
Sound	0-10 points
<u>Imaginative</u>	<u>0-10 points</u>
Total	0-50 points

*Version of January 11, 2008*