UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
SARASOTA-MANATEE

SYLLABUS FOR INR-3102

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

FALL 2014
INR-3102

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

FALL 2014
Wednesdays: 3:00 pm – 5:45 pm
Room A-205

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Course Objectives

This course will explore the constitutional, historical, political, and bureaucratic dynamics that shape the formulation and execution of American foreign policy.

Students who successfully complete the course will be conversant with:

- The U.S. Constitution’s distribution of national security responsibilities and the roles of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of the federal government.

- Major analytical concepts often used to explain historical trends in U.S. foreign policy:
  - Isolationism and Interventionism
  - Realism and Idealism
  - Unilateralism and Multilateralism

- The foreign policy tools available to U.S. policymakers as they seek to advance U.S. interests around the world and safeguard national security.

- How foreign policy is made, including the role of intelligence and the influence of domestic politics, bureaucratic cultures, the media, think tanks, and advocacy groups.

- The major national security challenges facing the U.S. today and the current Administration’s efforts to deal with those issues.

Students will leave the course better equipped to understand issues in U.S. foreign policy, analyze those issues, formulate their own views, and discuss them coherently and convincingly.
Applying the knowledge they will gain in the course, students will construct strategy memoranda that:

- Identify particular national security challenges and opportunities.
- Analyze the potential benefits and risks of employing foreign policy tools such as diplomacy, economic aid or sanctions, covert action, and military force.
- Evaluate the potential for domestic and international support or opposition to alternative courses of action.
- Recommend a foreign policy strategy and explain why the recommendation is believed to be the most appropriate and likely to succeed under the circumstances involved.

INR 3102 is a three credit course that can be applied toward an International Relations cognate in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences or a minor in International Relations.

Prerequisites and Expectations

There are no specific prerequisites for this course, but students are expected to have a basic understanding of world politics and maintain awareness of ongoing international developments.

Requirements and Grades

Each student will prepare a strategy memorandum and brief it to the class. Detailed instructions for the memorandum and the briefing, including evaluation criteria, will be provided. Memoranda not turned in during the class session on the due date may be submitted by email no later than midnight that day without penalty; later submissions will be penalized a half grade every 24 hours. The memorandum and the briefing will count for one-third of the grade evaluation.

Three short quizzes and a final exam will count for another one-third. Performance on this segment will be determined by the cumulative number of correct answers to all of the questions on the quizzes and the final exam.

Attendance, preparation, and participation in class discussions will count for the remaining one-third. Participation does not necessarily mean providing the “right” answer; there often is no right answer. Making an insightful comment or asking a thoughtful question counts as meaningful participation.

A plus/minus grading system will be used.
Students who expect to miss a class should notify the instructor in advance. Students should avoid being absent or late when a test is scheduled; arrangements for taking a missed test may be made with the instructor on a case-by-case basis, but this practice is strongly discouraged.

The Instructor

The instructor’s academic background includes a Master's degree in International Relations from the University of Southern California and a Law degree from Georgetown University. After serving in the U.S. Army he began his civilian career in 1970 as an analyst with the Central Intelligence Agency, where he specialized in Latin American and transnational issues. He subsequently dealt with legal and legislative matters at the CIA and became Chief Counsel to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in the mid-1980s. He returned to the CIA and held a series of senior positions there and at the National Reconnaissance Office, principally in the offices of General Counsel, Congressional Affairs, and Inspector General.

From 1999-2001 the instructor was the CIA’s “Officer-in-Residence” at Georgetown University, where he developed and taught an introductory undergraduate course on intelligence and a graduate-level seminar on covert action. He retired from government service in 2003 and began teaching at USF in 2004.

Communications

The instructor encourages students to contact him to discuss issues related to the course or other matters such as career opportunities with the federal government. As a member of the adjunct faculty the instructor does not have an office or formal office hours on campus, but he usually can be found in the adjunct faculty workroom (C-264) an hour or two before class. The best way to reach him at other times is by email to gchase@usf.edu. The instructor welcomes student feedback about the course, with or without attribution. Comments may be left in the instructor’s mail folder in C-264.

Students should ensure that they have a valid email address in the Canvas system in order to receive communications from the instructor. Students should also check the course site on Canvas regularly for announcements and readings. Students unfamiliar with Canvas should seek assistance at the information commons (second floor rotunda).
Course Materials

Course materials will include:

- *The Constitution of the United States*
- *America’s Foreign Policy Toolkit*, by Charles A. Stevenson (CQ Press paperback, 2013)

Students seeking an in-depth treatment of diplomatic history should obtain *From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1776*, by George C. Herring (Oxford University Press paperback, 2011)

Additional readings listed in the schedule or announced by the instructor will be posted in Canvas, available on the internet, or distributed by the instructor. Congressional Research Service reports are available on the Federation of American Scientists website (www.fas.org/sgp/crs).

Foreign affairs-related websites that students may find helpful include: Council on Foreign Relations (www.cfr.org); Brookings Institution (www.brookings.edu); Center for Strategic and International Studies (www.csis.org); United States Institute of Peace (www.usip.org); Henry L. Stimson Center (www.stimson.org); Heritage Foundation (www.heritage.org); Georgetown University Institute for the Study of Diplomacy (http://isd.georgetown.edu); White House (www.whitehouse.gov); and State Department (www.state.gov).

Other Issues

Recording devices are not permitted at class sessions unless the device is part of an authorized disability accommodation. Students may use computers, tablets, smart phones, or similar equipment, but using such devices in class for matters unrelated to class activities indicates a lack of respect for the instructor; students should conduct themselves accordingly.

Important dates:

25 August First day of classes
1 September Labor Day-University closed-no class
1 November Last day to drop courses with a “W”
11 November Veterans Day-University closed-no class
27 & 28 November Thanksgiving Holiday-University closed
5 December Last day of classes
6-12 December Final exams
USF Sarasota-Manatee Policies and Procedures

Religious Observances
The University recognizes the right of students and faculty to observe major religious holidays. Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class for a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second week of classes.

Disabilities Accommodation
Students are responsible for registering with the Office of Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. Reasonable notice must be given to the SDS office (typically 5 working days) for accommodations to be arranged. It is the responsibility of the student to provide each instructor with a copy of the official Memo of Accommodation. Contact Information: Disability Coordinator: 359-4714;
disabilityservices@sar.usf.edu; http://www.usfsm.edu/students/disability/

Academic Dishonesty
The University considers any form of plagiarism or cheating on exams, projects, or papers to be unacceptable behavior. Please be sure to review the university’s policy in the USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct.
Undergraduate: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/Catalogs/
Graduate: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/Catalogs/
USF Student Code of Conduct: http://www.sa.usf.edu/srr/page.asp?id=88

Academic Disruption
The University does not tolerate behavior that disrupts the learning process. The policy for addressing academic disruption is included with Academic Dishonesty in the USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct.
Undergraduate: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/Catalogs/
Graduate: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/Catalogs/
USF Student Code of Conduct: http://www.sa.usf.edu/srr/page.asp?id=88

Contingency Plans
In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USFSM to suspend normal operations. During this time, USFSM may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It’s the responsibility of the student to monitor the Canvas site for each class for course specific communication, and the main USFSM and College websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency.

Emergency Preparedness
It is strongly recommended that you become familiar with the USF Sarasota-Manatee Emergency Action Plan on the Safety Preparedness site http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/facilities/SafetyPreparedness.php

Fire Alarm Instructions
At the beginning of each semester please note the emergency exit maps posted in each classroom. These signs are marked with the primary evacuation route (red) and secondary evacuation route (orange) in case the building needs to be evacuated.

Web Portal Information
Every newly enrolled USF student receives an official USF e-mail account. Students receive official USF correspondence and Canvas course information via that address. Therefore it is the student’s responsibility to check their USF email regularly.

Instructor Copyright
Students may not sell notes or other course materials.
SESSION 1 – AUGUST 27

Introduction and Overview

- Administrative matters
- Instructor/student expectations and commitments
- Procedures, readings, requirements, grades, etc.
- Explanation of the strategy paper
- Overview of the course

The State of the World

- Current and potential sources of instability and conflict
- Additional national security challenges

American Civic Literacy

- Non-graded civic literacy exercise
SESSION 2 – SEPTEMBER 3

Basic Concepts

- Foreign Policy and National Security
- Isolationism and Interventionism
- Realism and Idealism
- Unilateralism and Multilateralism

The Constitution’s Allocation of Foreign Policy Powers:
“An Invitation to Struggle”
Part I: The Executive Branch

- The Executive power
- Appointments
- Treaties and Executive Agreements
- The “Take Care” clause
- The President as Commander-in-Chief

Diplomatic History: 1776-1788
Foreign Policy and the Birth of the Republic

Readings

- *U.S. Constitution*: Article II, Sections 1 (first and last paragraphs), 2 & 3
- *America’s Foreign Policy Toolkit*: Chapter 1
- *A Concise History of U. S. Foreign Policy*: Chapter 1
SESSION 3 – SEPTEMBER 10

Allocation of Powers Part II: The Legislative Branch

- The power of the purse
- Ratification of treaties
- Confirmation of appointments
- Declarations of War

Foreign Policy in the Early Days of the Republic

Readings

- Constitution: Article I, Sections 1 & 8
- Concurring Opinion by Justices Scalia and Thomas in Bond v. United States (2014)
- Toolkit: Chapter 4 (pp. 86-105)
- Concise History: pp. 33-38
SESSION 4 – SEPTEMBER 17

Allocation of Powers Part III: The Judicial Branch

Foreign Policy from the early 1800s to the Civil War

Readings

- Constitution: Article III
- Concise History: pp. 39-44

QUIZ # 1
SESSION 5 – SEPTEMBER 24

*Hard Power, Soft Power, and Smart Power*

*Foreign Policy Tools I: Diplomacy; International Broadcasting, Alliances; International Organizations*

*Foreign Policy from the Civil War to World War I and its Aftermath*

**Readings**

- *Toolkit:* Chapters 6 & 11
- *Concise History:* pp. 44-59
SESSION 6 – OCTOBER 1

*Foreign Policy Tools II: Trade; Economic Aid and Sanctions, Military Equipment and Training*

*Foreign Policy in the Interwar Years*

**Readings**

- *Toolkit: Chapter 7*
- Congressional Research Service, *Foreign Aid: An Introduction to U.S. Programs and Policy*, February 2011. This CRS report can be found at [www.fas.org/sgp/crs](http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs) under Foreign Policy and Regional Affairs.
- *Concise History: pp. 61-70*
Foreign Policy Tools III: Covert Action

- Distinguishing covert action from diplomacy and special military operations
- Elements of covert action: propaganda, agents of influence, political and economic action, paramilitary programs
- A brief history of covert action since the Second World War
- Congressional notification
- Defining covert action success and failure

Foreign Policy and World War II

Readings

- Toolkit: pp. 244-254
- Congressional Research Service, Covert Action: Legislative Background and Possible Policy Questions, April 2013. This CRS report can be found at www.fas.org/sgp/crs under Intelligence.
- Concise History: pp. 70-81
SESSION 8 – OCTOBER 15

*Foreign Policy Tools IV: Military Force*

- The President as Commander-in-Chief
- The power of Congress to declare war
- The War Powers Resolution

*Foreign Policy in the Early Cold War Years*

**Readings**

- *Toolkit*: Chapters 4 (pp. 107-112) and 8
- *Concise History*: pp. 83-103

**QUIZ #2**
SESSION 9 – OCTOBER 22

The Foreign Policymaking Process: The Role of Intelligence

- The intelligence-policy relationship
- Congress as a consumer of intelligence
- The pitfalls of politicization

Foreign Policy under Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Carter

Readings

- Toolkit: pp. 231-244
- Congressional Research Service, Congress as a Consumer of Intelligence Information, January 2010. This CRS report can be found at www.fas.org/sgp/crs under Intelligence.
- Guarding against Politicization, address by Director of Central Intelligence Robert M. Gates to CIA employees, March 16, 1992
- Concise History: pp.103-121
SESSION 10 – OCTOBER 29

The Foreign Policymaking Process: The National Security Council System

Foreign Policy under Presidents Reagan, Bush, and Clinton

Readings

- Toolkit: Chapter 3
- Concise History: pp.123-145
SESSION 11 – NOVEMBER 5

The Foreign Policymaking Process: Budget and Resources

President Bush, 9/11, Afghanistan, and Iraq

Readings

- Toolkit: Chapter 5
- Concise History: pp. 147-167
SESSION 12 – NOVEMBER 12

The Foreign Policymaking Process:
Think Tanks, Interest Groups, and the Media

Foreign Policy and Homeland Security

Foreign Policy and Counterterrorism under President Obama

Readings

- Toolkit: Chapters 10 & 12
- Concise History: pp. 169-189

QUIZ # 3
SESSION 13 – NOVEMBER 19

*Foreign Policy Challenges Today and Prospects for the Future*

**Readings**

Commencement Address by President Barack Obama at the United States Military Academy, 28 May 2014 (available on the whitehouse.gov website).
Commentary on the President’s speech (to be posted on Canvas or distributed by instructor).
Presentation and Discussion of Strategy Memoranda

DUE DATE FOR STRATEGY MEMORANDUM
SESSION 15 – DECEMBER 3

Semester Review
Final Examination