

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Department of Political Science
Political Science 342: United States Foreign Policy

Prof. Jonathan R. Strand
Phone: 895-3356
Office Hours: M, W 2:30-4:30; W 11:30-12:30 (and by appointment)

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E-mail: strand@unlv.nevada.edu
Office: WRI B210

Course Content: This course examines the institutions, processes and people involved in making and implementing the foreign policy of the United States. The course surveys the history of American foreign policy from the 19th Century to the present with special focus on the post-Cold War era. Following this, the course examines the central actors in the foreign policy-making process. The last portion of the course focuses on the U.S. military intervention in the post-Cold War era and U.S. foreign economic policy in the age of globalization.

Course Objectives: The primary goal of this course is to provide students with a theoretical and historical overview of U.S. foreign policy. To this end this Political Science 342 considers a variety of important topics, such as America's role in an increasingly integrated world economy, security policy, the spread of democracy, intervention, human rights, and nuclear proliferation.

Required Texts:

Carter, R.G., ed., (2005) *Contemporary Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy*. 2nd Edition Washington, DC: CQ Press.
Ikenberry, G.J., ed., (2005) *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. 5th Edition New York: Longman.
Snow, D.M. (2005) *United States Foreign Policy: Politics Beyond the Water's Edge*. 3rd Edition Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Course Requirements:

Exams: There are two exams in this course worth 100 points each. All make-up exams are scheduled for May 8th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., no exceptions. Make-up exams will only be allowed when the instructor is notified in writing *before* the scheduled exam. Please note that the final exam must be taken during the officially scheduled time.

Research Paper: A paper worth 100 points will be due on May 1.

Class Participation and attendance, including quizzes, will account for another 50 points. Make-up quizzes will not be offered. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Missing more than 3 classes lowers your final grade by one-third (e.g., an A- turns into a B+). Missing more than 5 classes determines that your grade is an F.

Students who arrive late or leave early will be marked absent. Disruptions – such as using a cell phone, text messenger, pager, computer or other device – will have a deleterious effect on your participation grade. *The instructor requires all cell phones and pagers to be switched off during class.* Electronic devices, including language translation equipment, may not be used during exams. Recording devices may not be used at anytime. Late assignments will be penalized 20 percent per day beyond the due date. Incompletes will only be offered when requested in writing on behalf of a student by the Chair of the Department of Political Science or the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. All grade disputes must be in writing. Students who expect to miss class because of the observance of a religious holiday will have an opportunity to make up missed work given that the instructor has been notified in writing regarding the anticipated absence by the last day of late registration. Students who expect to miss class due to an officially sanctioned, UNLV activity (e.g., intercollegiate athletics) must notify the instructor in writing at least 7 days prior to the anticipated absence and provide written verification of participation.

The instructor reserves the right to have students' assignments submitted electronically and assessed by plagiarism detection software. The University requires all members of the University Community to be familiar with and to follow copyright and fair use laws. **YOU ARE INDIVIDUALLY AND SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL NEITHER PROTECT NOR DEFEND YOU NOR ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT**

VIOLATIONS OF FAIR USE LAWS. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under University policies. To help familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, the University encourages you to visit its copyright page at: www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright. Plagiarism of any form will result in a failing grade for the course and the instructor will file a case with the Office of Student Conduct.

The instructor expects students to read a major international news source on a regular basis. The instructor suggests the following sources of information: *Economist* (www.economist.com); *Financial Times* (www.ft.com); *International Herald Tribune* (www.iht.com); Asia Times (www.atimes.com).

Student Accommodation: The UNLV Disability Resource Center (DRC) houses the resources for students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC) room 137. The phone numbers are 702-895-0866 (voice), 702-895-0652 (TDD), and 702-895-0651 (Fax). For additional information please visit: www.unlv.edu/studentinf/les.

Course Schedule: (Note: The instructor may alter the schedule as needed)

Date	Topic	Readings
1/16	Holiday	no class
1/18	Themes in U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1; Ikenberry pages 1-12
1/23	Explaining Foreign Policy	Ikenberry pages 13-58
1/25	Early U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1
1/30	The Cold War Post Cold War	Snow Chapters 2; Ikenberry pages 61-111
2/1	Post Cold War	Snow Chapters 3
2/6	The President	Snow Chapter 4
2/8	The President	Snow Chapter 4
2/13	The President	Snow Chapter 4; Carter Chapter 4
2/15	Executive Branch Agencies	Snow Chapter 5
2/20	Holiday	no class
2/22	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
2/27	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
3/1	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
3/6	Bureaucratic Politics & Organizational Culture	Ikenberry pages 401-447
3/8	Exam 1	
3/13-3/15	Holiday	no class
3/20	Interest Groups	Snow Chapter 7
3/22	Media & Public Opinion	Snow Chapter 8
3/27	Media & Public Opinion	Ikenberry pages 311-399; Carter Chapter 1
3/29	Security	Snow Chapter 9
4/3	Security	Carter Chapters 5 & 7
4/5	Terrorism	Carter Chapters 2 & 3; Barry Posen (2003) "Command of the Commons: The Military Foundation of U.S. Hegemony." <i>International Security</i> 28, 1: 5-46. (available via Project Muse)
4/10	Terrorism	Carter Chapter 6 & 15
4/12	CTBT	Carter Chapter 7
4/17	ICC	Carter Chapter 13
4/19	Global Economic Relations	Snow Chapter 10
4/24	Global Economic Relations	Carter Chapters 9 & 11
4/26	Global Economic Relations	Snow Chapter 12 & 14
5/1	Hegemony or Empire?	Ikenberry pages 137-212; David P. Rapkin (2005) "Empire and its Discontents." <i>New Political Economy</i> 10, 3: 389-411
5/3	Hegemony or Empire?	Ikenberry pages 539-576
5/8	FINAL EXAM	10:10 AM - 12:00 PM

