

PSC 338: Comparative Foreign Policy

Spring 2017, Tuesday/Thursday 5:00-6:20 Talbert 115

Professor: Collin Anderson

Office: Park 516

Office Hours: Monday 12:30-1:00, Tuesday 1-3:20

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Course Description and Objectives

Every nation on Earth conducts foreign policy. This course aims to understand the theory behind various national policies and the policy making process itself. The first half of the course covers policymaking in various countries around the globe, as well as some theoretical groundwork. The second half of the course is more focused on the practical application of policy – how do foreign ministries work, what do diplomats do, etc.

By the conclusion of the class, students should have an understanding of why certain policies are developed, how it is implemented, and the everyday functioning of the professionals who work in the field. Students can also expect to acquire some negotiating practice during an in-class activity (more on that below).

Required Texts

Johnson, Chalmers. 2004. *Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire*. Henry Holt and Company Publishers. New York, NY.

Kerr, Pauline and Geoffrey Wiseman. *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World: Theories and Practice*. Oxford University Press. New York, NY. (2013)

Zakaria, Fareed. 2009. *The Post-American World*. W.W. Norton and Company. New York, NY.

Course Requirements

- 1.) Participation: 10%** It is expected that students will attend class and actively engage in the material. If participation or attendance begins to drop, I retain the right to give out pop quizzes that will count towards this grade.
- 2.) Professionalism: 10%** This is determined by your demeanor and conduct during the course. You're expected to treat myself and each other with respect during discussions, emails, and any other exchanges that you might have during the semester.
- 3.) Policy Item: 5%** This 2 page paper will be suggestions for the simulation outlined in number 4. It should coherently and succinctly address an issue of international importance and a solution to the issue.

- 4.) Simulation: 10%** Near the end of the semester, each student will be assigned one country. Students will act as the foreign ministers/secretary of their state and engage each other in a practice international summit. The issue to be discussed will be selected from the submitted policy papers.
- 5.) Midterm Exam: 30%** This exam will be given **March 16th**. It will consist of approximately 120 questions covering all material up to that point in the course. Questions will be drawn from readings, presentations, and class discussions.
- 6.) Final Exam: 35%** The final exam will follow the same format as the midterm, however, it is **not cumulative**. The Final Exam is **May 11th, in class**.

Assessment

Outlined below are the learning outcomes this course hopes to achieve, and the assessment measures related to those learning outcomes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT MEASURE(S)
DEMONSTRATE AN UNDERSTANDING OF FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION	Reading discussions, Examinations, Simulation
EVALUATE FOREIGN POLICY PLATFORMS AROUND THE WORLD	Examinations
GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF MAJOR NATIONS FOREIGN POLICY	Geography Quiz, reading discussions, Examinations, Simulation

Grading Scale

94- 100	A	77- 79	C+	0-64	F
90- 93	A-	74- 76	C		
87-89	B+	70- 73	C-		
84-86	B	67-69	D+		
80-83	B-	65- 66	D		

Course Expectations

It is expected that you will be in class, on time, prepared to discuss the assigned readings for that day. Since participation is part of your grade, failure to attend class will result in loss of those points. This is an upper level class, so there will be many opportunities for in class discussion of the material. In order to successfully participate in the discussions, you will need to have completed the readings.

E-mail Policy and office hours

You will receive a response from me within 48 hours of emailing me. I will do my best to be as prompt as possible with emails, but you will always have a response from me within 24 hours. Please direct all emails to collinan@buffalo.edu and please list the course number (PSC 351) in the subject line.

My office hours are on Monday from 2:00 – 3:00 and Tuesday between 1:30 and 3:20. My office is located on the 5th floor of Park Hall, in Park 516. If you need to set up another time to meet, please email me, or see me after class to arrange a meeting.

Disability Services

Disability Service: It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individual basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or meet course requirements. Students with disabilities, which have been verified through the Office of Student Disability Services, are encouraged to contact their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.

Academic Integrity

The University has set forth an academic integrity policy outlined here:

<http://undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu/policies/course/integrity.html>

In addition to the University's policy, my own policy for class is this: if you're caught cheating, you will receive a 0 on that assignment. If it happens more than once, you will receive a 0 in the class and your case will be brought to the attention of the Academic Integrity Board.

Class Schedule

Week 1: Introduction and American Policy

- January 31st: Syllabus
- February 2nd: Kohn, Richard. "The Constitution and National Security: The Intent of the Framers," pg. 88-105. Available on Google Books.

Week 2: Foundations of Foreign Policy

- February 7th:
 - George Washington's Farewell Address.
 - Carrese, Paul. "American Power and the Legacy of Washington: Enduring Principles for Foreign and Defense Policy", pgs. 6-16. Available on Google Books.
- February 9th: Discussion Day

- Huntington, Samuel. “The Lonely Superpower”, *Foreign Affairs*.
- Krauthammer, Charles. “The Unipolar Moment Revisted”, *The National Interest* Winter 2002/2003

Week 3 : Decision Making

- February 14th: Sarkesian, Sam, John Williams, and Stephen Cimbala. “The Military Establishment, the President, and Congress”, pg. 139-150. Available on Google Books.
- February 16th: Mueller, John. *Overblown*, Chapter 4

Week 4: Modern Security Doctrines

- February 21st: Discussion Day
 - Mueller, John. *Overblown*, Chapter 5
- February 23rd:
 - Powell, Colin. “US Forces, Challenges Ahead”, *Foreign Affairs*.
 - Rumsfeld, Donald. “Guidelines for Committing Forces”, *New York Times*, October 14th

Week 5: Comparing Doctrines – Iraq

- February 28th: Between now and March 7th, read Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, and 10 in Johnson’s *Blowback*
- March 2nd: See above

Week 6: Foreign Policy Challenges

- March 7th: Discussion Day
 - Rotberg, Robert. “Failed States in a World of Terror”, *Foreign Affairs*, pg 127-140.
 - Mallaby, Sebastian. “The Reluctant Imperialist: Terrorism, Failed States and the Case for the American Empire”, *Foreign Affairs* March/April, pg. 1-7
- March 9th:
 - Power, Samantha. “How to Kill a Country: Turing a Breadbasket Into a Basket Case in Ten Easy Steps – the Robert Mugabe Way”, *The Atlantic Monthly*. (December)
 - Waltz, Kenneth. “The Spread of Nuclear Weapons, More May Be Better”, *Adelphia Papers*
 - Chapter 15 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*

Week 7: Comparing Doctrines – Iran

- March 14th:
 - Defronzo, James. *Revolutions and Revolutionary Movements*, Chapter 7 – “Iranian Revolution and Islamic Fundamentalism”

March 16th: Midterm

Week 8 - March 20th-25th

- Spring Break

Week 9: Comparing Doctrines – North Korea*

- March 28th: Discussion Day
 - Bijian, Zheng. “China’s Peaceful Rise to Great-Power Status”, *Foreign Affairs* 84
 - The Economist. “The Dangers of a Rising China”, 12/2/2010
 - The Economist. “China’s Military Rise”, 4/7/2012
- March 30th: Between this day and April 11th, read all of Zakaria’s book except Chapter 5

Week 10: A New Challenger – China and Russia*

- April 4th: See above.
- April 6th: See above.

Week 11: China and Russia Continued

- April 11th: Discussion Day. Chapter 16 and Chapter 17 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*
- April 13th: Chapter 13 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*

Week 12: The Evolution of Diplomacy

- April 18th: Chapters 1 and 2 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*
- April 20th: Chapters 8, 3 and 6 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*

Week 13: Diplomatic Institutions

- April 25th: Chapters 7, 9, and 11 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*
- April 27th: Chapters, 12, 14, and 10 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*

Week 14: Simulation Week

- May 2nd: Chapter 18 in *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World*
- May 4th: No Reading

Week 15: Final Week

- May 9th: Final Exam Review
- May 11th: **Final Exam**