



“Domestic policy can only defeat us; foreign policy can kill us.” –President John. F. Kennedy

Globalization and America
PS 5316-W01
Spring 2017
Sul Ross State University

SYLLABUS

Professor: Dr. Tiffiny Vincent
Office Hours: Via email.
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this class is to teach you about the several aspects of U.S. foreign policy – the history, institutions, and processes that collectively constitute U.S. foreign policymaking. Students will develop skills to analyze critically the events of U.S. foreign policy. We will explore historic events of U.S. foreign policy and relate these events to various sources of decision-making; evaluate critically various contemporary aspects of U.S. foreign policy, and relate various decisions with theoretical models developed in the literature.

The same aspects of American government and society that propelled the United States to global primacy have also hampered its orderly and successful conduct of foreign policy. This paradox challenges U.S. leaders to overcome threats to America's world power in the face of fast-moving global developments and political upheavals at home.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The graduating student will be able to:

1. Identify the structures and processes of U.S. foreign policy.
Method of Assessment: Weekly discussion response, question creation, and Exam 1
2. Demonstrate the ability to think critically about the American political system and international relations by reading both contemporary and classic materials from a variety of sources that encompasses both objective and opinion-based points of view.
Method of Assessment: Weekly discussion response, question creation, and Exam 2
3. Describe the role of diplomacy in international relations.
Method of Assessment: Weekly discussion response, question creation, and Exam 2
4. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze the historic events of U.S. foreign policy.
Method of Assessment: Weekly discussion response, question creation, and Exam 3
5. Identify strengths and weaknesses of contemporary U.S. foreign policy using theoretical models relevant to the field.
Method of Assessment: Weekly discussion response, question creation, and Exam 4

COURSE FORMAT & EXPECTATIONS:

This is an online distance education course. As such, it is open throughout the semester but there are assigned due dates for submitting assignments and exams (see class schedule below; **NOTE: some assignments/due dates will be announced via our Blackboard homepage throughout the semester or via email*). This course is designed to allow for a more peer-led learning vs. instructor-led lecture environment. The role of the instructor will be to guide the students through the process of understanding the course subject matter. The role of the student will be to read the required materials each week and participate in the online class discussion forums. Specifically, it is required that each student:

1. Read and be prepared to discuss the assigned materials online.
2. Raise relevant questions and contribute relevant observations to the topic at hand.
3. Fully participate in online discussion forums.
4. Demonstrate appropriate and respectful communication with classmates and the instructor.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

Without full participation and being prepared for each weekly activity, students shall find themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in this course. *Keep in mind that your computer problems are NOT an excuse for any lack of completion of course material. YOU will need to maintain access to a reliable Internet connection (keep in mind there are computers available for your use in the Sul Ross Library). I am not responsible for any technological glitches that may occur in the online environment.* Sul Ross State University does not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or collusion. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy.

DISTANCE EDUCATION STATEMENT:

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

CIVILITY STATEMENT:

In the classroom environment I hold each of you accountable for both your actions and words. Therefore, you should commit yourself to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every individual in the classroom, including respect for University property and the physical and intellectual property of others. If a student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the professor, it is the student's responsibility to arrange for this conference. —*Note: This *DOES* apply to this online course.

DISABILITY POLICY:

In order to receive accommodations on exams or assignments, proper documentation must first be provided to the Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services. Contact Mary Schwartze (Office: 112 Ferguson Hall) to set up an accommodations meeting, or call (432) 837-8203. Students must then present this documentation to the instructor as soon as possible so that accommodations may be arranged.

TEXTBOOK (Required):

Steven W. Hook, *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power* (CQ Press, 5th edition, 2017).
ISBN: 9781506321585

GRADING SCALE:

- 60% Exams (4 exams worth 15% each)
- 30% Chapter Reflections/Discussion Board Posts
- 10% Timely Participation

*There is NO EXTRA CREDIT for this course, so please do not ask.

This course follows the traditional percentage based grading system below.

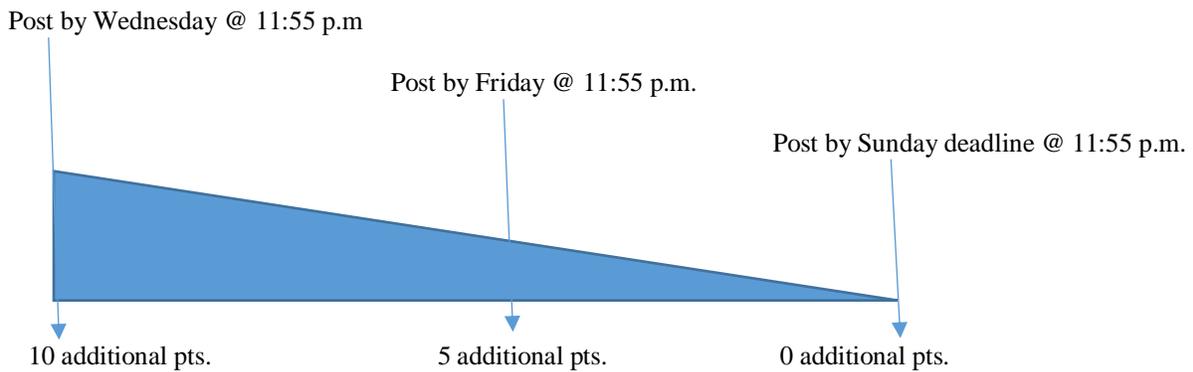
- A: 100-90
- B: 89-80
- C: 79-70
- D: 69-60
- F: 59 & below.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

EXAMS- Each student will complete four exams in this course. At the graduate level, this course will consist of written essay responses to question(s) that I will create to determine your ability to think critically about the assigned material. Exams (and directions) will be emailed to your sulross.edu email address (*each exam is worth 15% of your overall final course grade*) and will be due on the date specified in the course outline below. I will email you the exams the week before they are due (see course schedule on the next page), this means that you will have 1 week to complete the exam and submit it to me. **Missed exams will result in a grade of zero. Exam deadlines are inflexible and absolute – no excuses.**

CHAPTER REFLECTIONS/DISCUSSION BOARD POSTS- As an online graduate course, your active engagement, participation, and demonstration of reading comprehension is vital to your success in this class. In the discussion section of Blackboard each week, I will pose a discussion question or two over the assigned reading(s). Discussion post(s) will appear every Monday and will be due on Sunday @ 11: 55 p.m. of the same week, so you will have 7 days to think about and construct your answers. Each week you are required to respond to my question, create a question of your own, and respond to a classmate's question. *For each week then, a total of 3 discussion posts are required.* The questions/answers should be analytical (theoretical) over the topic at hand and/or an attempt to develop a closely related line of inquiry. The purpose is to generate productive classroom discussion and demonstrate critical thinking ability with regard to the assigned reading(s). The questions/answers are meant to be evaluative/analytical for the sake of discussion rather than trivia questions from the readings. Failure to be respectful and civil in your responses/questions with classmates or with the instructor will result in no credit—and potential removal from the course. At the end of the semester, I will take the average of your grade on these weekly submissions and that grade will be worth 30% of your overall final course grade.

TIMELY PARTICIPATION- Worth 10% of the overall course grade, your active and productive participation in this course is expected and required. This category is directly related to the section above (chapter reflections/discussion board posts). To encourage productive and thoughtful discussion, the earlier you complete your readings and post your discussion question, the more you will be rewarded (this way you hopefully will not have to wait until Sunday to answer a classmate's posted question). If over a majority (51%) of your posts throughout the semester are completed using the submission cut-off dates in the chart below, you will receive additional points toward this category. For example, if you post your question by Wednesday you can get up to 10 additional points added to this category; post by Friday, 5 additional points. No additional points are given for submitting work by the required Sunday deadline. If you submit your questions between the days, the points for the next day will be added; for example, if you post by Tuesday, you will get the Wednesday total of 10 pts.; if you post by Thursday, you will receive the Friday total of 5 pts. **NOTE: If you choose to complete your posts by the Sunday deadline you are not penalized, but there will not be any additional points being added to your grade in this category.*



Class Schedule

WEEK	ASSIGNED READINGS
SECTION 1 THEME: The Setting of U.S. Foreign Policy	
Week 1 (1/16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course introduction, syllabus • Chapter 1: The U.S. in a Turbulent World • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “How U.S. Foreign Policy is Made” http://www.fpa.org/features/index.cfm?act=feature&announcement_id=45&show_sidebar=0 • Brooks, S. G., Ikenberry, G. J., & Wohlforth, W. C. (2013). Lean Forward. <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, 92(1), 130.
Week 2 (1/23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2: The Expansion of U.S. Power • Nye, J. S. (2016). Limits of American Power. <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> (Wiley-Blackwell), 131(2), 267-283. • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “What’s So Great About American World Leadership?” http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/11/trump-world-order-foreign-policy/508547/
Week 3 (1/30)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 3: Dynamics of Decision Making • Levy, J. (1994). Learning and Foreign Policy: Sweeping a Conceptual Minefield. <i>International Organization</i>, 48(2), 279-312.
Week 4 (2/6)	EXAM 1
SECTION 2 THEME: Internal Government Sources of Foreign Policy	
Week 5 (2/13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4: Presidential Power • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “Potential Conflicts Around the Globe for Trump, the Businessman President” http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/26/us/politics/donald-trump-international-business.html?_r=0 • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “U.S. Allies and Rivals Digest Trump’s Victory” http://carnegieendowment.org/2016/11/11/u.s.-allies-and-rivals-digest-trump-s-victory-pub-65117
Week 6 (2/20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 5: Congress beyond the ‘Water’s Edge’ • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “What a President Trump means for foreign policy” https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/11/09/what-a-president-trump-means-for-foreign-policy/?utm_term=.6e8e4b51fd21
Week 7 (2/27)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6: The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisher, S. (2016). The Fight Against Terrorism—the need for local police units in the United States' intelligence community. <i>Journal Of Military & Strategic Studies</i>, 17(1), 189-208. Carter, D. P. (2016). Clouds or Clocks. <i>Military Review</i>, 96(2), 36. Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “Defense Acquisitions: How and Where DOD Spends and Reports Its Contracting Dollars” https://fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R44010.pdf Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “The Pentagon’s \$125 Billion Cover-up” http://fpif.org/pentagons-125-billion-cover/
Week 8 (3/6)	EXAM 2
SECTION 3 THEME: External Sources of Foreign Policy	
Week 9 (3/13)	SPRING BREAK—NO ASSIGNMENTS DUE
Week 10 (3/20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 7: Public Opinion at Home and Abroad Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “The Relationships Between Mass Media, Public Opinion, and Foreign Policy: Toward a Theoretical Synthesis” https://www.hks.harvard.edu/fs/mbaum/documents/BaumPotter_AnnualReview2008.pdf
Week 11 (3/27)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 8: The Impact of Mass Communications Slaughter, Anne-Marie. (2016). How to Succeed in the networked World. <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, 95(6), 76. Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “The internet is the new geography: Nation0states beware, netizens are the citizens of the future” http://tech.firstpost.com/news-analysis/the-internet-is-the-new-geography-nation-states-beware-netizens-are-the-citizens-of-the-future-354872.html
Week 12 (4/3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 9: Social Movements and Interest Groups Olesen, T. t. (2005). The Uses and Misuses of Globalization in the Study of Social Movements. <i>Social Movement Studies</i>, 4(1), 49-63. Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “How Corporate Lobbyists Conquered American Democracy” http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/04/how-corporate-lobbyists-conquered-american-democracy/390822/
Week 13 (4/10)	EXAM 3
SECTION 4 THEME: Policy Domains	

<p>Week 14 (4/17)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 10: National Security and Defense Policy • Chapter 11: Economic Statecraft • NEAG, M. M. (2013). SECURITY SYSTEM IN THE GLOBALIZATION ERA. <i>Revista Academiei Fortelor Terestre</i>, 18(3), 246-252. • Robertson, R. B., & Ulmer, J. M. (2014). The Globalization of Manufacturing and its Impact on the US Economy. <i>Franklin Business & Law Journal</i>, 2014(1), 75-82.
<p>Week 15 (4/24)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 12: Transnational Policy Problems • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “What are the 10 biggest global challenges?” https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/what-are-the-10-biggest-global-challenges/ • Click on the link below (or cut and paste it into your web browser), and read the article titled, “2017—A Thunderous Clash of Politics, Economies and Policies” http://www.globalissues.org/news/2017/01/02/22768
<p>Week 16 (5/1)</p>	<p>EXAM 4</p>

***NOTE:** This schedule is tentative and therefore subject to change at my discretion.