

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

International Affairs 3110A
U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

TTh: 4:35- 5:55pm
Instructional Center 115

Robert Kennedy
Spring 2011

1. Scope

This course examines the evolution of U.S. Foreign Policy and processes from the founding of the Republic to the present. U.S. foreign policies during the periods of American independence, expansionism, the emergence of the U.S. as a regional power, the Spanish American War, World War I, the in the inter-war years, World War II, the Cold War, and post-Cold War period will be examined in detail. Relatively greater emphasis will be placed on U.S. Foreign policies since 1914. The effectiveness of the U.S. employment of political, economic, and military instruments of power in promoting U.S. interests during the period will be analyzed and assessed.

2. Class Format: The course will be mostly taught in the lecture format. Students are encouraged to raise questions or comments at anytime during the sessions.

3. Required Texts

Thomas G. Paterson, J. Garry Clifford, and Kenneth J. Hagan, *American Foreign Relations: A History to 1920*. Seventh Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company 2010. (Hereafter referred to as Paterson, Vol 1).

Thomas G. Paterson, J. Garry Clifford, and Kenneth J. Hagan, *American Foreign Relations: A History since 1895*. Seventh Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company 2005. (Hereafter referred to as Paterson, Vol 2).

4. Prerequisites: One of the following courses: HIST 2112, HIST 2111, PUBP 3000, INTA 1200, POL 1101, AP US History. Course taught jointly with INTA 6111A.

5. Course Requirements:

General:

a. Course members will be expected to attend all classes, complete all assigned readings, and participate in classroom discussions on the subjects addressed in the readings and lectures. Lectures during the course may not cover the readings and will often present new ideas and information. You are responsible for the information contained in the reading, whether it is covered or not in lectures, as well as for the information in the lectures.

b. In addition to the regularly course readings, students are encouraged to read a **major daily newspaper in its print or internet media version** and watch one of the **nightly news broadcasts**.

Quizzes and Examinations. There will be occasional, unannounced quizzes on the readings and/or material provided during the lecture. **There will be no make up quizzes.** If you miss a quiz and have an approved excuse or you took the quiz but no grade has been posted, you must make that known to the **professor by email within a week of the date of the quiz.** If you fail to do so, you will not be given credit for an excused absence. If you have an excused absence, your overall quiz grade will be the average of the quizzes you took. Quizzes and Examinations will include multi-choice, true-false, and matching questions and will only be given on the announced dates. A medical or other Georgia Tech approved excuse is the only permissible reasons for missing quizzes or examinations. All electronic equipment (cell phones, iphones, blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, computers, etc.) must be **put away/hidden from view** during exams. Students found using any such electronic devices will receive an automatic zero for the exam. Exams are currently **tentatively schedule** on the following dates. However, dates may change. It is the student's responsibility to stay current on the course schedule. Examinations missed for authorized reasons must be taken as soon as possible.

Exam 1: Feb 10

Exam 2: Mar 17

Exam 3: May 5

6. Grading: A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = below 60

Quizzes **10%**

Test 1 **20%**

Test 2 **30%**

(Exam 2 will be only on the material covered since Exam 1)

Test 3 **40%**

(Exam 3 will be only on the material covered since Exam 2)

7. Office Hours:

Tues 1pm – 2pm by appointment

Office: Ivan Allen College, 781 Marietta St, Room: 146

Please make an appointment by telephone (404-894-0682) or email (robert.kennedy@inta.gatech.edu) so you don't have to hang around the office waiting.

8. Course Outline and Reading Assignments:

Date

Topics and Readings

Jan 11

Course Introduction. Factors Influencing the Formation of America Foreign Policy.

LO-01

Jan 13	Americans and the World Before 1789. Paterson Vol. 1, Chap 1, LO-02a
Jan 18, 20	Independence, Expansion, and War Paterson, Vol. 1, Chap 2 , LO-02 b & c
Jan 25, 28	Extending the Sphere, Dealing with Domestic Dependent Nations, and War with Mexico Paterson, Vol. 1, Chapter 3, LO-03
Feb 1	Expansionism, Sectionalism, and the Civil War 1848-65 Paterson, Vol. 1, Chapter 4, LO-04
Feb 3	Regional Hegemony and Global Power 1865-95 Paterson, Vol. 1, Chapter 5, LO-05
Feb 8	The Age of Imperialism Paterson, Vol. 1, Chapter 6, LO-06
Feb 10	Exam 1
Feb 15	Managing, Policing, and Extending the Empire and War and Peace Paterson, Vol. 1, Chapters 7, 8, LO-07, LO-08
Feb 17	Europe 1920-1939 Paterson, Vol. 2 , Chapter 4, LO-08
Feb 22	Asia, Latin America and the Vagaries of Power, 1920-1939 Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 5
Feb 24	World War II and Allied Diplomacy Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 6, LO-09
Mar 1, 3	Truman: The Cold War Begins Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 7, LO-10
Mar 8	Eisenhower-Dulles Paterson Chap 8, LO-11
Mar 10, 15	Kennedy, LBJ, Flexible Response and The Vietnam Years Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 9, LO-12
Mar 17	Exam 2

Mar 21-25

Mid-term Recess

Mar 29, 31

Nixon, Kissinger, and Detente
Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 10 through p.398, LO-13

Apr 5

Problems of Arms Control. We were pretty far ahead here
LO-13a

Apr 7

The Carter Experiment
Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 10, pp. 398-416, LO-14

Apr 12

Cold War Renewed: The Reagan Years
Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 11, through p. 443, LO-15

Apr 14

Bush, Clinton and The End of the Cold War
Paterson, Vol. 2, Chapter 11, from p. 443 on, LO-16

Apr 19, 21

G.W. Bush: A New Unilateralism and the Future of American
Foreign Policy, Chapter 12, LO-17

Apr 26, 28

Barrack Obama and US Foreign Policy, the 1st 2 years
Readings to be announced, LO-18

May 5 (Thur)

**Exam 3: Start 2:50 pm for 1 hour (Tentative start time–
Please check the Registrar’s final listings for the exam start
time)**