

**AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY**  
**PS 451/551**  
**FALL 2006**

Professor David Bernell  
Gilkey Hall 312  
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Course requirements include the following:

Chapter/Article summaries	20%
Policy memo or paper	20%
Mid-term exam	30%
Final exam	30%

Texts: Stephen Ambrose, *Rise to Globalism*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1997, and Walter Russell Mead, *Power, Terror, Peace and War*, 2004. Other readings will be assigned as well. With the exception of the books, all course readings will be on reserve in the library. Copies will also be available outside my office at Gilkey 312. Materials must be read prior to class.

The article summaries are due every other Wednesday, beginning October 4.

The mid-term exam will be on October 25.

The policy memo or paper is due November 20.

The final exam will be on December 5.

Please notify me in the first week of class if you have any alternative needs as a result of a disability.

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**Week 1**

**Sept. 25 Introduction to American Foreign Policy**

**Sept. 27 Competing Currents in U.S Foreign Policy**

Cecil Crabb, "The Isolationist Heritage," from *Policymakers and Critics*, 1976

Hans Morgenthau, "The Mainsprings of American Foreign Policy," from *In Defense of the National Interest*, 1951.

Thomas Friedman, "DOSCapital," from "Dueling Globalizations: A Debate between Thomas L. Friedman and Ignacio Ramonet," *Foreign Policy*, Fall 1999.

**Week 2**

**Oct. 2 In-class film**

**Oct. 4 Competing Currents in U.S Foreign Policy**

John Ikenberry, "America's Liberal Grand Strategy," in Ikenberry, *American Foreign Policy*, 2002.

Joshua Muravchik, "The New Great Debate – Washington Versus Wilson," in *The Imperative of American Leadership*, 1996.

Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy*, Nov/Dec 2004.

**Week 3**

**Oct. 9 The Soviet Union and Anti-Communism in American Foreign Policy**

Stephen Ambrose, *Rise to Globalism*, Chapters 4-10

Mr. X (George Kennan), "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," *Foreign Affairs*, July 1947.

Richard Betts, "Misadventure Revisited," *The Wilson Quarterly*, 1983.

- Oct. 11      The Soviet Union and Anti-Communism: Vietnam and Détente**  
Ambrose, Chapter 11-14.  
Jimmy Carter, Commencement Address at the University of Notre Dame, May 1977.  
Raymond Garthoff, "The Failure of the Détente of the 1970s," from *Détente and Confrontation*, 1994.  
Jeanne Kirkpatrick, "Dictatorships and Double Standards," *Commentary*, 1979.

**Week 4**

- Oct. 16      The End of the Cold War**  
Ambrose, Chapter 15-16.  
Ronald Reagan, Address to the British Parliament, June 8, 1982.  
Gaddis, "The Long Peace," *International Security*, Summer 1984.  
Hook and Spanier, "The End of the Cold War," in *American Foreign Policy Since WWII*, 2000.

- Oct. 18      The Monroe Doctrine and the Latin American Left**  
Wayne Smith, "A Pragmatic Cuba Policy" *Foreign Service Journal*, April 1991.  
Lisa Weinmann, "Washington's Irrational Cuba Policy," *World Policy Journal*, Spring 2004.  
Jorge Castaneda, "Latin America's Left Turn," *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2006

**Week 5**

- Oct. 23      Making Foreign Policy**  
Louis Fisher, "Presidential Wars," in Wittkopf and McCormick, eds., *The Domestic Sources of American Foreign Policy*, 2004.  
James Lindsay, "Deference and Defiance: The Shifting Rhythms of Executive-Legislative Relations in Foreign Policy," *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, September 2003  
Howard Wiarda, "Beyond the Pale: The Bureaucratic Politics of U.S. Policy in Mexico," *World Affairs*, Spring 2000.  
Warren Strobel, "The CNN Effect," *American Journalism Review*, May 1996.

- Oct. 25      Mid-term exam**

**Week 6**

- Oct. 30      Terrorism**  
James Schlesinger, "A Test by Terrorism," *The National Interest*, Special Issue, Fall 2001.  
Peter Bergen and Alec Reynolds, "Blowback Revisited," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov/Dec 2005.  
James Fallows, "Declaring Victory," *The Atlantic Monthly*, September 2006.

- Nov. 1      Democracy Promotion**  
Ambrose, Chapters 17-18.  
Christopher Hobson, "A Forward Strategy of Freedom in the Middle East: US Democracy Promotion and the 'War on Terror,'" *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, March 2005.

**Week 7**

- Nov. 6      War in Iraq**  
John Mearshimer and Stephen Walt, "Keeping Hussein in a Box," *The New York Times*, Feb 2, 2003.  
Robert Lieber, "The Folly of Containment," *Commentary*, April 2003.  
Johanna Mendelson Forman, "Striking Out in Baghdad: How Postconflict Reconstruction Went Awry," in Francis Fukuyama, editor, *Nation Building: Beyond Afghanistan and Iraq*, 2006.

- Nov. 8      War in Iraq**  
James Dobbins, "Nation Building" *Rand Review*, Summer 2003.  
Stephen Biddle, "Seeing Baghdad, Thinking Saigon," *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2006.  
Kenneth Pollack et al, "A Switch in Time," Brookings Institution, 2006.

**Week 8**

- Nov. 13      Iran and Nuclear Proliferation**  
Ted Carpenter and Charles Peña, "Rethinking Non-Proliferation," *The National Interest*, Summer 2005.  
Patrick Lang and Larry Johnson, "Contemplating the Ifs," *The National Interest*, Spring 2006.  
Graham Allison, "Nuclear 9/11," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Sept/Oct 2006.

**Nov. 15 International Trade and Finance**  
Peter Peterson, "Riding for a Fall," *Foreign Affairs*, Sept/Oct 2004.  
Edward Gotesman, "Two Myths of Globalization," *World Policy Journal*, Spring 2006  
Douglas Brinkley, "Democratic Enlargement: The Clinton Doctrine," *Foreign Policy*, Spring 1997.

**Week 9**

**Nov. 20 America and The World (Paper Due)**  
Walter Russell Mead, *Power, Terror, Peace and War*, 2004, Introduction & Chapters 1-2.

**Nov. 22 Holiday**

**Week 10**

**Nov. 27 America and The World (Continued)**  
& Walter Russell Mead, *Power, Terror, Peace and War*, 2004, Chapters 3 -4, & Afterword.  
**Nov. 29** Charles Krauthammer, "The Unipolar Moment Revisited." *The National Interest*, Winter 2002-3.  
Fareed Zakaria, "How to Escape the Oil Trap," *Newsweek*, August 29, 2005  
Robert Kagan, "Power and Weakness," *Policy Review*, 2002.  
Wang Jisi, "China's Search for Stability with the U.S." *Foreign Affairs*, Sep/Oct 2005.

**Final Exam: Tuesday, December 5, Noon**

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## ARTICLE SUMMARIES

Your assignment is to complete a summary of the assigned articles and book chapters. You do not have to submit a summary of every article and book chapter, only two for each day that readings are assigned. You may choose which articles to summarize. Also, you should not complete summaries for Stephen Ambrose, *Rise to Globalism*.

The idea is for you to gain an understanding of the arguments and main ideas of each and to be able to explain how the authors support their arguments.

You may structure your summaries however you like, but be certain that each answers the following:

- What are the author's main arguments?
- What are the points (or subpoints) the author uses to make these arguments?
- How are these points and the main arguments supported? (What is discussed? What is offered as evidence?)

Each summary should be about a paragraph in length, and **you should be able to get 2 summaries to a page – single-spaced.**

The summaries are due in class every other Wednesday, beginning on October 4.

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## MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS

Each exam will consist of short answer questions, identification/explanation of terms, short essays, and/or a long essay. The final exam is not cumulative.

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## **POLICY DECISION MEMO OR PAPER**

### **Policy Decision Memo**

Your job for this assignment is to take the role of a policy advisor in the United States government. Each group will write a decision memo advising the President or Secretary of State on a matter of foreign policy. The topics will be chosen by you and approved by the instructor. The format of the memo is specified below.

MEMORANDUM TO .....

FROM .....

DATE:

SUBJECT: .....

#### **Background**

In this section you will identify and introduce your topic, explain what the problem or issue is, and identify the decision that needs to be made. After this, you also need to provide some background information to enhance the reader's understanding of the issue at hand. Explain the issue and provide context—how did the situation arise, who has done what to date, what has been the response of the interested parties? (There is no need to state the obvious in your background, e.g., “There is a war going on in Vietnam.” You can assume that the President or other high-ranking official knows the basics, and then some.)

#### **Options**

In this section you must identify at least three options on how to respond or proceed. Each must include an in-depth analysis of the advantages and drawbacks of the policy choice. What would be the effect of the actions (or inaction)? Get into some depth here. Don't simply offer a cursory analysis.

#### **Recommendation**

Select one of the options and explain why this one is preferable to the others.

### **Paper**

You will select a topic of your choosing involving U.S. foreign policy. (The topic must be cleared by the instructor.) Your assignment is to write a paper that offers a thesis and develops an argument to support that thesis. The paper cannot simply be a history or description of an issue or event. It must be an analysis.

### **For Both Assignments**

Due Date – November 20.

Sources – You are required to use at least four sources outside of the class readings, and to provide a bibliography. (Feel free to use as many course readings as you want; be certain to include them in the bibliography.) Sources can include books, journals, newspapers, etc. Material from the internet can be cited as a source only if it is legitimate source, such as an electronic version of a published work (e.g. *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*), or a reputable source that only publishes online. (As we all know, there are a number of dubious sources on the internet. Don't rely on them.) With online sources, provide author, title, and publication just like you would with any other source, and also provide the URL.

Citations – You must provide documentary citations, in the form of in-text notes, when appropriate. Include the author and the year. Example: “Iran is estimated to spend approximately \$2 billion per year on weapons development” (Jones, 2002).

Style – Double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 pt. font, 8-9 pages.

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