

## POLITICAL SCIENCE 142A: UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLITY

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Summer Session II (August 4 – September 6, 2014)  
MW 11:00AM – 1:50PM  
TM 102 (room 1)  
Office Hours: Tues 1:30 - 3:00 PM  
TA: Clara Suong (E-mail: [csuong@ucsd.edu](mailto:csuong@ucsd.edu))

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### Course Description:

Foreign policy stands at the nexus of domestic politics and international relations. This course is designed to familiarize students with U.S. foreign policy from three basic perspectives: history, politics, and current events. While instruction and materials focus on U.S. foreign policy, the tools acquired and insights developed in the course should be applicable to other countries as well.

Course structure is dictated by the limited duration of instruction and by the three perspectives: Lectures will alternate between politics and policy, or focus on the history of U.S. foreign policy. A review and debate of current events and issues of foreign policy will be ongoing. We will carve out part of each session for discussion on evolving issues (Iraq, Ukraine, Afghanistan, China).

### Course Requirements:

- **Class Participation** (20% of course grade): Come to class. We will be taking attendance through the quizzes (see below). There will be opportunities to comment on the materials, on the lecture, and on current events. You are encouraged to ask questions and to discuss your ideas. There is a ***much larger premium*** on being willing to talk than on being ‘right.’
- **Quizzes** (40% of course grade): *Held most days.* These are short quizzes at the beginning of class. We will ask for brief factual information about the readings. Grading is pass/fail and there are no make-ups. To do well, read the assignments and come to class on time.
- **Final Exam** (40% of course grade): Essay exam, choice of questions. Bring exam book.

Note #1: Students are encouraged to study and learn together. However, all written assignments must be the sole product of the person submitting the work. Don’t cheat and don’t plagiarize. If you have any questions about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, please see me.

Note #2: It is your responsibility to apprise me of any factor that may interfere with your ability to perform in this class well in advance of scheduled assignments. Appropriate measures for disabilities and other concerns will be taken in accordance with University of California policy.

Note #3: In order to document requests, students seeking a change of grade must prepare a written memo detailing his or her request and citing reasons for requesting the proposed change.

### Required Readings:

Two textbooks are required (The textbooks are available at the UCSD bookstore or online):

- Papp, Daniel, Loch Johnson, John E. Endicott. 2005. *AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY: HISTORY, POLITICS AND POLICY*. New York: Pearson Longman. (“**Papp**”)
- Bernell, David. 2008. *READINGS IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY*. New York: Pearson Longman. (“**Bernell**”)

Students are also encouraged to familiarize themselves with major periodicals with a focus on international relations/foreign policy and follow the international section of major newspapers:

- Financial Times (<http://news.ft.com/world>)
- The New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/index.html>)
- Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/world>)
- Foreign Affairs (<http://www.foreignaffairs.org>)
- Foreign Policy in Focus (<http://www.fpif.org/>)
- The National Interest (<http://www.nationalinterest.org>)
- Foreign Policy Association (<http://www.fpa.org/>)
- Council on Foreign Relations (<http://www.cfr.org/>)

DATE

TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT

*WEEK 1 (August 4, 6): Studying Foreign Policy/A New Nation (Framing Foreign Policy)*

Monday August 4: Introduction/Syllabus/Levels, Methods, and Concepts, **Papp 1&2**

**(Discussion:** Is the United States an exceptional country? If so, how?)

Wednesday August 6: “Bush’s War” ([www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/bushswar/view/](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/bushswar/view/))

*WEEK 2 (August 11, 13): Second Image/Empire (Embracing Expansion/Shunning the World)*

Monday August 11: Designing a Nation, **Papp 3; Bernell 1**

**(Discussion:** Is there such a thing as an American style of foreign policy?)

Wednesday August 13: Domestic Politics (Institutions/Actors), **Papp 8, 9; Bernell Part 2**

**(Discussion:** Are special interests too powerful?),

*WEEK 3 (August 18, 20): Third Image/A Great Power (Nuclear Weapons/Proliferation)*

Monday August 18: Expansion and Empire, **Papp 4, 5; Bernell Part 3**

**(Discussion:** Is the United States an “empire”? Should it be?)

Wednesday August 20: International Politics (Power), **Papp 10, 11**

**(Discussion:** Should the United States keep its nuclear weapons?)

*WEEK 4 (August 25, 27): First Image/ It's a New World Order (Globalization)*

Monday August 25: Capitalist Cold Warrior, **Papp 6; Bernell Part 4**

**(Discussion:** What should the U.S. do about its dependence on foreign oil?).

Wednesday August 27: Economics and Intervention, **Papp 13, 14**

**(Discussion:** Is the United States too pro-free trade?)

*WEEK 5 (September 1, 3): Hegemony & After (War on Terror, Nation Building, Rise of BRICs)*

Monday September 1: Structure, Strife, and Stability, **Papp 7; Bernell Part 5**

**(Discussion:** Should the United States allow more or less immigration?)

Wednesday September 3: Democracy and Terror, **Papp 12, 15; Bernell Part 6**

**(Discussion:** What to do about Ukraine?)

**Friday September 5: \*\*\* FINAL EXAM: 11:30AM – 2:29PM Location TBA \*\*\***