Review the questions below and develop answers for each using the course materials, the newspaper, periodicals, and your own knowledge and experience. You should prepare an outline for each question. At the Final Exam I will pick three questions at random and you will be able to choose two questions to answer. Come to the exam prepared! There is no mystery here. Those who prepare are going to do better than those who do not.

1) The preservation and promotion of democracy has been a central tenet of U.S. foreign policy from at least Woodrow Wilson, and is often considered a key part of the so-called Bush and Clinton Doctrines. What, if any, influence has the promotion of democracy had on U.S. foreign policy? In your answer be sure to mention one or more historical examples to support your argument.

2) Why did the United States join Britain and France in World War I? In your answer be sure to discuss the view suggested by at least two of the major paradigms of U.S. foreign policy (Constructivism, Realism, or Liberalism).

3) Debate over the invasion of Iraq has often centered round whether Saddam Hussein could have been deterred or contained (see, for example, Bernell part 6). Would deterrence or containment have been a viable option? In your answer, discuss one or more previous efforts at deterrence or preemption.

4) Nuclear weapons and mutually assured destruction (MAD) played a key role in U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War. This policy has been credited with preserving peace and stability during this time. Do nuclear weapons preserve peace or promote war? In your answer be sure to discuss one or more post-World War Two conflicts in which the threat of nuclear war played a role.

5) Threats of terrorism and rogue states have played an important role in shaping U.S. foreign policy in recent years. There have been major recent debates over whether the United States should be able to use non-traditional instruments of warfare, such as torture, extra-judicial imprisonment, and assassinations in preventing the use of terrorism. Do existing limits on U.S. foreign policy limit adequately or excessively limit our ability to conduct the war on terror?

6) Nation building in Iraq and Afghanistan have been among the most expensive foreign policy efforts ever – yet the success of these efforts remains in doubt. Using specific examples from the recent elections in Iraq or Afghanistan, as well as past efforts at political reform, discuss whether you think U.S. efforts will be successful (you may focus your essay on Iraq, Afghanistan, or both).