



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY SINCE 1945 - 58351*

*Last update 09-09-2013*

*HU Credits: 4*

*Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)*

*Responsible Department: International Relations*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: Yearly*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Noam Kochavi*

*Coordinator Email: [nkochavi@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:nkochavi@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 1400-1500*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Noam Kochavi

Course/Module description:

*Analysing the Dynamics of American Foreign Relations*

Course/Module aims:

*This course introduces the student to American foreign policy since 1945. The first part highlights key episodes in the course of American foreign relations. Partly on this empirical basis, the second part juxtaposes the explanations currently prominent in this research field.*

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

*Identify the factors underlying Foreign policymaking in the US; Point out the historical background as well as the psychological and bureaucratic dimensions affecting foreign policymaking in the US; Explain and present how a key foreign policymaking decision in the US was made.*

Attendance requirements(%):

80%

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, discussion and student presentations*

Course/Module Content:

*Topics*

*A) Introduction and Foundations*

- 1) American Foreign Policy: Current Research Opportunities and Trends*
- 2) The American Foreign Relations Ideology*
- 3) Congress and Public Opinion*

*B) Major Explanations*

- 4) The Systemic-Structural Approach (and the rise and fall of the Cold War)*
- 5) The Economic Approach*
- 6) The Bureaucratic Approach and the President's Management Style: Bush senior and the First Gulf War*
- 7) Groupthink and Analogies: Bush junior and Iraq*
- 8) The Foreign Policy Community: The State Department and the National Security Council*
- 9) The Intelligence Process and its Failings*

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10) *Emotional Pathologies – and Cultural Approaches*

C) *Global Case Studies in the Cold War Era*

11) *Franklin Roosevelt and plans for a Post-World War 2 World Order*

12) *Cold War Grand Strategy: Truman, Kennan and Containment*

13) *An Opportunity Lost? Eisenhower, Kennedy and China*

14) *Kissinger and his critics – Left and Right*

D) *The United States as a Middle Eastern Actor during the Cold War*

15) *Patterns of American Involvement Prior to 1967*

16) *Nixon-Kissinger, the Yom Kippur War and Shuttle Diplomacy*

17) *Carter, Human Rights and Camp David*

E) *The Current Era*

18) *Clinton's World: "The Crisis of Opportunity"*

19) *Student Presentations*

20) *Student Presentations*

21) *Student Presentations*

22) *Student Presentations*

23) *Student Presentations*

24) *Student Presentations*

25) *The Western European Challenge*

26) *The Chinese Challenge*

27) *Is American Hegemony Waning?*

*Required Reading:*

*Topics and Reading List*

A) *Introduction and Foundations*

1) *American Foreign Policy: Current Research Opportunities and Trends*

Robert J. McMahon, "Toward a Pluralist Vision: The Study of American Foreign Relations as International History and National History," in Hogan and Paterson, *Explaining the History*, 2nd ed., 35-50. (M)

2) *The American Foreign Relations Ideology*

Michael Hunt, "Ideology," in Hogan and Paterson, *Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, 2004). (M)

3) *Congress and Public Opinion*

Melvin Small, "Public Opinion," in Hogan, *Explaining the History*, 1st edition, 165-176. (M)

John Tower, "Congress versus the President: The Formulation and Implementation of U.S. Foreign Policy," *Foreign Affairs* (Winter 1987-8) (M)

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## B) Major Explanations

### 4) The Systemic-Structural Approach (and the rise and fall of the Cold War)

John L. Gaddis, "The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International System," in Gaddis, *The Long Peace: Enquiries into the History of the Cold War* (1987). (M)

### 5) The Economic-Revisionist Approach

Thomas McCormick, "Hegemony and the World System," in Thomas G. Paterson, *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy*, 4th edition, 25-36. (M)

Emily S. Rosenberg, "Economic Interest and United States Foreign Policy," in Gordon Martel (ed.), *American Foreign Relations Reconsidered*, 43-48. (M)

### 6) The Bureaucratic Approach and the President's Management Style: Bush senior and the First Gulf War

J. Garry Clifford, *Bureaucratic Politics*, in Hogan, *Explaining*, 1st edition, 41-50. (M)

### 7) Groupthink and Analogies: Bush junior and Iraq

Irving L. Janis, *Victims of Groupthink: A Psychological Study of Foreign Policy Decisions and Fiascos* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1972), introduction. (M)

Garthoff, Raymond L. "On Estimating and Imputing Intentions." *International Security* 2:3 (Winter 1978): 22-32. (M)

Text: Charles Krauthammer, "The Imperial Era," in Andrew U. Bacevich, ed., *The Imperial Tense: Prospects and Problems of American Empire* (Chicago, 2003), pp. 47-65.

Text: G. John Ikenberry, "Imperial Ambitions," in Bacevich, ed., *The Imperial Tense*, pp. 183-202.

### 8) The Foreign Policy Community: The State Department and the National Security Council

I.M. Destler, "The Rise of The National Security Assistant, 1961-1981," in Kegley and Witkopf, *Perspectives on American Foreign Policy* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1983), 260-281. (M)

Leslie H. Gelb, "Why Not the State Department?" in *Ibid.*, 282-299. (M)

### 9) The Intelligence Process and its Failings

Robert Jervis, *Why Intelligence Fails: Lessons from the Iranian Revolution and the Iraq War* (Ithaca, 2010), chap. 4. (M)

### 10) Emotional Pathologies – and Cultural Approaches

Richard H. Immerman, "Psychology," in Hogan, *Explaining the History*.

Gerald Horne, "Race to Insight: the U.S. and the World, White Supremacy, and Foreign Affairs," in Hogan and Paterson, *Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, 2004). (M)

## C) Global Case Studies in the Cold War Era

### 11) Franklin Roosevelt and plans for a Post-World War 2 World Order

Gerhard L. Weinberg, *Visions of Victory: the Hopes of Eight World War II Leaders* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), 177-210. (M)

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Text: Henry Luce, "The American Century," in Michael Hunt, *The World Transformed: 1945 to the Present, a Documentary Reader* (Boston, 2004), pp. 10-13. (M)

12) *Cold War Grand Strategy: Truman, Kennan and Containment*  
Melvyn P. Leffler, "The Emergence of an American Grand Strategy," *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. 1 (Cambridge, 2010). (M)

13) *An Opportunity Lost? Eisenhower, Kennedy and China*  
Noam Kochavi, *A Conflict Perpetuated* (Westport, 2002), chap. 1. (M)

14) *Kissinger and his critics – Left and Right*  
Jeremi Suri, *Henry Kissinger and the American Century* (Boston, 2007), chap. 5.

D) *The United States as a Middle Eastern Actor during the Cold War*

15) *Patterns of American Involvement Prior to 1967*  
Douglas Little, *American Orientalism*, Chapel Hill, 2002, 267-284. (M)

16) *Nixon-Kissinger, the Yom Kippur War and Shuttle Diplomacy*  
\*Text: "The US and the October War" (National Security Archive internet resource)

17) *Carter, Human Rights and Camp David*  
-אברהם בן-צבי, מטרומן ועד אובמה: עלייתם וראשית שקיעתם של יחסי ארצות הברית-ישראל (תל-אביב, 2011), פרק 11.

E) *The Current Era*

18) *Clinton's World: "The Crisis of Opportunity"*  
Text: U.S. National Security Review 12, March 1989, in Westad and Hanhimaki, *The Cold War*, pp. 595-597.  
"Navigating the Unknown," Introduction to *In Uncertain Times: American Foreign Policy after the Berlin Wall and 9/11*, eds. Melvyn P. Leffler and Jeffery W. Legro (Ithaca, 2011), pp. 1-11.

19) *Student Presentations*

20) *Student Presentations*

21) *Student Presentations*

22) *Student Presentations*

23) *Student Presentations*

24) *Student Presentations*

25) *The Western European Challenge*

Donald Puchala, "The Atlantic Community in the Age of International Terrorism," *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* 3:1 (Spring 2005), 89-104. (J)

26) *The Chinese Challenge*

\*Aaron Friedberg, *Contest for Supremacy: China, America and the Struggle for*

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*Mastery in Asia (New York: Norton, 2010), pp. 1-8, 264-284.*

*27) What Next? Is American Hegemony Waning?*

*Text: \*Joseph Lieber, "Can the US Retain Primacy," Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs 3 (2011), pp. 23-36. (M)*

*Text: \*Bruce Jentleson and Steven Weber, "America's Hard Sell," Foreign Policy (Nov./Dec. 2008), pp. 43-49. (אינטרנט גישת)*

*Text: \*Robert Kagan, "End of Dreams, Return of History," Policy Review (Aug./Sept.2007). (אינטרנט גישת)*

*Additional Reading Material:*

*None*

*Course/Module evaluation:*

*End of year written/oral examination 0 %*

*Presentation 20 %*

*Participation in Tutorials 5 %*

*Project work 0 %*

*Assignments 0 %*

*Reports 25 %*

*Research project 50 %*

*Quizzes 0 %*

*Other 0 %*

*Additional information:*

*None*