

**U.S. Foreign Policy  
Political Science 344  
Northwestern University  
Fall 2008, Tu/Th 11:00-12:20 in Annenberg-G15**

Prof. Jonathan Caverley  
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404 Scott Hall  
Office Hours: Monday 12:00-2:00

Teaching Assistants: Clement Clarke ([ClementClarke2011@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:ClementClarke2011@u.northwestern.edu))  
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### **Course Description**

This course explores relations between the United States and the world primarily since September 11, 2001. Over the course of the quarter, we will examine American international power, the goals for which this power is employed and its relative effectiveness at achieving these goals.

The key objective is to give students the conceptual and critical tools to understand theory, policy outcomes and current events associated with contemporary foreign policy. Students will be encouraged to learn how to think and write along these three ‘tracks’ simultaneously.

By the end of the course, students should be able to employ basic concepts in International Relations to analyze American foreign policy as well as become critical consumers of policy and journalistic writing on the subject. Students are therefore expected to stay current with foreign policy developments by reading one of the major newspapers (e.g., the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times* or *Washington Post*).

### **Course Requirements**

This course entails a substantial amount of reading and preparation. Class attendance and participation will be crucial components of the final grade. Exams will cover both lectures and readings. No late work will be accepted without a written medical excuse.

An in-class midterm will be held on Thurs., Oct. 23. A second “final” exam on the second half of the course will be given during the exam week.

A ten to fifteen page paper will be due electronically by 4 PM on Tuesday, Dec. 9.

Final grades will be based on: attendance and participation: (25%), midterm (25%), paper (25%), and final exam: (25%). Final exams will be kept and made available for retrieval two weeks into winter quarter 2007 during Professor Caverley’s regular office hours, after which they will be discarded. If you are unable to pick up your exam at the scheduled time and place and before the

two-week period has passed, inform the professor or your TA to arrange an alternative means of delivery.

Note that the schedule of lectures and readings may change based on the availability of guest lectures or even current events. If so, students will be informed at least a week in advance unless under exceptional circumstances.

## **Readings**

All readings are posted on e-reserve or are available on the web via the Northwestern network. There is one required book, copies of which will be placed on reserve:

Sagan, Scott and Kenneth Waltz. *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate Renewed, Second Edition* New York: Norton, 2002.

## **Academic Integrity**

Any student who violates the University's principles of academic integrity will automatically fail this course and be referred to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies' office for further action by the University. There are no exceptions. The Dean's policy for WCAS is available at:

<http://www.wcas.northwestern.edu/advising/academic.html>.

*All student work may be analyzed electronically for violations of the university's academic integrity policy and may also be included in a database for the purpose of testing for plagiarized content.*

## **Accessibility**

*Any student with a verified disability requiring special accommodations should speak to the course instructor and to the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (847/467-5530) as early as possible in the quarter, preferably within the first two weeks of the course. All discussions will remain confidential.*

*Note that Prof. Caverley's office is not accessible by elevator, but he will be happy to make alternate meeting arrangements.*

## **Course Topics**

23 Sept.:      **Introduction**

Begin readings for September 25<sup>th</sup>.

25 Sept.:      **American Power**

Krauthammer, Charles. "The Unipolar Moment." *Foreign Affairs* 70, no. 1 (1991): 23-33. ([link](#))

Krauthammer, Charles. "The Unipolar Moment Revisited." *National Interest*, no. 70 (2002): 13p ([link](#))

Khanna, Parag. "Waving Goodbye to Hegemony." *New York Times Magazine* (2008). ([link](#))

Zakaria, Fareed. "The Future of American Power." *Foreign Affairs* 87, no. 3 (2008): 26p. ([link](#))

Brooks, Stephen, and William Wohlforth. "International Relations Theory and the Case against Unilateralism." *Perspectives on Politics* 3, no. 3 (2005): 509-19. ([link](#))

### 30 Sept.:      **American Grand Strategy**

Clinton, William Jefferson. "A National Security Strategy for a New Century." The White House. Washington DC, 1998. ([link](#))

Bush, George W. "The National Security Strategy." The White House. Washington DC, 2006. ([link](#))

McCain, John. "An Enduring Peace Built on Freedom." *Foreign Affairs* 86, no. 6 (2007): 16p. ([link](#))

Obama, Barack. "Renewing American Leadership." *Foreign Affairs* 86, no. 4 (2007): 15p. ([link](#))

### 2 Oct.:      **Foreign Policy by a Democracy?**

Drezner, Daniel W. "The Realist Tradition in American Public Opinion." *Perspectives on Politics* 6, no. 1 (2008): 51-70. ([link](#))

Page, Benjamin I. with Marshall M. Bouton, "Foreign Policy and Democracy" in *The Foreign Policy Disconnect: What Americans Want from Our Leaders but Do Not Get* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006), pp. 1-32. ([link](#))

Mastanduno. "The United States Political System and International Leadership: A "Decidedly Inferior" Form of Government?" In *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*, edited by G. John Ikenberry, 248-68. London: Pearson Education, 2005. ([link](#))

7 Oct.:           **Spreading Democracy: Intro to International Relations Theory**

Ikenberry, G. John. "America's Liberal Grand Strategy: Democracy and National Security in the Post-War Era." In *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*, 268-90. London: Pearson Educational, 2000. ([link](#))

Oren, I. "The Subjectivity of the Democratic Peace - Changing Us Perceptions of Imperial Germany." *International Security* 20, no. 2 (1995): 147-84. ([link](#))

Mearsheimer, John J. "Structural Realism." In *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*, edited by Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, 71-88. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2006. (**in Blackboard Documents section**)

9 Oct.:           **The United States Military**

Boot, M. "The New American Way of War." *Foreign Affairs* 82, no. 4 (2003): 41-58. ([link](#))

Biddle, S. "Afghanistan and the Future of Warfare." *Foreign Affairs* 82, no. 2 (2003): 31-. ([link](#))

Posen, B. R. "Command of the Commons - the Military Foundation of US Hegemony." *International Security* 28, no. 1 (2003): 5-46. ([link](#))

14 Oct.:           **Economic Carrots and Sticks**

Haass, R. N. "Sanctioning Madness." *Foreign Affairs* 76, no. 6 (1997): 74-85. ([link](#))

Gottemoeller, R. "The Evolution of Sanctions in Practice and Theory." *Survival* 49, no. 4 (2007): 99-+. ([link](#)) (**also in Blackboard Documents section**)

Lopez, G. A., and D. Cortright. "Containing Iraq: Sanctions Worked." *Foreign Affairs* 83, no. 4 (2004): 90-+. ([link](#))

16 Oct.:           **Economics, Globalization and "Hegemony" I**

Krasner, S. D. "State Power and Structure of International Trade." *World Politics* 28, no. 3 (1976): 317-47. ([link](#))

Wade, Robert Hunter. "The Invisible Hand of the American Empire." *Ethics and International Affairs* 17, no. 2 (2003): 77-78. ([link](#))

Naim, M. "The Five Wars of Globalization." *Foreign Policy*, no. 134 (2003): 28-37. ([link](#))

21 Oct.:           **Economics, Globalization and "Hegemony" II**

Rodrik, D. "Sense and Nonsense in the Globalization Debate." *Foreign Policy*, no. 107 (1997): 19-37. ([link](#))

Blinder, A. S. "Offshoring: The Next Industrial Revolution?" *Foreign Affairs* 85, no. 2 (2006): 113-28. ([link](#))

Levey, D. H., and S. S. B. Romn. "The Overstretch Myth - Can the Indispensable Nation Be a Debtor Nation?" *Foreign Affairs* 84, no. 2 (2005): 2-7. ([link](#))

Setser, B., and N. Roubini. "How Scary Is the Deficit? American Power and American Borrowing." *Foreign Affairs* 84, no. 4 (2005): 194. ([link](#))

23 Oct.:       **Midterm exam (in class)**

28 Oct.:       **America's Relationship to International Institutions**

Ikenberry, G. John. "Democracy, Institutions, and American Restraint." In *American Unrivalled: The Future of the Balance of Power*, edited by G. John Ikenberry, 213-59. Ithaca, NY: Cornell UP, 2002. ([link](#))

Glennon, M. J. "Why the Security Council Failed." *Foreign Affairs* 82, no. 3 (2003): 16. ([link](#))

Tharoor, S. "Why America Still Needs the United Nations." *Foreign Affairs* 82, no. 5 (2003): 67. ([link](#))

Slaughter, Ann-Marie, Kenneth Roth, John Bolton, and Ruth Wedgwood. "Toward an International Criminal Court?" In *Council Policy Initiative*. Place Published: Council on Foreign Relations, 1999. ([link](#))

30 Oct.:       **Alliances (Europe)**

Art, R. J. "Creating a Disaster: NATO's Open Door Policy." *Political Science Quarterly* 113, no. 3 (1998): 383-403. ([link](#))

Kagan, Robert. "The End of the End of History: Why the Twenty-First Century Will Look Like the Nineteenth." *The New Republic* (2008). ([link](#))

Joffe, Josef. "Defying History and Theory: The United States as The "Last Remaining Superpower"." In *America Unrivalled: The Future of the Balance of Power*, edited by G. John Ikenberry, 155-80. Ithaca, NY: Cornell UP, 2002 ([link](#))

4 Nov.:           **Great Power Transition (Asia)**

Friedberg, A. L. "The Future of U.S-China Relations - Is Conflict Inevitable ?" *International Security* 30, no. 2 (2005): 7-+. ([link](#))

Christensen, Thomas J. "Fostering Stability or Creating a Monster? The Rise of China and US Policy toward East Asia." *International Security* 31, no. 1 (2006): 81-+. ([link](#))

Burns, R. N. "America's Strategic Opportunity with India - the New US-India Partnership." *Foreign Affairs* 86, no. 6 (2007): 131-+. ([link](#))

6 Nov.:           **Energy (Persian Gulf)**

Auerswald, Philip E. "The Irrelevance of the Middle East." *The American Interest*, no. 8 (2007). ([link](#))

Sick, G., T. Parsi, R. Takeyh, and B. Slavin. "Iran's Strategic Concerns and US Interests." *Middle East Policy* 15, no. 1 (2008): 1-18. ([link](#))

Takeyh, R. "Iran's New Iraq." *Middle East Journal* 62, no. 1 (2008): 13-30. ([link](#))

11 Nov.:           **Preventative War/Nation Building (Iraq and Afghanistan)**

Bush, George W. "Commencement Address at the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York." *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* 38, no. 23 (2002): 5p. ([link](#))

Jervis, R. "Understanding the Bush Doctrine." *Political Science Quarterly* 118, no. 3 (2003): 365-88. ([link](#))

Mearsheimer, J. J., and S. M. Walt. "An Unnecessary War." *Foreign Policy*, no. 134 (2003): 50-59. ([link](#))

Pollack, K. M. "Next Stop Baghdad?" *Foreign Affairs* 81, no. 2 (2002): 32-+. ([link](#))

13 Nov.:           **Nuclear Proliferation (North Korea)**

Sagan, Scott Douglas, and Kenneth Neal Waltz. *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons : A Debate Renewed : With New Sections on India and Pakistan, Terrorism, and Missile Defense*. [2nd ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2003.

18 Nov.:      **Terrorism (Everywhere)**

Barry Posen, "The Struggle Against Terrorism: Grand Strategy, Strategy, and Tactics." *International Security* 26, no. 3 (2001/2): 39-55.

Byman, Daniel. "Iran, Terrorism, and Weapons of Mass Destruction." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* 31, no. 3 (2008): 169-81.

Mueller, J. "Six Rather Unusual Propositions About Terrorism." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 17, no. 4 (2005): 487-505.

20 Nov.:      **Humanitarian Intervention (Kosovo...but not Rwanda)**

Michael Mandelbaum, "A Perfect Failure," *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 78, no. 5 September/October 1999", p. 2-8;

Javier Solana, "NATO's Success in Kosovo," *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 78, no. 6 November/December 1999", pp. 114-120.

Western, J. "Sources of Humanitarian Intervention - Beliefs, Information, and Advocacy in the US Decisions on Somalia and Bosnia." *International Security* 26, no. 4 (2002): 112-42.

Power, Samantha. "Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen." *The Atlantic* 288, no. 2 (2001): 84-108. (SKIM for background)

25 Nov.:      **Conclusion**

Mahbubani, K. "The Case against the West - America and Europe in the Asian Century." *Foreign Affairs* 87, no. 3 (2008): 111-24.

27 Nov.:      Thanksgiving.

9 Dec.:        **Paper due at 4pm.**

**Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-2:00 PM:    Final exam.**