

Political Science 245
The United States in Global Politics
Winter Quarter, 2008

Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 PM – 2:18 PM

Room: 0277 Caldwell Laboratory (CL)

Instructor: M. J. Reese

Office: 3081 Derby Hall (DB)

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday
2:30pm–3:30pm

or by appointment

E-mail: reese.150@osu.edu

Course Description

The United States in Global Politics is an introductory-level course in International Relations (IR) with an emphasis on American foreign policy. The class will focus on the significant changes the international system has experienced over the past hundred years and the pivotal role that has been, and continues to be, played by the United States in this constantly-evolving world order.

This course proceeds in three parts. In the first section of the class, we will discuss basic theoretical concepts in the study of the international system such as anarchy, power, nations, states, social reality, and interdependence. In the middle portion of the course, we will consider the United States itself in more detail. We will trace how U.S. foreign policy, the debates that have characterized it, the government that administers it, and the society that regulates it have evolved since 1776. In the final section, we will consider some important issues facing the United States in the contemporary world such as terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the war in Iraq, the globalization of the world political economy, the challenges posed by environmental degradation, and the changing nature of international politics itself.

The end purpose of this class will be to provide students with the necessary tools to understand and interpret international political events and problems. The course, while valuable to Political Science majors, has been designed with non-Political Scientists in mind as well. The ultimate intention is to provide practical information and analysis to assist students in forming their own perspective on what America's role in the world should be in the coming century.

Readings

There is one required book for this course. Also, students will be asked to read material contained on the Ohio State Carmen online course management system. The book you are to purchase should be available at the University Bookstore, Local Booksellers (Long's, SBX, etc.) and Internet bookstores such as at Amazon.com, Half.com, Barnesnoble.com, and the like. I highly suggest you attempt to find the book online as you will likely find the best prices there. However, you are responsible for performing the required readings on time – no leeway will be given to compensate for shipping delays.

Hook, Steven W. *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power (2nd Edition)*.
Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-87289-466-2

In addition, there will be **twenty-four** additional readings that you will be asked to access at your own convenience via the OSU electronic reserve system on Carmen. You can access, download, or print the included readings (in .pdf form) on any on-campus or off-campus computer with Internet access. For additional information, see the “Carmen” section of this syllabus on Page 3.

Also, it is highly suggested that you get in the habit of monitoring the international news. While I personally prefer *The Economist* (www.economist.com), other reputable publications such as the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com) or *Newsweek* (www.newsweek.com), among others, will suffice. Connecting current events to the material presented in this course, while not strictly required, is the surest way to achieve high grades in exams.

The Determination of Grades

The final course grade will be determined by weighting your performance in four areas:

1. Class Participation	20%
2. Midterm Exam I	25%
3. Midterm Exam II	25%
4. Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
FINAL GRADE	100%

My grading scale for participation, exams, and the final course grades is as follows:

A	=	100% - 92%	C+	=	80% - 78%
A-	=	92% - 90%	C	=	78% - 72%
B+	=	90% - 88%	C-	=	72% - 70%
B	=	88% - 82%	D+	=	70% - 68%
B-	=	82% - 80%	D	=	68% - 60%
			E (also known as “F”)	=	Less than 60%

GEC-Mandated Goals & Objectives for this Course

Political Science 245 – Diversity: International Issues

Goals/ Rationale:

Diversity: International Issues courses help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world.

Learning Objectives:

Students exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture.

Carmen (Online Course Management System)

This class will employ Ohio State’s “Carmen” online system to distribute readings not found in your required textbook. Also, Carmen will house an online archive of all class handouts (syllabus and study guides). To access Carmen, if you have not yet done so before, employ the following steps:

1. Go to the Ohio State website (www.osu.edu).
2. Click on “Current Students” entry near the top of the screen.
3. On the next screen, Click on the “Carmen (Course Management System)” entry under the “Computing/Technology” list.
4. On the next screen, click “Log In”
5. You will be asked to log in using your OSU Internet Username and Password (if you have not activated a username yet, contact the Ohio State OIT Technology Support Center at 614-688-4357)
6. On the next screen, if you are properly registered for the course, you should see the entry “POLIT SC 245 (REESE)” under the “Political Science” heading under the “Winter 2008” heading under the “My Courses” section of your Carmen homepage. Click the “POLIT SC 245 (REESE)” entry to advance to the class homepage.

We will employ the “Content” function of Carmen in this class (the “Grades,” “Discussions,” and “Dropbox” functions will not be used...however, feel free to email me at reese.150@osu.edu at any time during the course to check your grade status or ask questions about the course material).

If you click on the “Content” tab, you will see a listing of all currently available handouts and readings (all in .pdf format). The handout portion of the content page will be updated as each handout is distributed (you should see an entry for this syllabus right away). The readings for the entire course will be fully available from the first day (in case you want to get a head start on later work).

Student Responsibilities

Attendance & Participation:

This course will combine lectures with opportunities for students to react to the material. This course will therefore require your active participation. As a result, you are expected to attend every class session and to do so prepared to contribute. If you do happen to miss a class session for whatever reason, you will still be held responsible for the material covered. It is up to you to acquire notes from a classmate. This is important because we sometimes cover material in class not contained in the assigned reading. You may therefore miss something crucial for passing an exam if you do not make the necessary arrangements. However, it is obviously in your interest to attend class on the days tests are administered. You will be allowed to take a make-up exam only if you present me with a documented excuse for your absence on the day of administration. In cases of illness, for instance, a documented excuse would consist of a signed note from your doctor or the OSU Medical Center.

Reading:

You will be asked to complete a reading assignment in preparation for each lecture. Ideally, you are to complete this reading *before* each class begins. Also, you should generally attempt to read each day's selections in the order in which they are listed on the syllabus (this is not absolutely crucial, but earlier readings may help you understand the later ones a bit better). It is important to keep up with this reading. Getting too far behind is a recipe for doing badly on exams. I cannot emphasize enough that although we do not discuss everything in lecture covered in your readings, items will appear on your exams that involve these reading-only points and issues (i.e. merely showing up for the lectures will *not* be enough to do well in this course).

Exams:

There will be three *closed book* exams held during this course: two midterms and a final exam. Each exam will be structured similarly with an "identification of terms" section and an "essay" section. One week before each exam, I will hand out a study guide to assist you in your preparations. If you know the guide well, you should do well on the exam. We shall discuss the exams more as they draw closer.

Communication with Your Instructor:

I encourage every student to feel free to contact me with any problems, concerns, or questions about the course. I am easiest to contact via e-mail (reese.150@osu.edu) which I do check with consistent regularity. I will make myself available twice every week for regular office hours (Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-3:30pm...in essence, the hour after class) and will also be available for additional meetings by appointment. If you do wish to make an appointment to meet outside of my regularly scheduled office hours, I request that you give me at least 24 hours notice to make sure I can accommodate you.

It is unfortunate that many students wait until finals week to contact me about their performance. If you run into problems with the course material, or are not achieving the grades you believe yourself capable of, please contact me sooner rather than later for advice and

assistance. If you wait too long, you may have little or no opportunity mathematically to turn your performance around and achieve the A grade I know each of you are capable of.

Academic Honesty:

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. I must and will report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).

Disability:

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs (ideally, no later than January 18th). The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

Course Schedule

January 3 Introduction

SECTION I: THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

8 Basic Concepts in International Relations

Read: - Goldstein, Joshua S and Jon C. Pevehouse.
“Understanding International Relations” in
International Relations –7th Edition. Pearson &
Longman Publishers, 2006 (**On Carmen**)

10 **Realism and Power Politics**

Read: - Goldstein and Pevehouse, “Power Politics” (**On Carmen**)

- Morgenthau, Hans. “Six Principles of Political Realism” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

15 **Liberalism and Institutions**

Read: - Goldstein and Pevehouse, “Alternatives to Power Politics (Partial Chapter; pp. 99-108 only)” (**On Carmen**)

- Doyle, Michael W. “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

- Keohane, Robert. “International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

17 **Constructivism and Identity**

Read: - Wendt, Alexander. “Anarchy Is What States Make of It” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

- Kaufman, Chaim. “Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

22 **The Theoretical Language of International Relations & Exam Review**

Read: - Hook, "Chapter 3: Dynamics of Decisionmaking" (*Only* read the intro and first section entitled "Theories of International Relations")

24 *****MIDTERM EXAM I*****

The exam will held at the regular class time & location

SECTION II: THE CONTEXT OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

29 **The Study of Foreign Policy**

Read: - Goldstein and Pevehouse, "Foreign Policy" (**On Carmen**)

- Hook, "Chapter 3: Dynamics of Decisionmaking" (Read the remaining sections not yet assigned)

31 **An America in Search of its Role: An Overview of US FP 1776-1941**

Read: - Jentleson, Bruce. "The Historical Context: Great Debates in American Foreign Policy" in *American Foreign Policy – 3rd Edition*. WW Norton & Company, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

February 5 **The Era of American Leadership: An Overview of US FP 1941-2007**

Read: - Hook, "Chapter 1: The United States in a Turbulent World"

- Hook, "Chapter 2: The Expansion of U.S. Power"

- Hook, "Chapter 10: National Security and Defense Policy" (*Only* read the intro and first section entitled "The Foundation of Strategy")

- Wohforth, William "U.S. Strategy in a Unipolar World" in *America Unrivaled* (ed. By J. Ikenberry). Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2002 (**On Carmen**)

7 **The President and Congress: The Government of US Foreign Policy**

Read: - Hook, “Chapter 4: Presidential Power”

- Hook, “Chapter 5: Congress Beyond the ‘Water’s Edge”

- Hook, “Chapter 6: The Foreign-Policy Bureaucracy”

12 **Public Opinion, the Media, & Interest Groups: The Politics of US FP**

Read: - Hook, “Chapter 7: Public Opinion at Home and Abroad”

- Hook, “Chapter 8: The Impact of Mass Communications”

- Hook, “Chapter 9: Social Movements and Interest Groups”

14 **A State Torn Between Two Idealistic Instincts & Exam Review**

Read: - Pastor, Robert. “The United States” in *A Century's Journey: How The Great Powers Shape the World*. New York, NY: Basic Books, 1999. (**On Carmen**)

19 *****MIDTERM EXAM II*****

The exam will held at the regular class time & location

SECTION III: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

21 **The War on Terror: What It Is and Is Not**

Read: - Hook, “Chapter 10: National Security and Defense Policy” (*Only* read the final section entitled “Waging War on Terrorism”)

- Hoffman, Bruce. “What is Terrorism?” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

- Zakaria, Fareed. "Why Do They Hate Us?" in *America and the World*. New York: Council on Foreign Relations, 2002 (**On Carmen**)
- Gause III, F. Gregory. "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?" in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

26 **The "Axis of Evil": The Dangers of WMD Proliferation**

- Read: - Hook, "Chapter 10: National Security and Defense Policy" (Read the remaining sections not yet assigned)
- Hook, "Chapter 12: Transnational Policy Problems" (*Only* read the third section entitled "The Dangers of Weapons Proliferation")
 - Sagan, S. and Waltz, K. N. "Indian and Pakistani Nuclear Weapons: For Better or Worse?" in Mingst & Snyder (ed.s), *Essential Readings in World Politics* (2nd Edition), W. W. Norton & Company, 2004. (**On Carmen**)
 - Jervis, Robert. "Explaining the Bush Doctrine" in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

28 **Globalization & Its Discontents: Economics in American Policy**

- Read: - Hook, "Chapter 11: Economic Statecraft"
- Gilpin, Robert. "The Nature of Political Economy" in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)
 - Scott, Bruce R. "The Great Divide in the Global Village" in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 (**On Carmen**)

March 4 **A New World Order?: The Environment, Human Rights and the Emergence of Global Governance**

- Hook, “Chapter 12: Transnational Policy Problems”
(Read the remaining sections not yet assigned)
- Hardin, Garrett. “The Tragedy of the Commons” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 **(On Carmen)**
- Browne, John. “Byond Kyoto” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 **(On Carmen)**
- Howard Rhoda E. and Jack Donnelly. “Human Rights in World Politics” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 **(On Carmen)**
- Ratner, Steven. “International Law: The Trials of Global Norms” in *International Politics – 8th Edition* (ed. By Robert Art and Robert Jervis). Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2007 **(On Carmen)**

6 **The US’ Place the 21st Century International Order & Exam Review**

Read: - Fukuyama, Francis “The End of History”, Samuel Huntington “The Clash of Civilizations? & Benjamin Barber “Jihad vs. McWorld” in *Readings in Comparative Politics*. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. **(On Carmen)**

Thursday, March 13th

*****FINAL EXAM*****

THE FINAL WILL BE HELD FROM 11:30 AM – 1:18 PM AT THE REGULAR CLASS LOCATION