

American Foreign Affairs II

Tuesdays & Thursdays

21:512:298 – 01

10:00am – 11:20am

Hill 101

Instructor: Deborah Morrison-Santana

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Office Hours: Tuesdays - 11:30-12:30pm (HILL 720) or appointments available upon request

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide undergraduates with the background history of American foreign affairs from 1898 through the present. The United States' role in the world drastically changed during the 20th century. Its involvement in the two World Wars thrust the United States onto the world stage as one of the major powers, and following World War II, its previous isolationist stance was no longer viable. By the turn of the century, it was swiftly becoming the sole superpower, though that status was brief and tumultuous. Emphasizing a "US in the world" perspective, students will gain an in-depth understanding the United States' foreign policy endeavors in the 20th and 21st centuries including U.S. involvement on the world stage, including wars (both overt and covert), negotiating and signing international treaties, involvement international and regional organizations, and the current global War on Terrorism.

Required Readings:

- All available on Blackboard (please make sure you have access to the course as soon as possible). Please see the course schedule below for reading due dates.

Assignments:

- **Participation:** Attendance is mandatory for this course and will be taken each class. Missing classes without proper documentation (i.e. a doctor's note) will affect your participation grade. Any student who misses **eight** or more sessions through any **combination** of **excused** and **unexcused** absences will have missed more than a quarter of the class time and will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the course to avoid an F. If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from a fellow student on what you missed (do not email me asking what you missed). Excessive lateness will also affect your grade.
- **Essays:** Students will write two essays during the semester about a chosen topic on US foreign affairs. Rubrics for the essays will be handed out and discussed within the first few weeks of the semester.
- **Exams:** There will be two tests during the semester and one final exam. **** Exam Policy:** You cannot make-up any exam unless you have proper documentation. ******

Grading:

- Participation: 20%
- Essays (2): 15 % each (30% total)
- Tests (2): 15% each (30% total)
- Final Exam: 20%

100% TOTAL

*** There is no extra credit offered for this course ***

COURSE POLICIES:

- 1. No personal technology devices allowed in class.** This means no cell phones, iPads, laptops, or any other kinds of electronic devices (unless needed for medical reasons, with the proper documentation). If you are caught using your phone or another device, you will lose participation credit for the day. Continuous use of these technologies will result in being asked to leave the classroom and lose participation credit for the day.
- 2. Current Events:** Please keep up to date with the news, as we will discuss this in class and relate it to course material each day. Stick to reputable news sources (New York Times, Wall Street Journal, BBC, France24, PBS News Hour, NPR, etc.) for the most accurate information.
- 3. Academic Dishonesty:** Taking the words and ideas of another and presenting them as your own without proper use of citation constitutes plagiarism and it is considered grounds for receiving an “F” for the course and suspension/expulsion from the university. All students are required to uphold the honor code. Please see Rutgers’ Academic Integrity Policy.
- 4.** Students should present official medical or legal documentation if they cannot fulfill any part of the course requirements. Exceptions will only be made under extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness and/or legal obligations.
- 5. Open Communication & Respect:** I am always available to help you succeed in this course. You may see me during my office hours or reach me through email. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Additionally, please always show me and everyone in the class respect. If you are being disrespectful, you may be asked to leave.
- 6. Your grade** is your responsibility and is non-negotiable. If you need a specific grade for your GPA, financial aid, academic standing, personal reasons, etc., you need to earn that grade by following the guidelines presented in this syllabus. Please do not contact me after the semester asking/begging for a better grade.
- 7.** All students are required to sign the **Rutgers Honor Code Pledge**. To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment.”
- 8. Policy on Students with Disabilities:** “Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’s disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. For more information please the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219 or contact odsnewark@rutgers.edu.”

	TOPIC	READING/ASSIGNMENTS DUE
T 9/4	Introduction	
TH 9/6	U.S. Foreign Policy at the Turn of the Century & the Spanish American War	"American Foreign Policy: The Turning Point, 1889-1919"
T 9/11	"Big Stick Diplomacy" & the Panama Canal	"Theodore Roosevelt and the Heroes of Panama"
TH 9/13	U.S. in World War I	"Neutral in Spirit?"
T 9/18	NO CLASS	
TH 9/20	End of WWI	"President Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points"
T 9/25	The Interwar Years	"Our Foreign Policy" - FD Roosevelt
TH 9/27	Entry into WWII	A Date Which Will Live in Infamy' - FDR Pearl Harbor Speech; "A Mighty Endeavor" - FDR D-Day Speech
T 10/2	U.S. in The Pacific	"Harper's Decision to Drop the Bomb"
TH 10/4	End of WWII & Origins of the United Nations	"The United States and the Founding of the United Nations"
T 10/9	Test #1	...
TH 10/11	The Korean War & Origins of the Cold War	"The Korean War as International History"
T 10/16	The Cuban Missile Crisis	"Cuban Missile Crisis at 50"
TH 10/18	Vietnam War	"America and Vietnam"
T 10/23	The Carter Administration	"Jimmy Carter: Foreign Affairs"
TH 10/25	The Reagan Era	"The Reagan Doctrine"
T 10/30	Fall of the Soviet Union and the Gulf War	"Operation Desert Storm"
TH 11/1	The Break-up of Yugoslavia	"Decision to Intervene: How the War in Bosnia Ended"
T 11/6	America: The Sole Superpower, Overconfidence, & Somalia	"The Successes and Failures of the Battle of Mogadishu and Its Effects on U.S. Foreign Policy"
TH 11/8	Test #2	...
T 11/13	Rwanda & the Failure of the International Community	"The U.S. and the Genocide in Rwanda 1994: Evidence of Inaction"
TH 11/15	9/11 & The War on Terror	"Authorization for the Use of Military Force" & <i>Blowback</i> Ch. 1
T 11/20	Iraq War	"From 'Shock and Awe' to 'Hearts and Minds'"
TH 11/22	no class (Thanksgiving)	
T 11/27	From Bush to Obama	"U.S. Leadership in a Post 9/11 World"
TH 11/29	The Killing of Osama Bin Laden	"Getting Bin Laden"
T 12/4	U.S. & the Arab Spring	"Lessons of Libya"
TH 12/6	ISIS	Video: FRONTLINE - "The Secret History of ISIS"
T 12/11	America First (?)	"America First" - The White House; "We're America, Bitch" - the Atlantic