

America and the World

21:790:202:01

Mondays & Thursdays 1:00-2:20pm

Conklin 455

Instructor: Deborah Morrison-Santana

Contact: deborah.morrison@rutgers.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays 12:00-1:00pm in Hill 720 (or available by appointment)

Course Overview:

The role of the United States has changed from its inception to the present. It's transitioned from a colony to an expanding power, from isolation to a global super power. Historical events, domestic factors, and international influences have all played a part in today's America. This course on America and the World will examine that history, the various viewpoints and influences on its foreign policy, current and past threats, and where it stands right now with the current administration. Looking at historical documents, speeches, government documents, prominent scholars, etc., this course will explain how America has grown into what it is today – a world power. Additionally, it will explore factors that have shaped its foreign policy and relationship with the world, ways in which America has influenced the world- culturally, socially, economically and how different world events, rise of identity politics, globalization, transnational networks, and international organizations have in turn shaped its policies and perception of the world. The course is divided into three parts:

Part I: History and Structure of American Foreign Policy

Part II: American Strategy – The Cold War to 9/11

Part III: American in the 21st Century

Assignments:

Attendance/Participation (20%) – Your attendance is required, but it is also essential for you to contribute to course discussions. Preparedness (doing the readings for each class) is also a component of your participation grade.

Two Essays (20%) – There will be two 5-pages essays due throughout the semester and will include issues covered in lectures, the readings, and current events in the news. The rubric for these essays is on page 3 of this syllabus.

Country Policy Paper (15%) – you will write a paper (8-10 pages) on the current U.S. foreign policy of a specific country with full citations. A rubric for this is on page 4 of this syllabus. Countries will be chosen the second week of classes.

Tests (25%) – There are two tests during the semester. These will be made up of fill in the blank and short answer essay questions.

Final Exam – (20%) – This exam is in the same format of the first two tests.

Grading:

Attendance (20% - 200 points)

Essays (20% - 200 pts. total/100 pts. each)

Regional Policy Paper (15% - 150 points)

Tests (25% - 250 points/125 points each)

Final Exam – (20% - 200 points)

100% (1000 points total)

A (Excellent) = 930 – 1000 pts.

B+ (Very Good) = 890 – 929 pts.

B (Good) = 850 – 889 pts.

C+ (Between Satisfactory and Good) = 800 – 849 pts.

C (Satisfactory) = 750 – 799 pts.

D (Lowest Passing Grade) = 650 – 749 pts.

F (Failing) = 649 pts. – Below

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **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. 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 this grade. If you miss more than 6 classes, excused or unexcused, you will fail the course.
2. **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). These devices are distracting not only to you, but to the rest of the class as well. If you are caught using your phone or another device, you will lose participation credit for the day. Continuous use of these technologies may result in being asked to leave the classroom and lose participation credit for the day. If you are caught using any personal technology during an exam, you will receive a zero for the exam, and the matter will be handed over to the Office of Academic Integrity.
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.

For more information, please consult Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy available through the Rutgers website.

4. All assignments must be completed specifically for this course. You cannot hand in something you used in another course.
5. 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.
6. **Open Communication:** 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.
7. **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.
8. Please be **respectful** of everyone in the class, including me. If you are being disrespectful, you will be asked to leave.
9. I do not accept late work for any reason, so please make sure you hand in all assignments on time.

Newspaper Article Assignment:

There are many critical international issues happening in the world today that are directly related to historical events or eras we've discussed in this class. For this assignment, you must find a recent (within the last year) news article (from a credible source – email me if you are unsure of a source) about a current event and write a paper about how the article relates to an event or era discussed in this class (Paper 1 should deal with Part I materials; Paper 2 should deal with Part II materials). This is not an informative paper, but rather you must use critical thinking to discuss how the current event is related to the history we've discussed and how it differs.

Compare and contrast the present with the past using course readings, lectures, and outside sources (if necessary) to supplement your paper. Any supplemental sources should not be the main focus of your paper; your analysis of the newspaper article chosen is, and it should be obvious which is your main article.

Cite everything using **footnotes** (with full bibliographic information in them).

DO NOT PUT PARENTHESES IN YOUR TEXT.

*** Your answer must be about 5 FULL pages (no less), typed, DOUBLE SPACED, and 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins. You will be graded on content, grammar, punctuation, and following directions. Remember, these papers add up to 20% of your final grade; they should be a well thought out responses with a beginning, middle, and end. ***

These papers are due on **MONDAY, Oct. 7th** and **THURSDAY 11/7** (by 11:59pm)

LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED for any reason.

Guidelines:

- Find an article from a credible source – avoid 24-hour news channels (Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, etc.)... If you are unsure of your source, please email me. Also, do not use op-eds (opinion pieces), as they are not investigative journalism.
- Be specific. I want you to really think about this article and your response to it and how it fits into our course... You **MUST** cite course materials (lectures, readings, etc.)
- **Do not find a recent article about a past event that does the comparison for you... this defeats the purpose of the assignment.**
- Avoid replacing arguments with examples. Use examples to illustrate a general claim, not as a replacement for them. Examples by themselves tend toward selection bias and hasty generalizations.
- I am interested in content, not clever rhetorical flourish. Thus, avoid filler material... **DO NOT USE BLOCK QUOTES FROM THE ARTICLES OR READINGS.** Direct quotes should be no longer than 2 sentences, MAXIMUM.
- **IF YOU DO NOT CITE, EVEN WHEN YOU PARAPHRASE, IT WILL BE CONSIDERED PLAGIARISM. PLAGIARIZED PAPERS WILL BE PENALIED EITHER BY AN F ON THE PAPER OR THE COURSE AND WILL BE REPORTED TO THE DEAN.**
- **PROOFREAD YOUR PAPER.** You will be marked off for typos, punctuation errors, and/or major disorganization.
- 12-point Times New Roman font
- Use page numbers
- The heading of your paper should be your name **ONLY**.
- 1-inch margins all around
- The paper is to be at least 5 FULL pages long, not less (No cover page).

*** **SUBMIT YOUR PAPER THROUGH TURN-IT-IN ON BLACKBOARD** ***

(I will not accept it any other way)

Country Paper

(must be submitted through Turn-It-In on Blackboard): Due 12/5 by 11:59pm

***** I do not accept late work, and failure to hand in the paper by the due date/time will result in an F... No exceptions! *****

Things you should cover:

- Historical relations with the United States up through 2016
 - This should include origins, changes over time, and conflicts (if applicable)
- Relations with the U.S. under the current administration
- Where YOU think U.S. policy with your country is heading (your educated opinion based on your research).
- Your essay should also have an introduction and conclusion. Please note that there are three major sections that need to be covered, and they should have near-equal attention paid to each.

Guidelines:

- Use credible sources – avoid 24-hour news channels (Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, etc.) as well as opinion essays... If you are unsure of your sources, please email me.
- Be specific. Explain what the United States has done in these countries and how it's changed over time (if applicable). You are to be the expert about your country and US relations
- Avoid replacing arguments with examples. Use examples to illustrate a general claim, not as a replacement for them. Examples by themselves tend toward selection bias and hasty generalizations.
- I am interested in content, not clever rhetorical flourish. Thus, avoid filler material... **DO NOT USE BLOCK QUOTES FROM THE ARTICLES OR READINGS.** Direct quotes should be no longer than 2 sentences, MAXIMUM.
- ***IF YOU DO NOT CITE, EVEN WHEN YOU PARAPHRASE, IT WILL BE CONSIDERED PLAGIARISM. PLAGIARIZED PAPERS WILL BE PENALIED EITHER BY AN F ON THE PAPER OR THE COURSE AND WILL BE REPORTED TO THE DEAN.***
- **PROOFREAD YOUR PAPER.** You will be marked off for typos, punctuation errors, and/or major disorganization.
- The heading of your paper should be your name ONLY. I don't need what class this is for, my name, the date, your favorite color, and your dog's name.
- 1-inch margins all around
- Double-spaced
- Page numbers required
- Times New Roman, 12-point font required.
- The paper is to be at least 8-10 pages long, not less (No cover page required).
- Use footnotes and put full bibliographic information in them (in MLA or APA formats – consistently). All statistics, direct quotes, and non-general knowledge information should be cited, and they should be single-spaced.¹ We will go over how to do them in class.
- Bibliography (Works Cited page) required – not included in the 8-10 pages. Your sources should be in alphabetical order.

¹ This is a footnote. It goes on the bottom of the page where you are citing. To insert a footnote, you click References and Insert Footnote. It will put a little number by what you're are citing and a corresponding number at the bottom of the page. These should include full bibliographic information – including URLs if necessary. For repeating citations, after the first one, you can just use the first few words of the bibliographic information. These should be in 10-point Times New Roman font and single-spaced.

Fall 2019 - America and the World (subject to change)		
DATE	TOPIC	READINGS DUE
PART 1: History and Structure of American Foreign Policy		
TH 9/5	Introduction - American Foreign Policy Overview: Who are the actors?	
M 9/9	Independence & Expansion	Washington's Farewell Speech; Monroe Doctrine
TH 9/12	Manifest Destiny	"Manifest Destiny and Indian Removal;" Mexican American War
M 9/16	Spanish-American War	"The Spanish-American War"
TH 9/19	World War I	Woodrow Wilson's Speech; Henry Cabot Lodge's Anti-League Speech
M 9/23	Interwar Years	"Our Foreign Policy" - FDR
TH 9/26	World War II in Europe	<i>Address Unknown</i>
M 9/30	World War II in the Pacific	"Decision to Drop the Bomb"
TH 10/3	no class	
M 10/7	no class *** paper #1 due via Turn-It-In on Blackboard ***	
TH 10/10	Test #1	
Part II: American Strategy - The Cold War to 9/11		
M 10/14	The Cold War: Containment	"Containment: 40 Years Later"
TH 10/17	Korean War	"The Korean War as International History"
M 10/21	Cuban Missile Crisis	"Cuban Missile Crisis at 50"
TH 10/24	Vietnam	"America and Vietnam"
M 10/28	From the Carter Administration to the Reagan Era	"Jimmy Carter: Foreign Affairs;" "Ronald Reagan Foreign Affairs"
TH 10/31	A New World Order & Operation Desert Storm	George H.W. Bush's 1991 State of the Union Address
M 11/4	The Shadow of Somalia	Operation Restore Hope chapter
TH 11/7	The Bloody 1990s (part II)	"The U.S. and the Genocide in Rwanda 1994: Evidence of Inaction" *** Paper #2 Due via Turn-It-In on Blackboard ***
M 11/11	Test #2	
Part III: American in the 21st Century		
TH 11/14	9/11 & The War on Terrorism	Blowback, Ch. 1; Bush Sept. 20th 2001 Speech; "The Patriot Act"
M 11/18	Iraq War (2003)	"From 'Shock and Awe' to 'Hearts and Minds'"; NSS (2006)
TH 11/21	From Bush to Obama: Unilateralism to Multilateralism (film)	"Getting Bin Laden"
M 11/25	The Killing of Osama Bin Laden (film part II)	
T 11/26	U.S. and the Arab Spring	"Lessons of Libya"
M 12/2	Climate Change, Cybersecurity, & other Threats	NSS (2015)
TH 12/5	The Trump Era: Multilateralism to Isolationism	NSS (2017); "We're America, Bitch" *** COUNTRY PAPER DUE ***
M 12/9	So Now What?	