University of Toronto
Syllabus
POL326Y 2018/19
U.S. Foreign Policy

Instructor: Dr. Arnd Jürgensen, Office: Sidney Smith Bldg. 3112; Office Hours: Monday 8 to 9 PM (by appointment) e-mail: arnd.jurgensen@utoronto.ca

Course Objectives
This course will introduce students to the main themes, issues and controversies in the making and execution of U.S. foreign policy. The course will be divided into two sections. The first section will examine the institutional context, traditions and history of U.S. foreign policy making as well as the interactions between foreign and domestic politics in the U.S.. The second half of the course will explore U.S. foreign policies with respect to a number of specific regions and issues in the world.

Format and Requirements
The course will meet for a two hour class every Monday. Each class will begin with a lecture, followed by class discussions and questions. Participation is strongly encouraged. Students will be responsible for the materials covered in the lectures as well as the readings (which will not always cover the same material). An effort will be made to link class discussions to current events, wherever possible. It is therefore recommended that students keep themselves informed of current developments by reading the New York Times or Washington Post as well as Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy etc..

Mid-term test: 20% (one hour in class December 3)
Research Paper 40% (Due at the beginning of class February 25)
Final Examination 40% (TBD)

Topics for research papers can be chosen by students but must be related to some aspect of the making or implementation of U.S. foreign policy. Students are encouraged to submit a proposal including a topic, research question, a tentative hypothesis and bibliography in class October 29 (no more than 250 words) in order to receive early feedback on their research projects. If you choose not to take advantage of this opportunity, such feedback can not be guaranteed later. The length of the paper should not exceed 3500 words (not including references). Late papers will be penalized at the rate of 2% per day including weekends. Extensions will be granted only with documentary evidence of illness or other emergencies. Students are required to keep a copy of all submitted work.
Required Texts

James M. McCormick; American Foreign Policy and Process, 6th Ed.; Wadsworth-Thompson Learning 2014

Course Reader: Posted on the course Blackboard/Portal site
The book is available for purchase at the University of Toronto Bookstore. Additional readings may be announced in class and posted on the course portal site.
Recommended readings are identified by *

Lecture Topics and Readings for Fall Term by Week

Sep. 10: Introduction
Readings: none

Sep. 17: Continuity and Change in U.S. Foreign Policy
Readings: McCormick: chapter 1

Sep. 24: The Constitution and U.S. Foreign Policy
Readings: McCormick, chapter 8
U.S. v. Curtis Wright Export Co.
Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co. v. Sawyer

Oct. 1: American Political Culture and U.S. Foreign Policy
Readings: Loren Baritz, Backfire, chapter 1

Oct. 8: Thanks Giving Holiday

Oct. 15: Historical Patterns I: From Colony to Great Power

Oct. 22: Historical Patterns II: From Superpower to Global Hegemon
Readings: McCormick, chapter 2

Oct. 29: The President and the making of U.S. Foreign Policy  
Readings: McCormick: chapter 7

Nov. 5: Reading Week

Nov. 12: Bureaucracy I: The National Security Council and the State Department  
Readings: McCormick: chapter 9

Nov. 19: Bureaucracy II: The Military Establishment  
Readings: McCormick: chapter 10  

Nov. 26: Bureaucracy III: The Intelligence Community  
Gabriel Kolko, “The Limits of Intelligence”, in World in Crisis, Pluto Press 2009, Pg. 126-46

Dec. 3: In Class Midterm Examination

Dec. 6: Bureaucracy IV: The N.E.C. and Foreign Economic Bureaucracy  
Readings: Ashley J. Tellis; The geopolitics of the TTIP and TPP

Jan. 7: Groups, Elections & Mass Media  
Readings: McCormick: chapter 11 &12  
Sherry Ricchiardi, “Missed Signals” American Journalism Review, Aug./Sep. 2004

Jan. 14: Decisionmaking Theory and U.S. Foreign Policy  
Jan. 21: Implications of U.S. Foreign Policy on Domestic Politics: the war on terrorism

David Kaye, America’s Honeymoon with the ICC:will Washington’s Love for International Law Last?; Foreign Affairs, April 2013

Feb. 4: Nuclear Deterrence and High Tech Warfare
*David Rhode; The Obama Doctrine: How the Presidents Secret Wars are Backfiring; Foreign Policy, March/April 2012, 65-69

Feb. 11: U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America: Promoting Democracy?
Katherine E. McCoy; Trained to Torture? The Human Rights Effects of Military Training at the School of the Americas, Latin American Perspectives, Issue 145, Vol.32, no.2, Nov.2005, pp. 47-64

Feb. 18: Reading Week

Feb. 25: U.S. foreign policy toward the Middle East
Readings: John B. Judis; Imperial Amnesia, Foreign Policy, July/August 2004,
March 4 & 11:

**U.S. foreign policy toward Asia: Beyond Vietnam**

Readings:

- Henry M. Paulson Jr.; A Strategic Economic Engagement; Foreign Affairs, October 2008

March 18 & 25:

**U.S. foreign policy toward Europe, Russia and the Soviet Successor States**

Readings:

- Ronald D. Asmus; Europes Eastern Promise: Rethinking NATO and EU Enlargement; Foreign Affairs, January/February 2008
- George Kennan; The Sources of Soviet Conduct, Foreign Affairs,, 25.4 July 1947
- Graham Alison and Owen Conte Jr. et. al.; Avoiding Nuclear Anarchy, excerpt pg 3-17, 1996
- Andrei Schleifer &Daniel Treisman; Why Moscow Says No, Foreign Affairs, 90.1 Jan./Feb. 2011
- Robert Legvold; The Russia File: How to Move toward a Strategic Partnership; Foreign Affairs 88.4, July-August 2009, p.78

April 1:

**Conclusions**

Readings:

McCormick: Conclusion and chapter 13
A WARNING ABOUT PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is an academic offence with a severe penalty.

It is essential that you understand what plagiarism is and that you do not commit it. In essence, it is the theft of the thoughts or words of others, without giving proper credit. You must put others’ words in quotation marks and cite your source(s). You must give citations when using others’ ideas, even if those ideas are paraphrased in your own words. Plagiarism is unacceptable in a university.

The University of Toronto provides a process that faculty members must initiate when they suspect a case of plagiarism. In the Department of Political Science, suspected evidence of plagiarism must be reported to the Chairman.

A faculty member may not mark an assignment or assess a penalty if he or she finds evidence of plagiarism – the matter must be reported. The Chairman, or Dean, will assess the penalty.

The following are some examples of plagiarism:

1. Submitting as your own an assignment written by someone else.
2. Quoting an author without indicating the source of the words.
3. Using words, sentences, or paragraphs written by someone else and failing to place quotation marks around the material and reference the source and author. **Using either quotation marks or reference alone is not sufficient. Both must be used!**
4. Adapting an author’s ideas or theme and using it as your own without referencing the original source.
5. Seeking assistance from a friend or family member in respect to work you claim as your own.
If you are not sure whether you have committed plagiarism, it is better to ask a faculty member than risk discovery and be forced to accept an academic penalty.

Plagiarism is **cheating**. It is considered a **serious offence** against intellectual honesty and intellectual property. Penalties for an undergraduate can be **severe**.

At a minimum, a student is likely to receive a “0” mark for the assignment or test in question. But a further penalty is often assessed, such as a further reduction from the course mark or placing a permanent notation of the incident on an academic record.

**Some website listed below on avoiding plagiarism:**
‘How to Use Sources and Avoid Plagiarism’ - available at:

[http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html](http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html)

Other Advisory Material available at:
[www.utoronto.ca/writing](http://www.utoronto.ca/writing)