

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Department of Political Science
Political Science 342: United States Foreign Policy

Prof. Jonathan R. Strand
Phone: 895-3356
Office Hours: M & W 1:00-2:30 PM (and by appointment)

Fall 2007
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Course Content: This course examines the institutions, processes and people involved in making and implementing the foreign policy of the United States. The course surveys the history of American foreign policy from the 19th Century to the present with special focus on the post-Cold War era. Following this, the course examines the central actors in the foreign policy-making process. The last portion of the course focuses on the U.S. military intervention in the post-Cold War era and U.S. foreign economic policy in the age of globalization.

Course Objectives: The primary goal of this course is to provide students with a theoretical and historical overview of U.S. foreign policy. To this end this Political Science 342 considers a variety of important topics, such as America's role in an increasingly integrated world economy, security policy, the spread of democracy, intervention, human rights, and nuclear proliferation.

Required Texts:

Bronson, R. (2006) *Thicker than Oil: America's Uneasy Partnership with Saudi Arabia*. New York: Oxford.
Carter, R.G., ed., (2005) *Contemporary Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy*. 2nd Edition Washington, DC: CQ Press.
Snow, D.M. (2005) *United States Foreign Policy: Politics Beyond the Water's Edge*. 3rd Edition Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Course Requirements:

Exams: There are two exams in this course worth 100 points each. All make-up exams are scheduled for Wednesday December 6th at 1:30 PM. Make-up exams will only be allowed when the instructor is notified in writing *before* the scheduled exam. Please note that the final exam must be taken during the officially scheduled time.

Scholarly Book Review: A book review of *Thicker than Oil* worth 100 points will be due on November 21nd.

Class Presentation: In teams, students will present cases from the Carter text (50 points).

Class Participation and attendance, including quizzes, will account for another 50 points. Make-up quizzes will not be offered. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Missing more than 3 classes lowers your final grade by one-third (e.g., an A- turns into a B+). Missing more than 5 classes determines that your grade is an F.

Students who arrive late or leave early will be marked absent. Disruptions – such as using a cell phone, text messenger, pager, computer or other device – will have a deleterious effect on your participation grade. *The instructor requires all cell phones and pagers to be switched off during class.* Electronic devices, including language translation equipment, may not be used during exams. Recording devices may not be used at anytime; if any unauthorized recording is made and distributed you will be subject to civil suit. If you use a computer to take notes the instructor reserves the right to obtain a copy of your notes within 24 hours of the request; failure to comply with this will result in a failing grade for the course. Late assignments will be penalized 20 percent per day beyond the due date. Incompletes will only be offered when requested in writing on behalf of a student by the Chair of the Department of Political Science or the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. All grade disputes must be in writing. Students who expect to miss class because of the observance of a religious holiday will have an opportunity to make up missed work given that the instructor has been notified in writing regarding the anticipated absence by the last day of late registration (August 31, 2007). Students who expect to miss class due to an officially sanctioned, UNLV activity (e.g., intercollegiate athletics) must notify the instructor in writing at least 7 days prior to the absence and provide written verification of participation.

The instructor reserves the right to have students' assignments submitted electronically and assessed by plagiarism detection software. The University requires all members of the University Community to be familiar with and to follow copyright and fair use laws. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair

use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under University policies. To help familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, the University encourages you to visit its copyright page at: www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright. Plagiarism of any form will result in a failing grade for the course and the instructor will file a case with the Office of Student Conduct.

Student Accommodation: The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The DRC is the official office to review and house disability documentation for students, and to provide them with an official Academic Accommodation Plan to present to the faculty if an accommodation is warranted. Faculty should not provide students accommodations without being in receipt of this plan. UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, offering reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137, and the contact numbers are: VOICE (702) 895-0866, TTY (702) 895-0652, FAX (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: <http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability>.

Course Schedule: (Note: The instructor may alter the schedule as needed)

Date	Topic	Readings
8/27	Themes in U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1
8/29	Themes in U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1
9/3	Holiday	no class
9/5	Early U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1
9/10	The Cold War Post Cold War	Snow Chapters 2
9/12	Post Cold War	Snow Chapters 3
9/17	The President	Snow Chapter 4
9/19	The President	Snow Chapter 4
9/24	The President	Snow Chapter 4; Carter Chapter 4
9/26	Executive Branch Agencies	Snow Chapter 5
10/1	Executive Branch Agencies	Snow Chapter 5
10/3	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
10/8	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
10/10	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
10/15	Exam 1	
10/17	Interest Groups	Snow Chapter 7
10/22	Media & Public Opinion	Snow Chapter 8
10/24	Media & Public Opinion	Snow Chapter 8
10/29	Security	Snow Chapter 9
10/31	Media & Public Opinion	Carter Chapter 1
11/5	Security	Snow Chapter 9, Carter Chapter 5
11/7	Discussion of Bronson	Bronson <i>passim</i>
11/12	Holiday	no class
11/14	Terrorism	Carter Chapters 2 & 3
11/19	Terrorism	Carter Chapter 6 & 15
11/21	CTBT	Carter Chapter 7
11/26	ICC	Carter Chapter 13
11/28	Global Economic Relations	Snow Chapter 10
12/3	Global Economic Relations	Carter Chapters 9, 10 & 11
12/5	Global Economic Relations	Snow Chapter 12 & 14
12/12	FINAL EXAM	10:10 AM to 12:10 PM (subject to change)