

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

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Computer Issues: For passwords, access issues and other computer problems contact the Student Computing Services Help Desk at 702-895-0761. Alternatively you can use to the WebCampus Presidium Support site at <http://supportcenteronline.com>

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. ISBN: 0195167430.
- Carter, R.G., ed., (2007) *Contemporary Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy*. 3rd Edition Washington, DC: CQ Press. ISBN: 087289472X.
- Johnson, L. (2007) *Seven Sins of American Foreign Policy*. New York: Pearson Longman. ISBN: 032141585x.
- Snow, D.M. (2005) *United States Foreign Policy: Politics Beyond the Water's Edge*. 3rd Edition Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. ISBN: 0534631533.

Course Requirements:

Exams: There are three exams in this course. The first two are worth 100 points each. The final exam is worth 50 points. All make-up exams are scheduled for May 8th at 9:30 am. Make-up exams will only be allowed when the instructor is notified in writing *before* the scheduled exam.

Scholarly Book Review: A book review of *Thicker than Oil* worth 100 points will be due on April 15th.

Class Presentation: In teams, students will present cases from the Carter text. Teams will also prepare a slideshow document to be shared with the rest of the class (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.

In-Class Question: At least once during the semester each student will be called on to answer a question related to the assigned readings. Grading will be based on the ability of the student to apply the readings to the question. This assignment is worth 50 points.

Assignment	Points
Mid-term exams	200
Final exam	50
Book review	100
Quizzes	50
Presentation	50
Question	50
Total	500

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. 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
1/22	Themes in U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1
1/24	Early U.S. Foreign Policy	Snow Chapter 1; Johnson Chapter 1
1/29	Cold War	Snow Chapter 2
1/31	Post Cold War	Snow Chapter 3
2/5	The President	Snow Chapter 4
2/7	The President	Snow Chapter 4
2/12	The President	Snow Chapter 4
2/14	Executive Branch Agencies	Snow Chapter 5; Johnson Chapter 7
2/19	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6
2/21	The Congress	Snow Chapter 6; Johnson Chapter 2
2/26	Exam 1	
2/28	Interest Groups	Snow Chapter 7
3/4	Media & Public Opinion	Snow Chapter 8; Johnson Chapter 5
3/6	Security	Snow Chapter 9; Johnson Chapter 4
3/12	Security	Snow Chapter 9; Johnson Chapter 3
3/14	Security	Johnson Chapter 5; John Mueller (2005) "Six Rather Unusual Propositions about Terrorism," <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> 17: 487–505.
3/18-3/20	Holiday	Spring break
3/25	Global Economic Relations	Snow Chapter 11
3/27	Global Economic Relations	Snow Chapter 11; Johnson Chapter 6
4/1	Discussion of Bronson	Bronson <i>passim</i>
4/3	Exam 2	
4/8	Intervention Policy	Carter Chapters 1 & 2
4/10	Intervention Policy/Defense	Carter Chapters 3 & 4
4/15	National Security/Defense Policy	Carter Chapters 5 & 6
4/17	National Security/Defense Policy	Carter Chapters 7 & 8
4/20	Trade Policy	Carter Chapters 9 & 10
4/24	Trade Policy	Carter Chapters 10 & 11
4/29	Trade Policy/Multilateralism	Carter Chapters 12 & 13
5/1	Multilateralism	Carter Chapters 14 & 15
5/6	Future Directions in USFP	Snow Chapter 14; Johnson Conclusion
5/8	Review for final	
5/15	FINAL EXAM	