

AMH 3511: HISTORY OF AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS, SINCE 1914

Fall 2004
(Section 1425)

M/W/F, 3rd Period
Keene-Flint 105

Instructor: Robert J. McMahon
Office: Keene-Flint 233
Phone: 392-0271
e-mail: rmcmahon@history.ufl.edu
Office hours: Monday, 1:00-2:30; Wednesday, 10:30-noon

Required Readings: (note: all books are available at Goering's Bookstore)

Michael H. Hunt, Crises in U.S. Foreign Policy: An International History Reader (Yale University Press)

Robert D. Schulzinger, U.S. Diplomacy Since 1900 (Oxford U. Press)

John Lewis Gaddis, Surprise, Security, and the American Experience (Harvard U. Press)

David Reynolds, From Munich to Pearl Harbor: Roosevelt's America and the Origins of the Second World War (Ivan R. Dee)

Melvyn P. Leffler, The Specter of Communism: The United States and the Origins of the Cold War, 1917-1953 (Hill & Wang)

Stephen G. Rabe, The Most Dangerous Area in the World: John F. Kennedy Confronts Communist Revolution in Latin America (University of North Carolina Press)

Andrew Bacevich, American Empire: The Realities and Consequences of U.S. Diplomacy (Harvard U. Press)

Course Objectives:

To examine how and why the role of the United States in the world has changed in the period from World War I to the present. I expect students to develop intelligent, clear, and logical ideas about the goals, purposes, tactics, and consequences of American foreign policy during this period.

Course Requirements:

Regular attendance in class is required, and careful preparation for and participation in class discussions is expected.

There will be a mid-term exam (scheduled for Friday, Oct. 8) and a final exam (on December 17, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.). The exams, which will be primarily essay in character, will draw equally from lectures and readings.

In addition, two written assignments (4-5 pages each) will be required. Information on the written assignments will be given in class.

Grading:

The mid-term will count approximately 25% toward the final grade; the two papers 20% each; and the final 35%. Regular, effective participation in class discussion will also factor positively in a student's final course grade.

Schedule of Readings:

1. Week of Aug. 23 -- Gaddis; Schulzinger, ch. 1
2. Week of August 30 -- Hunt, intro. & ch. 1; Schulzinger, chs. 3-4
3. Week of Sept. 6 – Schulzinger, chs. 5-6
4. Week of Sept. 13 – Schulzinger, ch. 7-8; begin Reynolds
5. Week of Sept. 20 – complete Reynolds; Hunt, ch. 2; Schulzinger, ch. 9
6. Week of Sept. 27 – Hunt, ch. 3; Schulzinger, ch. 10; Leffler
7. Week of Oct. 4 – review previous reading (exam on Oct. 8)
8. Week of Oct. 11 – Hunt, ch. 4
9. Week of Oct. 18 – Cullather; Schulzinger, ch. 11
10. Week of Oct. 25– Hunt, ch. 5; Rabe
11. Week of Nov. 1– Schulzinger, ch. 12; Hunt ch. 6
12. Week of Nov. 8– Schulzinger, ch. 13
13. Week of Nov. 15 – Hunt ch. 7; Schulzinger, ch. 14
14. Week of Nov. 22 – begin Bacevich
15. Week of Nov. 29 – complete Bacevich; Schulzinger, ch. 15; Hunt, ch. 8
16. Week of Dec. 6 – review previous reading (Dec. 8 is the final class of the term)