

Course is being revised for teaching in SPRING 2012

HIST 4451, NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY, 1898-PRESENT

Spring 2010

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Office Hrs: Drop-in: MTWTh 8-12; appointment useful

TEXTS:

- Jones, Crucible of Power
- Levering, The Cold War
- Valone, Two Centuries of US Foreign Policy

GOAL: To acquaint you with the important trends in modern US foreign affairs. Course focus will be on forces that have shaped the American global outlook and the impact/outcomes of those forces. Class discussions will focus on major issues raised by the assigned readings.

CALENDAR: Please see the COURSE CALENDAR showing test dates, topics, readings, etc.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required. Please see the statement on attendance in the Augusta State University Catalog. Attendance does affect your final grade.

DISCUSSION OF READINGS: Please be prepared to discuss the readings on the days for which they are assigned. "Be prepared" means having actual notes on your readings.

TESTS: There will be three tests. The tentative format for these is essay plus identification. The tests are not comprehensive.

MAKEUP TESTS: All makeup tests will be given on **MARCH 31** during class time. No exceptions.

PAPERS/DISCUSSIONS: In this course you will write three short papers and we will have a group discussion of each of the three.

Topics: Below, you will find listed the TOPICS that your three papers will be about, followed by a list of suggested QUESTIONS from which you may choose one for each paper – or you may formulate your own. The purpose of the QUESTIONS is to help you focus your papers.

Paper and Discussion A

TOPIC: USA NEUTRALITY IN WORLD WAR I, 1914-1917

QUESTIONS: Why did the USA remain neutral in the first few years of World War I (1914-1917)? How significant was the perspective of Woodrow Wilson? How important was domestic politics? How important was the ethnic makeup of the United States? How did the Easter Rebellion influence the American popular perspective? Why did the *Lusitania* incident not lead to war?

Paper and Discussion B

TOPIC: THE AMERICAN ESCALATION IN VIETNAM, 1961-1965

QUESTIONS: Why did the United States expand its military posture in Southeast Asia (1961-

1965)? What were the roles of Kennedy, Johnson, McNamara, and other influential individuals? What was the role of domestic politics? What was the contemporary view of global communism? How did it relate to our diplomacy with the Soviet Union? How important was ideology? How significant was the Gulf of Tonkin? What was the legal/constitutional meaning of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution?

Paper and Discussion C

TOPIC: THE FALL OF THE SHAH OF IRAN AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

QUESTIONS: How did the United States respond to the diplomatic/strategic problems caused by the fall of the Iranian government (1979-1989)? Why was the fall not anticipated? Why was Iran regarded as so significant? What were the policy options considered in response to the embassy situation? What attempts were made to develop ties with the new Iranian leadership? What was the constitutional issue raised by the Iran-Contra Affair?

Length: 4-7 pages

Bibliography: Three or more sources, one of which must be a primary source. May I suggest FRUS?

Style for endnotes or footnotes and bibliography: Chicago Style Manual (Kate Turabian).

Due Dates: Papers are due on the day of the scheduled discussion: see Course Calendar.

Non-ASU materials: Use of non-ASU materials is highly encouraged; do give me a photocopy of any pages you cite material from. This is necessary to enable me to do my cite-checking duties.

Discussion: On the day shown on Course Calendar, we will have a discussion of the topic. Be prepared to share your findings – and to discuss the issue with the entire class.

NOW AND THEN: What does diplomatic history tell us about current foreign policy issues? On March 19, 2003, the USA and its allies invaded Iraq (second time). One of the great controversies among students of foreign policy is this: Does President George W. Bush's reflect American traditions or does it constitute a break with those traditions? To answer this question, you will compare his policies in the Middle East with the outlook and thinking of earlier presidents. You may choose the presidents (up to 3-4).

Guidelines:

You may use the writings of historians and other experts on this subject. In fact, you will gain points if you incorporate their thinking.

You may use materials from the popular media that directly address this question.

Be prepared to summarize your conclusion(s) verbally.

Prepare a ONE PAGE SUMMARY of your conclusions and LIST YOUR SOURCES.

Primary sources are always good.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Your Class Participation grade is based on quantity of participation, quality of participation, and attendance. You may turn in your notes of your readings to improve this score.

Criteria for Grade

Test 1: 100	Paper/discussion A: 100		A = 700
Test 2: 100	Paper/discussion B: 100		B = 600
Test 3: 100	Paper/discussion C: 100		C = 500
N&T 50	Other class particip: 100	TOTAL: 750	D = 400
			F = 0

Adjustments for Attendance:

0-1 absences = +35 points	2-3 absences = +25 points
4-5 absences = +10 points	6 absences = no impact
7 or more absences = - 20 points per absence	

HELP: Please do not hesitate to come and see me if you have any questions regarding any aspect of the course.

TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR, Spring 2010

DATES	UNIT/TOPIC	READINGS:	
		J=Jones, L=Levering (Chapters unless otherwise indicated)	
1/4	V=Valone (document numbers) Course Requirements		
	I. INTRODUCTION		
1/6	So What Is Diplomatic History?	L, Foreword	
1/11	The Good Old Days	V, 1-3	
1/13	[cont'd]	V, 4-9	
1/20	[cont'd]	V, 10-14	
	II. BIRTH OF AN EMPIRE, 1898-1917		
1/25	Introduction and War	J, 1	V, 14-19
1/27	Progressivism	J, 2	V, 20
2/1	Wilson and World War I	J, 3	V, 21-23
2/3	[cont'd]		
2/8	Paper A		
2/10	Test 1		
	III. AN AMBIGUOUS AGE, 1917-1941		
2/15	War and Treaties	J, 4	V, 24-27
2/17	Disengagement and Depression	J, 5	V, 28-30
2/22	Aggression East and West	J, 6	V, 31-35
2/24	World War II: The Neutral Period	J, 7	V, 36-39
	IV. RISE TO GLOBALISM, 1941-1964		
3/1	World War II: Giant Coalitions	J, 8	V, 40-43
3/3	[cont'd]		
3/8	The Cold War Begins	J, 9	V, 44-49
3/10	First Clashes	J, 10	V, 50
3/15	New Look and New Frontier	J, 11, 12	V, 51-55
3/17	Paper B		

L, Pref., Prol., 1(-33)

L, 1 (33-end)

L, 2

3/22	Test 2		
	V. LIMITS TO POWER, 1964-1991		
3/24	The Vietnam War	J, 13 V, 56-58	L, 3(-109)
3/29	Detente and the Collapse of Consensus	J, 14, 15 V, 59-64	L, 3(109-), 4
3/31	MAKEUPS		
4/12	The Collapse of the Soviet Union	J, 16 V, 65-69	L, Epilogue
	VI. THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE, 1991-		
4/14	The Fall of the Wall	J, 17	V, 70-71
4/19	Changing Issues		
4/21	The Current Context	J, 18	
4/26	PAPER C		
4/28	Now and Then		
5/3	Test 3 [Final]: 6 pm – 7:15 pm	NOTE TIME!	

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR: HIST 6451

RESEARCH PAPER

LENGTH: about 12-15 pages, typed, double-spaced.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Minimum of 3 books and 3 journal articles OR 4 books and 2 journal articles OR 5 books.

Please note that “minimum” and “good” are not the same thing.

DUE DATE: Paper must be turned in by NOVEMBER 21 2007.

LATE PAPERS: There will be no late papers.

STYLE FOR ENDNOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Use endnotes, not footnotes, not parentheticals.

You can use either a historical journal or the Chicago Manual of Style by Kate Turabian as a guide.

If you get confused about style issues, please check with me.

OFF-CAMPUS MATERIALS:

Yes, definitely use.

If you are not familiar with Inter-Library Loan, I will be happy to go over this with you.

Important: For off-campus material, you **must** photocopy the **pages** from which you take information and quotes and turn them in **with** your paper.

NET MATERIALS:

You may use internet materials.

The Internet normally counts as 1 book in your bibliography. Intensive ‘Net use may be counted as 2 books.

ON-CAMPUS MATERIALS:

Please make sure that your on-campus sources are back on the shelf in the library in time for me to check your sources, etc.

CHOOSING A TOPIC:

A paper should have both a TOPIC and a THESIS. In other words: (a) think about what you would like to write about, and (b) think about what you are going to say about what you are writing about.

EXAMPLE: a TOPIC would be Kennedy's actions during the Cuban Missile Crisis: a THESIS would be that Khrushchev's behavior was actuated primarily by domestic politics. **Clear your topic with me before you begin research & writing.**

Criteria for Grade

Test 1: 100	Paper/discussion A: 100	A = 890
Test 2: 100	Paper/discussion B: 100	B = 780
Test 3: 100	Paper/discussion C: 100	C = 640
N&T	50 Other class particip: 100	D = 525
PAPER: 200		F = 0

Adjustments for Attendance:

0-1 absences = +35 points

2-3 absences = +25 points

4-5 absences = +10 points

6 absences = no impact

7 or more absences = - 20 points per absence