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United States Diplomatic History/Diplomatic Relations

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC HISTORY/DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

HIST/POLS 3311                                 Spring 1996                                 Dr. Samson

Hardy 10     Office: MWF 8-9, 10-11, MW 2-4; TR 8-9:30, 2:30-4   Phone: 939-4551

DESCRIPTION

A study of the foreign policy of the United States since it emerged as a world power about 1900. Emphasis is placed on the causes and effects of U.S. policy decisions in dealing with Latin America, Asia, and Europe; and the U.S. role in World Wars I and II. Present world problems receive special consideration.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Each student is responsible for assigned readings and should keep a looseleaf notebook of class materials.
2. Participation is an essential part of class. Reading assignments should be completed before the class meets. Be prepared to discuss textbook material, readings, and current events. Each student will lead the discussion of specific assigned readings.
3. Regular attendance is required. Lengthy absences and erratic attendance tend to affect grades. Exams must be taken at the scheduled date and time.
4. Students will be tested on the lecture, reading, and discussion material through two short answer and essay exams. (40% apiece)
5. Each student will make an oral presentation (10-20 minutes) on a historical or contemporary topic. Presentations will be scheduled between March 5 and April 30 and must be accompanied by a 5-7 page brief, typed and double-spaced. (10%)
6. Each student will take a pass/fail political geography quiz.
7. Each student will write a 4-6 page book abstract (10%) or two 2-3 page journal article abstracts (5% apiece), typed and double-spaced. Abstracts are due April 30.

READING LIST

Textbooks

Stoessinger, John. Crusaders and Pragmatists, 2nd ed. [C]

Reserve Desk

Bemis, Samuel. Diplomatic History of the United States.
Hamilton, Jay, Madison. The Federalist. [F]
Johnson, Paul. Modern Times. [J]
Supplementary Readings. Some to be announced [S] [Gray Notebook]

SCHEDULE

PART ONE: AMERICA’S EMERGENCE AS A WORLD POWER

Introduction: January 18-23


America’s Bid for Empire: January 25

Readings: A. 2; S. William Graham Sumner, "The Conquest of the United States by Spain," Mark Twain
Discussion Assignments: P. 1 Kennan, Williams, Rosenberg, Hogan, Dallek; M. 1 McCormick, Iriye, Rosenberg, Leffler, Clifford, Immerman

Gunboat Diplomacy and Hemispheric Hegemony: January 30-February 1

Readings: A. 3
Discussion: P. 1 and M 1 (continued)

First World War: Ostensible Neutrality: February 1-6

Readings: A. 4; P. 2 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 2 Gregory, Coogan

First World War: Autonomous Co-Belligerency: February 8-13

Readings: A. 5; C. 1; P. 3 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 3 Link, Widenor

Consequences of the Peace: February 15-20

Readings: A. 6; P. 4 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 4 Braeman; J. 1 (optional)
POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY QUIZ: February 20  (last 25 minutes of class)

Challenges to the Peace: February 22-27

Readings: A. 7-8; P. 5 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 5 Dallek, Utley; M. 5 Iriye, Chichiro, Heinrichs

Second World War: February 29-March 5

Readings: A. 9; C. 2; P. 6 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 6 Hess, Smith; M. 6 Marks; S. Kirk, Tolstoy

MIDTERM EXAM: March 7

PART TWO: THE COLD WAR AND BEYOND

Early Cold War: March 19-21

Readings: A. 10; C. 3; P. 7-9 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 7-9 Bernstein, Gaddis, Paterson, Strueck, Matray

Eisenhower Administration: March 26-28

Readings: A. 11; C. 4; P. 10 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 10 Greenstein, Schlesinger

Kennedy-Johnson Years: April 2-9

Readings: A. 12; C. 5-6; P. 11 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 11 Thomson, Kolko, Herring; M. 11 Berman

Nixon-Ford Era: April 11-16

Readings: A. 13; C. 7; P. 12 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 12 Stoessinger; M. 12 Gaddis, Garthoff, Isaacson

Late Cold War: April 18-25

Readings: A. 14; C. 8-9; P. 14 Selected Documents
Discussion: P. 14 Gaddis, Hoffman, Ball, Kennedy

Aftermath: April 30-May 2

Readings: A. 15; C. Epilogue
Discussion: M. 14 Paterson, Gaddis, MccGwire, Deudney and Ikenberry;
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Acheson. Present at the Creation.
Adler. Isolationist Impulse.
Allison. Essence of Decision.
Ambrose. Rise to Globalism.
Amstutz. Christian Ethics and U. S. Foreign Policy.
Barnet. Intervention and Revolution.
Bartlett, ed. Record of American Diplomacy.
Beard. President Roosevelt and the Coming of War, 1941.
Beisner. Twelve Against Empire.
Bemis. American Foreign Policy and the Blessings of Liberty.
Burnham. Suicide of the West.
Chomsky. American Power and the New Mandarins.
Cole. America First.
Dallek. Franklin Roosevelt and American Foreign Policy, 1932-1945.
Dehio. Precarious Balance.
Divine. Illusion of Neutrality.
Doenecke and Wilz, From Isolation to War, 1931-1941.
Gaddis. The Long Peace.
Gardner. Creation of the American Empire.
Iriye.
Janis. Victims of Groupthink.
Kissinger. Diplomacy.
Kolko. Roots of American Foreign Policy.
Lazo. Dagger in the Heart.
Link. Wilson the Diplomatist.
Lippmann. U.S. Foreign Policy.
McCormick. America's Half-Century.
Maddox. New Left and the Origins of the Cold War.
Marks. Independence on Trial.
Morley. Foreign Policy of the United States.
Morris. Our Globe Under Siege III.
Murphy. Diplomat Among Warriors.
Neustadt. Alliance Politics.
Niebuhr. Children of Light, Children of Darkness.
Nixon. Seize the Moment.
Novak. Moral Clarity in the Nuclear Age.
Paterson. Meeting the Communist Threat.
Radosh. Prophets on the Right.
Tansill. Back Door to War.
Warburg. West in Crisis.
Welles. Time for Decision.
Wildavsky. Beyond Containment.
Williams. Tragedy of American Diplomacy.