

International Relations INR 3106  
**International Relations of the United States**

Summer B 2002  
T R 12:30 - 3:15 pm  
Section 01

Dr. John F. Clark  
and  
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"There is no salvation for America in a frame of mind that tries to  
shut out its world environment."

George F. Kennan

*INR 3106* focuses on the relationship between the United States and its "world environment." It takes as its point of departure Kennan's observation that the U. S. cannot afford to ignore the rest of the world. Policy makers in this (or any other) country must therefore be aware of the international, domestic, and even interpersonal settings in which they will pursue their policy goals. Understanding these settings will not only help us to understand how U. S. foreign policy is made, but also to identify likely constraints on future policy decisions.

In addition to encouraging awareness of the myriad constraints on U. S. foreign policy, *INR 3106* has two further objectives. First, it seeks to introduce students to some of the most common techniques of foreign policy *analysis*. Second, at the same time, it seeks to develop an applied awareness of post-World War II U. S. foreign relations and of contemporary foreign policy debates. The interplay between these two objectives — developing both *applied* and *analytical* knowledge about U. S. foreign policy — will help students to develop their capacities for critical thinking, social analysis, and written expression.

**Required Texts**

1. Gordon Craig and Alexander George, Force and Statecraft, 3rd edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995).
2. Robert Schulzinger, U. S. Diplomacy Since 1900, 4th edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998).
3. Stephen J. Valone, Two Centuries of U. S. Foreign Policy (Westport, CT: Praeger, 1995).
4. Readings for INR 3106, "International Relations of the United States" (available in campus copy center).

**Grading**

Your grade will be determined on the basis of the course requirements, described below, in the following manner:

Attendance, Participation, and Civility	10%
In-class Quizzes	20%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

## Course Policies

Attendance, Participation, and Civility: Attendance and active participation in class are essential to success in this course — the mid-term and final exams will cover material presented in the lectures but *not* in the assigned readings. It is also important to ***do the assigned readings before coming to class***. All students will be expected to participate in classroom discussions of these readings. In these discussions, and at other times, students should exhibit respect toward their classmates. This includes refraining from all of the following: ***arriving late, talking in class, and disrupting the class with beepers or cellular phones***. Students who ignore these policies will receive a lower grade.

In the event that a class must be cancelled, you are still responsible for the assigned readings. Do not assume that a class is cancelled unless so informed by your professor or by a university representative *in person*.

In-class Quizzes: Classes will frequently begin with unannounced brief quizzes on the assigned readings. *These quizzes cannot be made up*. The two lowest quiz grades, however, will be dropped (this has the effect of allowing two absences, without regard to the reason). Please note that although quizzes will ordinarily take place at the beginning of class, they may also occur at another time, *such as the beginning of the second half of class*.

Mid-Term and Final Exams: The examinations will cover all lectures, classroom discussions, and reading assignments from the course. The format of the tests will be described in class before the exam. The exams are cumulative. You will be permitted to take a make-up exam ***only*** in the event of illness or other serious extenuating circumstances, and ***only*** if you contact one of the instructors ***before*** the scheduled examination date.

## Academic Integrity

Be certain that you are familiar with the University's rules concerning academic misconduct as described in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating undermine the spirit of responsible inquiry on which the University relies. Cheating will result in severe penalties (which, according to University policy, may include a failing grade and/or expulsion from the University itself).

## Questions? Problems?

You are always welcome to discuss this course or other academic issues with either of the professors during office hours. We will also be happy to make an appointment for another time if necessary. Do not hesitate to consult one of us if you have any questions or problems.

Office Hours:

John Clark	DM 433A	T R 10:30-11:30 pm	clarkj@fiu.edu
Paul Kowert	DM 437C	T R 4:00-5:00 pm	kowert@fiu.edu

## Syllabus

**Note: All readings must be completed before the indicated class meeting.**

### 1. **Tuesday, July 2**

#### Introduction and Overview of U. S. Foreign Policy

*Overview of course. How is foreign policy made? On whose behalf?*

- Valone, documents 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 14, 15 (required background reading)
- Craig and George, Chapter 1, pp. 3-14 (required background reading)
- Video (in class) — "U. S. Expansion"

### **I. Evolution and Causes of U. S. Foreign Policy**

### 2. **Thursday, July 4**

**Holiday — No Class Meeting**

### 3. **Tuesday, July 9**

#### Hegemony, Expansion and World War I

*How did U. S. foreign policy evolve during the nineteenth century in a world dominated by other major powers? How did balance of power dynamics, alliances, and the growth of U. S. power affect U. S. policies in the early twentieth century?*

- Valone, documents 18-27
- Schulzinger, chapters 4-5
- Craig and George, pp. 35-38 (chapter 3, section III)

### 4. **Thursday, July 11**

#### World War II and U. S. Hegemony

*How did the U. S. address tensions between isolationism and internationalism? How did this tension manifest itself in U. S. support for collective security arrangements?*

- Valone, documents 28, 30, 32, 33, 36-40
- Schulzinger, chapters 6, 8-9
- Craig and George, chapter 8 (optional)
- Video (in class) — "The Road to War"

### 5. **Tuesday, July 16**

#### The Cold War

*Who started the Cold War? What were its underlying causes? What role did bureaucratic politics play in increasing the tensions between the superpowers?*

- Valone, documents 42-47, 49-52, 54, 55
- Craig and George, chapter 9 (optional)
- Readings 1: Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis"
- Video (in class) — "The Cold War Begins"

6. **Thursday, July 18**

Vietnam and U. S. Decline

*How did the U. S. become involved in Vietnam? How and why did it eventually abandon the war? What role did the dynamics of groupthink play in crisis decision making?*

- Valone, documents 56-58, 60, 61
- Schulzinger, chapters 12 (pp. 270-288 only), 13
- Craig and George, chapter 18 (pp. 252-254 only)
- Readings 2: Janis, "Escalation of the Vietnam War"

7. **Tuesday, July 23**

The End of the Cold War, U. S. Restoration, and the New World (Dis-)Order

*What brought about the end of the Cold War? Does it represent a restoration of U. S. hegemony? Is it the "end of history" or realism redux?*

- Valone, documents 62, 63, 65-71
- Schulzinger, chapter 14-15
- Craig and George, chapters 10-11
- Video (in class) — "The Cold War Ends"
- Readings 3: Wayne, "President Bush Goes to War"

## **II. Problems in U. S. Foreign Policy**

8. **Thursday, July 25**

MID-TERM EXAMINATION (*first half of class only*)

Conventional and Nuclear Force Structure

*Why does the U. S. buy the weapons it does? Is MAD really insane? Should the U. S. pursue a ballistic missile defense system?*

- Valone, documents 61, 68 (review)
- Craig and George, chapter 19
- Readings 4: Kagan and Schmitt, "Now May We Please Defend Ourselves?"
- Readings 5: Lewis, Gronlund, and Wright, "National Missile Defenses"

9. **Tuesday, July 30**

Deterrence, Compellence, and the Security Dilemma

*What are the requirements of deterrence and compellence? What strategic policies does the security dilemma permit?*

- Craig and George, chapters 13-15
- Readings 6: Axelrod, "The Problem of Cooperation"

10. **Thursday, August 1**

Foreign Economic Policy

*What are the main economic constraints faced by U. S. policy makers? Is another "great depression" impossible? Does the U. S. compete economically with other nations?*

- Schulzinger, chapter 3
- Readings 7: Krugman, "The Return of Depression Economics"
- Readings 8: Krugman, "Competitiveness: A Dangerous Obsession"
- Readings 9: Prestowitz, "Playing to Win"
- Readings 10: Thurow, "Microchips, Not Potato Chips"

11. **Tuesday, August 6**

Interest Group Politics and Foreign Policy

*How do relationships between Congress, the President, and interest groups affect U. S. foreign policy? Is U. S. policy making pluralist or elite-dominated? Was Eisenhower right to warn of the dangers of the military-industrial complex?*

- Schulzinger, chapter 7 (125-131 only)
- Readings 11: Kitfield, "The Folk Who Live on the Hill"
- Readings 12: Kegley and Wittkopf, "The Role of Congress in Foreign Policy Making"
- Readings 13: Kegley and Wittkopf, "The Transmission of Values, Beliefs, and Preferences," (pp. 294-317 only)

12. **Thursday, August 8**

Public Opinion and Foreign Policy

*Do Americans matter in the conduct of U. S. foreign policy? To what extent does public opinion constrain the President and other U. S. policy makers?*

- Schulzinger, chapter 7 (131-145 only)
- Craig and George, chapter 5
- Readings 13: Kegley and Wittkopf, "The Transmission of Values, Beliefs, and Preferences," (pp. 317-337 only)
- Readings 14: Lowi, "The High Cost of Winning"

13. **Tuesday, August 13**

Ethics and U. S. Foreign Policy

*Are U. S. policy makers constrained by considerations of morality?*

- Craig and George, chapter 20
- Readings 15: Coll, "The Meaning of Kosovo"
- Readings 16: Smith, "Morality and the Use of Force in a Unipolar World"
- Readings 17: Caplan, "Humanitarian Intervention"

14. **Thursday, August 15**

FINAL EXAMINATION (*last class meeting, same room*)