Course Description

At a time when world politics appears, and perhaps is, in a period of transition, it is important that we examine the historical and theoretical underpinnings of American foreign policy. This course is designed to achieve this goal by engaging the history as well as the intellectual debates central to American foreign policy past and present. This course does not rely on a textbook to achieve this goal, and it is not organized in the time honored tradition of lecture/exam, lecture/exam, and so forth. Rather, this course is grounded in careful consideration of ideas central to American foreign policy as they are discussed in a series of books; in turn, these ideas are discussed by the students and the instructor in small and large group formats. We will use this approach to explore the evolution of American foreign policy from its founding to the present period, after which you will submit to an exam. In the final phase of the course, students participate in a simulation that will allow students to engage in decision making on an issue familiar to American foreign policy. In doing so, students obtain a better feel for the dilemmas confronting past, present and future American policymakers.

Reading Materials

Seven books are required for the course (listed in the order that they will be discussed.) They are available at the UNT bookstore, online, at local booksellers (new and used), and many are available in the collections of local libraries. Although you need not have all seven books in your possession in the first week of the semester, you are expected to acquire each book with enough time to read it prior to our discussion in class. The books are as follows:


**Class Format**

The foundation of this course is discussion of the course readings. Students are expected to arrive to class each Monday having read the appropriate readings for the week. Each Monday, students will discuss the weekly reading in small groups prompted by questions provided by the professor, and each Wednesday students and the instructor will discuss the readings collectively.

**UNT Blackboard**

Student attendance, grades, etc., will be posted on the UNT Blackboard system. Additional information regarding upcoming course activities, adjustments to plans, etc., will also be posted on Blackboard *students are responsible for this information.* Hence, students should check their Blackboard account for the course regularly.

**Student Responsibilities**

**Weekly Meetings**

Attendance will be taken for this course during the first few minutes of class (if you arrive after this point, please alert me of this at the end of class so that it can be recorded correctly). Attendance records will be reported in Blackboard with a column marked by the class date and a value of “1” for attended. While I record your physical presence in the classroom, *participation* means actively engaging the course material, not merely attending and sitting quietly. If you pursue the latter strategy, you will not receive credit for participation. Contributions to group discussions on Monday and collective discussions on Wednesday will account for 30% of a student’s final grade. Midterm evaluation of student participation will be reported on Blackboard during the week of Oct. 17/19.

**Exam**

There will be a take-home essay exam. The exam will be released after class on Wednesday, Nov. 16 and is to be returned via the UNT Blackboard Turnitin.com submission system by 11:59 pm on Wednesday, November 23. The question(s) will be drawn from the material covered in the course readings and in-class discussion. The exam contributes 40% toward the student’s final grade.

**Simulation & Paper**

A simulation related to contemporary American foreign policy will be conducted on Nov. 21 (Instructions), Nov. 28 (Session I), Nov. 30 (Session II), Dec. 5 (Session III), and Dec. 7 (Debrief). Attendance is *required* during all simulation days. The paper requires students
to integrate ideas contained in the course readings and discussions with behavior observed
during the simulation in an analysis of approximately 10 double-spaced pages. The semester
paper is due on Thursday Dec. 15 by 11:59 pm via the UNT Blackboard Turnitin.com
dropbox system. Additional information regarding the paper will be forthcoming as the
semester progresses. The semester paper will contribute 30% to each student’s final grade.

**Winter Weather**

As winter weather approaches in late November and December, please monitor your Black
board and MyUNT email accounts for messages from me regarding course meetings. Due
to commuting hazards (me riding a motorcycle from my home in Fort Worth), I may cancel
class due to poor weather and prior to any declaration by the UNT Registrar.
## Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 Aug.</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Aug.</td>
<td>NO CLASS (Reading Kagan, Chs. 1–6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Sept.</td>
<td>NO CLASS (Reading Kagan, Chs. 1–6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Sept.</td>
<td>Discuss Kagan, Chs. 1–6</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/14 Sept.</td>
<td>Discuss Kagan, Chs. 7–12</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/21 Sept.</td>
<td>Discuss Cooper, Chs. 1–6</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/28 Sept.</td>
<td>Discuss Cooper, Chs. 7–12</td>
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<td>3/5 Oct.</td>
<td>Discuss Mead, all</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12 Oct.</td>
<td>Discuss Gaddis, all</td>
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<tr>
<td>17/19 Oct.</td>
<td>Films</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/26 Oct.</td>
<td>Discuss Kinzer, all</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 Oct./2 Nov.</td>
<td>Discuss Laqueur, all</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/9 Nov.</td>
<td>Discuss Christensen, all</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Nov.</td>
<td>Exam Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Nov.</td>
<td>NO CLASS (Exam Distributed, due via Blackboard, Wednesday, 11/23, 11:59 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Nov.</td>
<td>Simulation Instructions</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Nov.</td>
<td>NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Nov.</td>
<td>EXAM DUE (Blackboard, 11:59 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/30 Nov.</td>
<td>Simulation Sessions I &amp; II</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Dec.</td>
<td>Simulation Session III</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Dec.</td>
<td>Simulation Debrief</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 15</td>
<td>Simulation Paper Due via Blackboard, 11:59 pm</td>
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Course drop information: see schedule at – http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/schedule/scheduleclass.html

Policies on academic dishonesty: http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm

**Department Statement of ADA compliance**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation.

Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for **every** semester and must meet with **each** faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

University of North Texas -- Department of Political Science

**POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM**

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others' tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one's own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of "F" in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the field faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary coursework may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the case of undergraduate students, or the Graduate Studies Committee in the case of graduate students. These committees, acting as agents of the department Chair, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.
The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT’s policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), which may be located at http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf. Violations of academic integrity in this course will addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 “Student Standards of Academic Integrity

**Acceptable Student Behavior:**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.