Spring 2012
INR4102 American Foreign Policy
Instructor: Dr. Paul Vasquez, Department of Political Science

Class Location & Time:	Classroom 1 (CL1) Building 0105; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:30-11:20 A.M.
Office:	Howard Philips Hall 305B (Political Science Dept. main suite)
Phone:	(407) 823-3329
Office Hours:	Wednesday and Friday 1:30-3:30 P.M.; Thursdays 9:45-11:00 A.M. and Noon-2:45 P.M. & by appointment
Email:	paul.vasquez@ucf.edu

Course Description: America's foreign policy influences many aspects of our everyday life. Most visibly, it has implication for people who work in the country's military and foreign policy sectors, but it also has many other implications for us. Where can we travel overseas? Who can travel to the U.S? What foreign companies can do business within the United States and under what terms? How stable are many of the country's chief energy producing partners overseas? Can American firms sell goods freely and fairly in the markets of other countries? Can Washington inhibit the flow into the country of illegal drugs and other goods? All of these questions and many more are affected in by the nature of American foreign policy. In this course, we will attempt to understand the primary factors that contribute to the formation of American foreign policy.

Required text: Required readings include the following books on sale at the UCF Bookstore.

- Steven W. Hook and John Spanier. 2009. *American Foreign Policy Since World War II* (18th edition). Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.

- Jerel A. Rosati and James M. Scott. 2010. *The Politics of United States Foreign Policy*. United States: Thomson-Wadsworth.

Course goals: In terms of substance, this course is designed to give students a better understanding of: 1) the history of American foreign policy and 2) the role played by major bureaucratic and social institutions in the foreign policy process with respect to insights from political science. With regard to skill development, students will have the opportunity to 3) to improve their ability to write, think critically, and apply what they have learned.

Requirements: I will evaluate your performance in this class in accord with the table below. In four years of teaching I have never curved grades, and I do not anticipate doing so in the future.

A	B	C	D	
Tasks	**% of grade**	**Your score or average score for quizzes**	**Component Score = column B x column C**	**Due Date**
Quizzes	10			TBA (to be announced)
Exam 1	20			Friday, February 10
Exam 2	20			Wednesday, March 21
Research paper	25			Monday, April 16
Final Exam	25			Monday, April 30 @ 10:00 A.M. – 12:50 P.M.
Total	100		**Add each of your component scores to get your anticipated final grade**	

Quizzes: Between five and ten multiple choice quizzes will be given over the course of the semester. Some of these will be done individually, and some will be done collaboratively. Those done collaboratively will require you to at times identify more than 1 correct answer per question. I will drop your lowest quiz grade.

Exams 1 and 2: Written in-class exam will be administered possibly using a multiple choice format. Don't make the mistake in believing that because some multiple choice exams are easy that these will be easy. While each of these exams will focus largely on your understanding of new material, material previously covered may be examined as well. These exam questions will have only 1 correct answer per question.

Research paper: You will write a research paper that explains a particular event in American foreign policy with reference to a theory presented in class and in the readings (or in conversation with the instructor). Your account should consider historical factors, assesses the political nature of the event, and explain why another theoretical explanation is not as effective. Papers should be 5 pages in length. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the discussion of cheating and plagiarism in this syllabus before starting on this assignment.

Generally, all excellent work demonstrating originality, clarity of argument, effective use of evidence, and smooth writing will receive an A. All good and competent work will receive a B. Work with some significant flaws regarding repeated misunderstandings or misapplications of evidence or ideas will receive a C. Work with very significant flaws, such as missing the main goal of an assignment and consistently poor spelling or grammar will receive a D along with recommendations or requirements to speak with the instructor, any special counseling

and advising services, etc. as appropriate. Incompetent, negligent, or non-existent work will receive an F. Typically most students lose points on papers for me because of mechanical flaws in their writing (grammar, punctuation, unclearly worded sentences, etc.) so take steps to minimize those kinds of flaws in your work. Along with critical thinking skills, arguably, the ability to write well may be the most important skill you learn develop in this class. It will help you not only when applying for jobs or further education, but once you secure those kinds of opportunities.

Final Exam: This multiple choice exam will be comprehensive for the duration of the semester, so prepare accordingly. Don't make the mistake in believing that because some multiple choice exams are easy that it will be easy. This exam will include mainly questions with only 1 correct answer, but there will be a section where you may be expected to identify more than 1 correct answer per question.

Extra credit: I do not plan to offer extra credit for this course so please insure that you direct your energies accordingly.

Grading Scale

A	=	100-94	C	=	76-73
A-	=	93-90	C-	=	72-70
B+	=	89-87	D+	=	69-67
B	=	86-83	D	=	66-63
B-	=	82-80	D-	=	62-60
C+	=	79-77	F	=	59-0

Late work and Make-up Exams: Unless otherwise specified, out-of-class assignments are due at the beginning of class on the dates listed below. Late assignments will be penalized 10% for each full calendar day they are late, up to as much as 30%, unless a compelling and honest explanation is offered. Make-up exams may be given if they are missed for compelling, honest, unexpected, <u>and</u> sufficiently verifiable reasons. However, students making up exams must take them within the week unless health problems keep them from coming to campus. Students making up exams will not be given the same exam that was originally administered.

Important Advice: I want you to do the best work you can. I will try hard to clearly explain assignments and do what I can within the limits of fairness–without compromising on standards—to help you do your best. You should attend class each day to internalize lecture material and participate in other classroom activities as they come along. As you attempt to internalize the course content, you should come to class having read the material assigned for that day. You should be prepared to be quizzed over any course readings by the day for which that material is assigned. For example, you could be quizzed over the material for Chapter 2 from the Hook and Spanier text on Wednesday, January 18 or any day afterwards. Take notes when you read and attend class lectures. Doing so will set you up to succeed on quizzes and exams. **<u>Read this syllabus and assignments carefully to put yourself in position to succeed.</u>**

Academic Support Services

Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) (Phillips Hall, Room 113/ (407) 823-5130): If you have trouble succeeding in this class and comprehending the material, you might benefit from contacting this office for assistance with improving your study skills.

University Writing Center (UWC) (MOD 608/ (407) 823-2197)**:** The Center is free for all UCF students. At the UWC, a writing consultant can work with you on anything you are writing, whether it is brainstorming or editing. While recommended, appointments are not required.

UCF Counseling Center (Building #27/ (407) 823-2811): Students experiencing formidable mental health challenges, including, but by no means limited to stress, anxiety, or depression, that are hindering their ability to be the best they can be should contact this office for help.

Students with Disabilities (Ferrell Commons, Room 132/ phone (407) 823-2371): Students with disabilities that need special accommodations regarding class attendance or assignments should have proof of their disability on file with Student Disability Services They should also inform the instructor of their within the first day of class or once they become aware of it, should such realization occur during the course of a semester.

Behavior

"To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society." President Theodore Roosevelt.

Disruptions: If circumstances require you to arrive late for class, please do so in as discreet a manner as possible. Please limit distractions in class (for example, web surfing, cell phones, whispering, etc.) as much as possible. Such behavior bothers others who are paying good money to learn and it may be distracting to me as I attempt to do my job.

Cheating: **Do not cheat** as this clearly violates the Golden Rule Student Handbook and violates several aspects of the UCF Creed. I strongly recommend that everyone take the UCF Online Information Literacy tutorial "Avoiding Plagarism" prior to beginning this assignment so that you will be clear about my expectations of you. I will send out the link to this tutorial during the semester. Unless otherwise specified by the instructor (such as on team quizzes), your work must be your own. Cheating can come in many forms, including plagiarism. Plagiarism is when writers use other people's words or ideas and do not give them credit. Use footnotes or endnotes to give credit for direct quotes, paraphrased quotes, or borrowed ideas. Feel free to discuss readings and ideas with fellow students, but if you use their ideas, please reference them accordingly. If you don't know what footnotes or endnotes are, please ask me. Do not use papers written for previous classes or large sections of such papers, as this constitutes self-plagiarism according to UCF policy. Do not quote or paraphrase without giving credit in footnotes or endnotes. Do not copy or use papers or sections of papers from the web or other sources. I assume that all students in this class could write a better term paper

than the junk sold on the Internet and will not resort to such dubious sources for their assignments. In the event that I suspect a paper of being plagiarized, I will use Turnitin.com to help with that determination. Instances of cheating that result in a grade being penalized will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Assignments on which cheating occurs will be penalized with an F and the weight of that assignment when factored into the final grade will be increased two-fold. For example, cheating by plagiarizing a portion of the short writing assignment would mean that 30% of your final grade would be a 0.

Monday, January 9 ***Welcome and Course Overview***

Wednesday, January 11 Lecture
Jerel A. Rosati and James M. Scott. 2007. "History of United States Foreign Relations." Chapter 2 and "The Politics of U.S. Foreign Policy. Chapter 1. In *The Politics of United States Foreign Policy*. United States: Thomson-Wadsworth.

Friday, January 13 Lecture
Steven W. Hook and John Spanier. 2007. "The American Approach to Foreign Policy." Chapter 1. In *American Foreign Policy since World War II* (17th edition). Washington, D.C.: CQ Press: 1-20. (Hereafter listed as H&S.)

Monday, January 16—Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday

Wednesday, January 18 Lecture
H&S. "From World War to Cold War." Chapter 2: 21-44.
H&S. "Containment: From Theory to Practice." Chapter 3: 45-72.

Friday, January 20 Lecture
H&S. "North-South Tensions and the Vietnam War." Chapter 4: 73-104.

Monday, January 23 Lecture
H&S. "Détente and World Order Politics." Chapter 5: 105-130.
H&S. "The Revival of Superpower Confrontation." Chapter 6: 131-156.

Wednesday, January 25 Lecture
H&S. "The End of the Cold War." Chapter 7: 157-182.

Friday, January 27 Lecture
H&S. "America's 'Unipolar Moment.'" Chapter 8: 183-208.

Monday, January 30 Lecture
H&S. "Old Tensions in a New World Order." Chap. 9: 209-233.
H&S. "The Shifting European Landscape." Chapter 10: 234-259.

Wednesday, February 1 Lecture
H&S. "America under Fire." Chapter 11: 260-288.

Friday, February 3 Lecture
H&S. "Hot Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq." Chapter 12: 289-319.

Monday, February 6 Lecture
H&S. "A World of Trouble." Chapter 13: 320-345.

Wednesday, February 8 Lecture

Friday, February 10 **Exam 1**

Monday, February 13 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 3: Presidential Power and Leadership, pp. 56-94

Wednesday, February 15 Lecture

Friday, February 17 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 4: The Bureaucracy, Presidential Management, and the National Security Council, pp. 95-126

Monday, February 20 Lecture

Wednesday, February 22 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 5: Understanding the Bureaucracy: The State Department at Home and Abroad, pp. 127-157

Friday, February 24 Lecture

Monday, February 27 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 6: The Military Establishment, pp. 158-193

Wednesday, February 29 Lecture

Friday, March 2 Lecture

Monday, March 5 - Friday, March 9---Spring Break

Monday, March 12 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 7: The Intelligence Community, pp.194-230

Wednesday, March 14 Lecture

Friday, March 16 Lecture

Monday, March 19 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 8: Foreign Economics and the NEC, pp. 231-258

Wednesday, March 21 **Exam 2**

Friday, March 23 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 9: Decisionmaking Theory and Foreign Policymaking, pp. 259-290

Monday, March 26 Lecture

Wednesday, March 28 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 10: Congress and Interbranch Politics, pp. 291-326

Friday, March 30 Lecture

Monday, April 2 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 11: The Public and Its Beliefs, pp. 328-361

Wednesday, April 4 Lecture

Friday, April 6 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 12: Electoral Politics, pp. 362-383

Monday, April 9 Lecture

Wednesday, April 11 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 13: Group Politics, pp. 384-417

Friday, April 13 Lecture

Monday, April 16 **Research papers due at the beginning of class** and lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 14: The Media and the Communication Process, pp. 418-450

Wednesday, April 18 Lecture

Friday, April 20 Lecture
Rosati and Scott. Chapter 15: Patterns, Change and the Future of U.S. Foreign Policymaking, pp. 452-471.

Monday, April 23 **Last class day** and lecture

Monday, April 30 **Final Exam: 10:00 A.M. – 12:50 P.M.**