INR 4030H: Honors Diplomacy

Burnett Honors College, Department of Political Science

Instructor:	David Dumke	Term:	Spring 2015
Office:	Chemistry Building, Suite 117	Class Meeting Days/Time:	Tuesday/Thursday, 4:30 PM-5:45 PM
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Introduction

The course will focus on various aspects of international politics and foreign policy. We will examine (1) the tools of trade of diplomacy, (2) the formation of foreign policy, and (3) its application in the real world – using modern and historic examples of how challenges, issues, and conflicts have been, and are approached and resolved by American and foreign diplomats.

Tools of the trade: we will identify traditional diplomatic tools and terminology, essentially the nuts and bolts in determining interests, assessing strengths/weaknesses, determining leverage, and picking positive/negative responses to diplomatic challenges – such as assistance, trade, cooperative agreements, sanctions, and war. We will also examine the role of public diplomacy, such as international information programs, broadcasting, exchanges, cultural diplomacy, and more modern techniques.

Formation of foreign policy: primarily looking at U.S. foreign policy, we will determine the players involved in the policy formation process which can bolster or hinder diplomatic efforts. On the governmental side, these players include not only the Department of State, but the White House and National Security Council, Department of Defense, Central Intelligence Agency, and Congress, among others. Non-governmental actors include business interests, special interests, and the media. We will also examine how and to what extent public opinion influences foreign policy and ultimately diplomacy.

Application: Understanding how these elements come together is critical to understanding diplomacy, thus we will use contemporary and historical examples to illustrate diplomacy in action.

Readings throughout the course are intended to provide students with important interdisciplinary insights into key issues in U.S. foreign policy. Discussions will focus on how changes in the balance of international relations may impact the concept and practice of public diplomacy in the coming years.

Some class sessions will feature contributions by practitioners and guest presenters from academia, government and NGOs. In all cases, please note that much of the material will only be covered in class, not in the readings. Thus, while attendance is not required you will be at a disadvantage if you do not attend class.

Textbooks & Resources

All textbooks and resources for this course are provided by the instructors or are available online. Handouts will include recent articles, government documents, and special reports. The class will also benefit from a variety of guest lecturers. The instructor will also provide a recommended reading list to interested students.

Students are also directed to use multiple websites, such as https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/ (CIA World Factbook) and http://www.bbc.com/news/world/ (BBC News, including both news wire and country profiles).

Finally, students are encouraged to browse international news sources on a regular basis – including key international newspapers. Sources could include the following:
-International New York Times: http://international.nytimes.com/
-Christian Science Monitor: http://www.csmonitor.com/World
-The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.com/us
-Al Ahram (Egypt): http://english.ahram.org.eg/Index.aspx

Course Requirements and Grading

The table below outlines how final grades will be determined. In addition, there will be opportunity for extra credit based on participation at special events sponsored by the UCF Office of Global Perspectives and Prince Mohammad bin Fahd Program for Strategic Research and Studies. "Participation" includes both attendance and a willingness to participate in class debate and discussion. A portion of every class will be devoted to questions either asked by students or prompted by the instructor. In addition to the midterm and final, there will be a class simulation project and a research paper. For the simulation, the class will be divided into four teams, with each assigned one party involved (or interested actor) in the Ukraine-Russia standoff – Russia, Ukraine, the United States, and European Union. Each group will be required to complete a position paper of at least 8 pages, a 1 page brief, and be prepared to defend and debate their position in class.

The essay will focus on a specific country or issue as assigned by the instructor, or if the student has a preference, as agreed upon between the student and instructor. This essay topic will be determined within the first three weeks of class. The research paper must be between 8-10 pages.

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Class Simulation	20%
Midterm	20%
Participation	10%
Research Paper	25%
Final Exam	25%
	100%

The grading system of A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), etc., is used in class, with pluses and minuses.

Schedule and Readings

While the class schedule is subject to change, the following schedule will be the basis of class discussion and work. Readings are assigned prior to class and should be completed beforehand. For example, homework assigned for 1/9 should be completed before the 1/14 class. Note that homework is subject to change, and the instructor will inform students of assigned readings during each class.

1/13 – Class begins, introduction
Homework: Jack Zetkulick, "American Approach to Foreign Policy" handout

1/15 – Short Diplomatic History
Homework: CRS Report Iraq, Syria

1/20 – Modern U.S. Diplomacy in the Middle East
Homework: CRS Report Egypt

1/22 – U.S.-Egypt Diplomacy after Mubarak
Homework: Cook blog and readings

1/27 – Guest Lecture by Dr. Steven Cook, Council on Foreign Relations
Homework: Ambassador Chas Freeman "Arts of Power" handout (part 1)

1/29 – Diplomatic Toolkit, part 1
Homework: Freeman handout (part 2), CRS Report Public Diplomacy

2/3 – Diplomatic Toolkit, part 2
Homework: "How U.S. Foreign Policy is Made" handout

2/5 – American Diplomacy: Government Actors in Policy Formation
Homework: handouts

2/10 – American Diplomacy: Non-Government Actors in Policy Formation
Homework: Jon Alterman handouts

2/12 – Guest Lecture by Dr. Jon Alterman, Center for Strategic and International Studies
Homework: CRS Report on Turkey

2/17 – Guest Lecture by Dr. Hakan Ozoglu, UCF Department of History
Homework: Foreign Policy Association, "Human Trafficking in the 21st Century "

2/19 – Issue Focus: Human Trafficking
Homework: Foreign Policy Association, "U.S. Policy Toward Africa"

2/24 – U.S. Diplomacy in Africa
Homework: CRS Report South Africa, handout

2/26 – Case Study: South Africa

3/3 – Midterm Exam
Homework: CRS Reports Israel, Palestine

3/5 – Case Study: Carter's Gamble on Camp David
Homework: David Rothkopf, Jeffrey Goldberg handouts

3/17 – Crisis in the U.S.-Israel Bilateral Relationship?
Homework: CRS Report on Cuba

3/19 – U.S. Cuban Policy
Homework: CRS Report on Brazil, Foreign Policy Association "Brazil's Metamorphisis"

3/24 – Brazil
Homework: Foreign Policy Association "Food and Climate", Paul Sullivan handout

3/26 – Food, Climate, Water, and Environment
Homework: CRS Report U.S.-Vietnam Relations

3/31 – Case Study: Vietnam Yesterday and Today
Homework: CRS Report North Korea

4/2 – North Korea (**Research Papers due)**
Homework: Foreign Policy Association "China's Foreign Policy"

4/7 – China's Foreign Policy
Homework: CRS Report U.S.-China Relations

4/9 – U.S. China Relations and the 2014 Climate Agreement
Homework: CRS Report, U.S.-Russian Relations

4/14 – The New Cold War with Russia?

4/16 – Class Simulation on the Russia-Ukraine standoff
Homework: Foreign Policy Association "U.S. Trade Policy" and CRS Reports

4/21 – U.S. Trade Policy
Homework: None

4/23 – Class Review

4/30 – Final Exam, 4:00 PM-6:50 PM