INR 4102.0001 American Foreign Policy
Spring 2024 Syllabus

Course Information

Course Name	**American Foreign Policy**
Course ID & Section	**INR 4102.0001**
Credit Hours	**3 credit hours**
Semester/Year	**Spring 2024**
Class meeting time	**Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00-10:20 AM**
Location and Mode	**Engineering 2, Room 302 – face-to-face**

Instructor Contact

Instructor	**Dr. Joseph Paul Vasquez, III** **School of Politics, Security & International Affairs (SPSIA)**
Office	**102 Howard Philips Hall**
Office Hours	**Tuesday & Thursday 10:45 - 11:15 AM & 1:45 - 4:15 PM; and by appointment in person or over Zoom (https://ucf.zoom.us/j/3142725238)**
SPSIA Phone #	**(407) 823-2608**
E-mail	**paul.vasquez@ucf.edu**
Graduate Teaching Assistant	**Ms. Kelsie Dillard (Kelsie.Dillard@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. Prerequisite: ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or consent of the instructor.

Course Objectives: 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.

Required Text and Materials

- Steven W. Hook. 2016. *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power*. 5th edition. Washington, D.C.: Sage/CQ Press.

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 on Friday, 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. **Read this syllabus and assignments carefully to put yourself in position to succeed.**

Course Mode via Webcourses

In-person course attendance is expected for this course. This course will use Webcourses primarily as a platform for housing our course syllabus, posting course announcements, using email for communication, and submitting some assignments. To do so, you will need access to a computer and adequate Internet bandwidth. You can contact Webcourses@UCF Support at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/> if you have any technical problems. Once you access the course from Dashboard in Webcourses, please check out the course home page and the Announcements from the navigation column to the left of the center of your screen.

Illness Notification

If you become ill, please stay home, and contact your primary care physician. Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness-related reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class. If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Requirements

A	B	C	D	E
Assignments	**% of Final Grade**	**Assignment average (add grades for each row & ÷ by the # of grades for this task)**	**Assignment Score = column B x column C**	**Due Date**
Class Participation	5			Daily
Quizzes & Information Literacy Tutorial	15			To be announced & by 1/12 and by 2/22 before midnight
Midterm Exam	30			Tuesday, Feb. 27
Course paper 1	10			Sunday, March 3 before midnight
Course paper 2	10			Sunday, April 21 before midnight
Final Exam	30			Thursday, April 25 7:00-9:00 AM
Total	100%	**Add Column D to estimate grade →**		

If you have questions about your final course grade and want to double check the final course grade reported in Webcourses at the end of the semester, you can take the grades for particular assignments and plug them into the grade table above and do the calculations accordingly. If

assignments are not yet completed and you are trying to estimate your current course grade during the semester, divide your total for column D by the percentage of the final grade that has been completed. For example, if you have done everything except the final exam, divide your total for column D by 70 since you have only completed the assignments equal to 70% of your course grade. Incidentally, at the end of the semester, I round grades up from .45 to the next nearest whole number. Thus, an 89.45 and a 59.45, would get rounded up to a 90 and 60, respectively.

Assignments

Class Participation: Participating in class means much more than just attending and spectating. It involves asking and answering questions and participating in class discussions.

Quizzes and Citation Literacy Quizzes: Quizzes may cover any material from the lecture, readings or other assignments that are made during the semester. Some quizzes will be announced in advance and other evaluations will be pop quizzes. In addition to traditional, individually taken quizzes, some quizzes will be taken in teams of roughly five students to allow for collaboration and discussion. These team quizzes will include questions with more than one correct answer for a question or questions, and you will be graded on your ability to identify all of the correct answers on those quizzes. Before midnight on Thursday. February 22, you will also be expected to complete an online quiz about proper citation practices using the Chicago Manual of Style. This exercise should help to improve course paper grades above what they would be otherwise and help avoid instances of plagiarism. At the end of the semester, the lowest quiz grade for each student will be dropped when calculating final course grades.

Important Note: All faculty members are required by UCF to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, you should complete a graded syllabus quiz that is ideally due by 11:59 on Friday, January 12th or as soon as possible for those who add the course late. Failure to do so could result in a zero for the assignment and a delay in the disbursement of any financial aid (this is a new UCF policy and beyond my control). To do this task, go to the myUCF portal (https://my.ucf.edu) and select the Webcourses@UCF button on the left side of the screen. Log in with your NID and NID password, then access the course by selecting it in the "Courses" dropdown menu at the top of the page. From the course homepage, click on the Assignments tab to left, then click on Syllabus quiz, complete the quiz and submit.

Midterm and Final Exams: These will be multiple choice exams with each question having only one correct answer per question. The final exam will be cumulative as it will cover material covered before and after the midterm exam. **Warning:** Do not assume that these exams will be easy simply because they will take the form of a multiple-choice exam. Students tend to do less well on their short paper than other assignments such as the exams so you should not only invest serious time and effort in crafting your papers, but also do the very best you can on other assignments such as the exams if you want high marks at the end of the semester. Students who arrive late to an exam will not be allowed to take that version of the exam if another student has

already completed the exam and left the room. In such cases, a make-up exam will need to be administered (see the Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy section below).

Course papers:

Paper 1: For this assignment, you will write a paper reflecting on a prompt that will be disseminated on February 29th, which relates to a subject/subjects covered in class. Your task in this assignment will be to apply insights from the e-text and lecture to address the prompt, that will be due by 11:59 on Sunday, March 3. Due to the compressed time for completion of this assignment, no additional research outside of assigned class materials will be necessary. However, you should obviously cite material that was covered in class that you discuss. Your paper should be between 1,000 and 1,100 words of text beyond the title page and bibliography. Papers should use 12-point font, double-spacing and 1-inch margins, and your word count must appear on your title page along with your name.

Closer to the assignment deadline, a grading rubric for this assignment will be released. Please note that mechanical elements of writing including, but not limited to proper spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc. are all important components of formal writing such as a college paper. Exceptionally poor performance in this regard could lower your paper grade by as much as 20 points, so take steps to avoid this eventuality. Also, students have a tendency to lose points for failing to use evidence to support their arguments by appropriately citing scholarly sources, so be sure to consult the section below on academic dishonesty for details on how to avoid plagiarism. Hopefully, these standards will help you to develop sound writing skills that will help you not only when applying for jobs or further educational opportunities, but once you secure those opportunities.

Paper 2: For this assignment, you will write a paper reflecting on a prompt that will be disseminated on Thursday, April 18th, which relates to a subject/subjects covered in class. Your task in this assignment will be to apply insights from the e-text and lecture to address the prompt, that will be due by 11:59 on Sunday, April 21st. Due to the compressed time for completion of this assignment, no additional research outside of assigned class materials will be necessary. However, you should obviously cite material that was covered in class that you discuss. Your paper should be between 1,000 and 1,100 words of text beyond the title page and bibliography. Papers should use 12-point font, double-spacing and 1-inch margins, and your word count must appear on your title page along with your name.

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Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy: Quizzes are due by dates outlined in the syllabus and may not be made-up unless they are for an officially UCF excused absence, an excused religious holiday or a military deployment. Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes, intercollegiate debaters, etc.) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied. For more information, see the UCF policy (http://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.1MakeupAssignmentsForAuthorizedUniversityEventsOrCocurricularActivities.pdf). Also, you must notify me in advance if you intend to miss class for a religious observance and want latitude for completing assignments. For more information, see the UCF policy (http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALOct17.pdf). Finally, if you will be a deployed person who is either on active military duty and/or serving with the National Guard/Reserve personnel and will need an accommodation, you should contact me as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements. If you don't fall into one of these categories, please keep in mind that my policy of dropping the lowest quiz grade is designed to account for unforeseen problems that might arise and keep you from attending class once.

Make-up exams may be given without penalty in instances mentioned above or when students have a verifiable medical, funeral, excuse or one that is sufficiently verifiable, compelling, significant and unexpected. When no such excuse exists or when a student arrives after a tested student has left the room, the student will be allowed to take exams late, but they will be penalized by 10 points "off the top." As for the course papers, once the deadline for a paper passes by more than two hours, late papers will only be accepted if there is a verifiable, compelling, significant, and unexpected reason or if a 20-point late penalty is imposed. Once papers have been graded and returned, late papers will only be accepted if students satisfy one of the underlined criteria above. Thus, taking the 20-point late penalty at that stage is not allowed. I do not offer extra credit, so direct your energies accordingly.

Evaluation and Grading

The grading scale for this course is listed below. For more details on the evaluation criteria, see the specific tasks listed under Course Requirements.

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100 points
A-	90 – 92 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	83 – 86 points
B-	80 – 82 points

C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C-	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	63 – 66 points
D-	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

Communicating with the Instructor Online: This document was created to empower you to answer many questions on your own as responsible and maturing learners. Communicate online with the instructor using either his UCF email address (Paul.Vasquez@ucf.edu) or using the email feature within Webcourses rather than replying to postings under the Announcements tab, as he can respond to emails much more quickly.

Behavior

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 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.

Academic Integrity Statement: Students are prohibited from cheating by including, but not limited to: 1) attempting to use, possess, or disseminate unauthorized materials for academic assignments; 2) presenting material obtained through the effort of someone other than the student for the student's assignment credit; 3) buying and selling course materials such as class notes or assigned work to other students; 4) falsifying or misrepresenting one's academic work; and 5) plagiarism, including, but not limited to, a) using another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own, b) submitting work for more than one class without the instructor's approval or c) use of tools related to Artificial Intelligence (AI). After hearing my lecture on proper citation practices using the Chicago Manual of Style, you should clearly understand my expectations of you with regards to correctly citing material. For more details on academic integrity matters, you are encouraged to consult UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule* (https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/).

All UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so we must seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Thus, course papers will be submitted through Turnitin.com. If I determine that there has been an instance of unambiguous academic dishonesty in the course, I will inform you of my concern, report the violation to the Office of Student Rights and

Responsibilities, and assign you a 0 grade for the associated assignment. At the end of the semester, a letter grade of Z, indicating academic dishonesty, will precede the letter grade earned. For more information about the Z grades and the process for appealing such a finding, please consult the following website: (https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade/).

Campus Safety Statement

Campus emergencies are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Be aware of your surroundings and familiar with basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at <https://centralflorida-prod.modolabs.net/student/safety/index>.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see <https://ehs.ucf.edu/automated-external-defibrillator-aed-locations>.
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <www.getrave.com/login/ucf> and logging in. On the "My Account" tab, fill out the information, including e-mail address and cell phone number.
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video (<https://youtu.be/NIKYajEx4pk>).

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Academic Support Services

Student Academic Resource Center (SARC): (Trevor Colbourn Hall, Room 117/ (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): The University Writing Center (UWC) offers writing support to students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Tutors provide help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The UWC's purpose is not merely to fix or edit papers, but to teach writing strategies that can be applied to any writing situation. Consultations are available for individuals and small groups. You may schedule a 45-minute appointment by clicking the *Success Resources* tab on Webcourses, calling the UWC at 407-823-2197, or through the UWC website. The UWC is located in Trevor Colbourn Hall Room 109 with satellite Locations in the Main Library, Rosen Library, and online. They can be reached at 407-823-2197 or http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/

UCF Cares: (Counseling Building #27/ (407) 823-2811): During your UCF career, you may experience challenges including struggles with academics, finances, or your personal well-being. UCF has a multitude of resources available to all students. Please visit UCFCares.com if you are seeking resources and support, or if you are worried about a friend or classmate. Free services and information are included for a variety of student concerns, including but not limited to alcohol use, bias incidents, mental health concerns, and financial challenges. You can also e-mail ucfcares@ucf.edu with questions or for additional assistance. You can reach a UCF Cares staff member between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by calling 407-823-5607. If you are in immediate distress, please call Counseling and Psychological Services to speak directly with a counselor 24/7 at 407-823-2811, or please call 911.

Course Accessibility Statement: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). For students connected with SAS, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student. Further conversation with SAS, faculty and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience.

Important Dates:

Date	Event
Friday, Jan. 12, 11:59 P.M.	Drop/add deadline
Wednesday, March 29, 11:59 P.M.	Withdrawal deadline

Course Schedule

Tuesday, January 9th Welcome lecture

Thursday, January 11th **Class will not meet (Due to conference participation out of town by the instructor, you will be asked to watch a recorded lecture online for this day.)**

Steven W. Hook. 2016. "Chapter 1: The United States in a Turbulent World." In *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power,* 5th edition, 2-26. Washington, D.C.: Sage/CQ Press. (hereafter Hook).

Friday, January 12th Lecture, and **online syllabus quiz due before midnight**

Tuesday, January 16th Lecture

Thursday, January 18th Lecture

Hook. 2016. "Chapter 2: The Expansion of U.S. Power." 30-75.

Tuesday, January 23rd Lecture

Thursday, January 25th Lecture

Tuesday, January 30th Lecture

Thursday, February 1st Lecture

Hook. 2016. "Chapter 3: Dynamics of Decision Making," 76-109.

Tuesday, February 6th Lecture

Thursday, February 8th Lecture

Tuesday, February 13th Lecture

Hook, "Chapter 4: Presidential Power," 110-143.

Thursday, February 15th	Lecture
Tuesday, February 20th	Lecture
Thursday, February 22nd	Lecture, and **online citation literacy quiz due before midnight**
Tuesday, February 27th	**Midterm Exam**
Thursday, February 29	Lecture and **Paper 1 prompt released**

Hook, "Chapter 5: Congress beyond the "Water's Edge," 144-181.

Sunday, March 3rd	**Paper 1 due before midnight**
Tuesday, March 5th	Lecture
Thursday, March 7th	Lecture

Hook, "Chapter 6: The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy," 182-223.

Tuesday, March 12th	Lecture
Thursday, March 14th	Lecture
March 18th - March 23rd	**Class does not meet-Spring Break**
Tuesday, March 26th	Lecture

Thursday, March 28th Lecture

Hook, "Chapter 7: Public Opinion at Home and Abroad," 224- 257.

Tuesday, April 2nd Lecture

Thursday, April 4th Lecture

Tuesday, April 9th Lecture

Hook, "Chapter 8: The Impact of Mass Communications," 258- 293.

Thursday, April 11th Lecture

Tuesday, April 16th Lecture

Hook, "Chapter 9: Social Movements and Interest Groups," 294-327.

Thursday, April 18th Lecture--Last class day **and Paper Prompt 2 released**

Sunday, April 21st **Paper 2 due before midnight**

Thursday, April 25th **Final Exam from 7:00-9:00 AM**