

**2017–2018 Academic Year  
Winter Session**

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**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**FACULTY OF ARTS**

**Political Science 491.01**

**US SECURITY POLICY**

**Instructor** Dr. T. Terriff SS 732 Ph: 403 220 - 5502  
Email: tterriff@ucalgary.ca

**Classes:** TR 15:30 to 16:45 PM

**Lecture Room:** PF 114

**Office Hours** W 12:00 to 13:00

**Teaching Assistant:** Alexander Babayan

Office Hours: To be Announced

Email: alexander.babayan@ucalgary.ca

**D2L Website:** <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

**Required Prerequisite:** Poli 381 Introduction to International Relations

**Course Description**

This course examines US security policy, with an emphasis both on how US security policy is made and on the main contemporary security issues the US faces today. The course emphasis is on the post Cold War era.

**Course Objective**

To understand the factors, influences and actors which have shaped and continue to shape American defence and foreign policy in the post Cold War period, and to gain an understanding of the main current issues in US security and defence policy.

## Method of Assessment

1	Research Proposal	Thurs	1 February	10%
2	Mid Term Exam	Thurs	15 February	15%
3	Research Essay	Tues	20 March	40%
4	Final exam	as scheduled by the registrar		35 %

**Research Proposal** The research proposal shall be 800 words in length (3-4 pages), double spaced, paginated, use an appropriate citation style, and include a short bibliography. Further instructions will be furnished in class and in a separate handout that will be posted on D2L.

**Research Essay:** The essay shall be 3500 to 4000 words in length, double spaced, paginated, use an appropriate citation style, and include a bibliography. Further instructions will be furnished in a separate handout that will be posted on D2L.

## READINGS

### Core Texts

Sam C. Sarkesian, John Allen Williams and Stephen J. Cimbala, *US National Security: Policymakers, Processes and Politics* 5th edition (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Pub; October 2012) ISBN: 978-1-58826-856-3

Ivo H. Daalder and James M. Lindsay, *America Unbound: The Bush Revolution in Foreign Policy* (Brookings Institution, 2003/2005). ISBN-13: 978-0471741503 pb  
Library - E902 INTERNET, and E902 .D33 2003

### Additional Readings

Mead, Walter Russell *Special providence: American foreign policy and how it changed the world*

Dueck, Colin, *Reluctant Crusaders: Power, Culture, and Change in American Grand Strategy*.

McCrisken, Trevor B., *American exceptionalism and the legacy of Vietnam: US foreign policy since 1974* [electronic resource]

Halberstam, David, *War in a time of peace: Bush, Clinton, and the generals*

Bacevich, A. J *American empire: the realities and consequences of U.S. diplomacy*

Suskind, Ron, *The one percent doctrine: deep inside America's pursuit of its enemies since 9/11*

Woodward, Bob, *Bush at War*

Woodward, Bob *Plan of Attack*

Woodward, Bob *State of Denial*

Woodward, Bob *The war within : a secret White House history, 2006-2008*

Ricks, Thomas, *Fiasco: the American military adventure in Iraq*

Ricks, Thomas, *The Gamble: General David Petraeus and the American military adventure in Iraq, 2006-2008*

Jones, Seth G *In the graveyard of empire: America's war in Afghanistan*

Bacevich, A. J., *The limits of power: the end of American exceptionalism* 1st ed.

Zakaria, Fareed, *The Post American World*, 2008

John Lewis Gaddis, *Strategies of Containment* (Cold War era)

## Current Events

The character and content of US security policy often may be fast changing. The course instructor reserves the right to digress from the course subject matter as laid out below in the course outline to discuss ongoing events that are relevant to the overall course subject matter.

Thus, it is useful to pay attention to current events relating to US security policy. The main US newspapers are *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Times*, *Christian Science Monitor*, among others; unfortunately, almost all of these have imposed subscription fees over the past few years and are now behind pay walls. RealClearPolitics' World and Defense sections are free (access may be limited), and provide some coverage. The weekly news magazines such *Time* also do cover some elements of US security policy but again seem to be at least partially behind pay walls.

There are also a large number of useful internet sources, including US government and US military websites, that can be accessed for free; indeed, many if not most subjects being currently debated are done so in a mixture of journals, newspapers and blogs, and this holds true for US security issues.

## Class Participation

There is no mark for class participation, but students will be expected to come to class prepared for discussion. This means staying up with the readings and current affairs as it may concern the subject of the course. Students must also be prepared to be called upon to offer their assessment of the issues being discussed.

## Research Paper Proposal

A hard copy paper proposal must be submitted at the beginning of class, on **Thursday, 1 February 2018**. The proposal (800 words, or 3-4 pages, double spaced) must include a clear identification of the question to be addressed in the paper, the context and relevance of the question, any relevant concepts, and the methodology to be utilized. The proposal must cite research sources. In addition to the main body of the proposal, a one page preliminary list of sources (bibliography), including those cited, must be included. The research question may be on any aspect of US security policy.

The clarity of writing style (including grammar and punctuation) as well as the correct formatting of citations are evaluated as part of the grade assessment. Information on the research proposal, on how it is assessed, and on the appropriate citation style is available on D2L.

*Do note that the generation of a research proposal requires conducting research!*

## Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will consist of long-answer, essay questions. The midterm exam is closed book and no aids will be permitted. The midterm exam will be written on **Thursday, 15 February, 2018**.

## Research Paper

A hard copy research paper must be submitted at the beginning of class, on **Tuesday, 20 March 2018**. This paper (3500 to 4000 words) is to provide an analytical study of an aspect of US security policy. The essay will use an appropriate citation style and include a bibliography. The clarity of writing style (including grammar and punctuation) as well as the correct formatting of citations are evaluated as part of the grade assessment. Information on the research essay, how it is assessed, and on the appropriate citation style is available on D2L.

The clarity of writing style (including grammar and punctuation) as well as the correct formatting of citations are evaluated as part of the grade assessment. Information on the research paper, on how it is assessed, and on the appropriate citation style is available on D2L.

## Final Exam

The final exam will be two hours in length and will consist of long-answer, essay questions. The final exam is closed book and no aids will be permitted. The final exam is scheduled by the Office of the Registrar during the examination period, **Monday, 16 April - Thursday, 26 April, 2018**.

## Writing Statement

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

## Grade Scale

The following grading scale will be used:

A+ = 95-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 55-59
A = 86-94	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 50-54
A- = 80-85	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	F = 0-49

## Late Penalties

A late penalty of three (3) percent will be applied for each day past the required submission date a piece of work is submitted. This late penalty applies to the research proposal and the research essay.

## Class Preparation and Desire2Learn

Lectures focus on the material presented in the textbook and general discussion relating to the topic(s) outlined in the lecture schedule. Students are expected to read the assigned text chapters and readings before class, and be prepared for class discussion. Any important information and additional readings for US Security Policy (Poli 491.01) will be posted on D2L. Students should regularly check the Announcements section of D2L for ongoing notices.

*Your instructor may not necessarily cover all of the materials in the course outline or in the required readings, but it is the responsibility of the student to understand the concepts presented in the textbook and lectures. If you are unsure of any of the concepts, please take the initiative to ask the instructor during class. The instructor may also address current events relevant to the course subject matter.*

### **Instructor Instructions**

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please email the instructor or teaching assistant to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

Email is commonly used by students to communicate with their instructor. However, it does limit the effectiveness of the communications and may not be the best way for instructors to answer student questions, especially those requiring an explanation of concepts covered in this course or some personal concerns. Therefore the instructor may request a telephone call or personal meeting. *Your instructor will inform you as to his/her expectations about emails.*

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

## **Course Outline**

### **Part I Sources of Influence**

*Week 1* Tues (9 January 2018): Introduction & American Political and Strategic Culture

*Required Reading:*  
Sarkesian, Ch. 1 & 5

Thurs American Political and Strategic Culture cont

Week 2 The National Security System and Actors: Policymakers, Bureaucracies, and Organizations

*Required Reading:* A pre-recorded lecture and a PowerPoint presentation will be available on D2L

Sarkesian, Ch. 3 & Ch. 6-15.

Van Jackson, "I Got a Story to Tell: Who Does What in National Security Policy?", *War on the Rocks*, 14 February 2017, at: Footnote 1 <sup>1</sup>

Tues NO CLASS

Thurs NO CLASS

Week 3 Tues & Thurs The National Security System and Actors cont.

Week 4 Tues The National Security System and Actors cont.

## Part II US Security Policy Before 9/11

Thurs The Cold War Era: Overview

*Required Reading:*

Heather Stur. "Why the United States Went to War in Vietnam", *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 28 April 2017, at:

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2017/04/united-states-went-war-vietnam/>

**Research Proposal Due: Tuesday, 1 February 2018**

Week 5 Tues & Thurs From 11/9 to 9/11: The Post Cold War Interregnum

*Required Reading:*

Stephen M. Walt, "Two Cheers for Clinton's Foreign Policy", *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2000, pp. 63-79.

Charles-Philippe David, "Foreign Policy Is Not What I Came Here to Do": Dissecting Clinton's Foreign Policy-Making: A First Cut", pp. 1-13, at Footnote Two <sup>2</sup>

Week 6 Tues From 11/9 to 9/11: War in a Time of Peace

Thurs **Mid Term Exam** (15 February 2017)

<sup>1</sup> <https://warontherocks.com/2017/02/i-got-a-story-to-tell-who-does-what-in-national-security-policy/>

<sup>2</sup> [https://dandurand.uqam.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/04/ERd\\_foreign\\_policy\\_came\\_here\\_David.pdf](https://dandurand.uqam.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/04/ERd_foreign_policy_came_here_David.pdf)

**Week 7 Reading Week: Sunday, 18 February to Sunday, 25 February 2018**

### **Part III US Security Policy Since 9/11**

*Required Reading for Entire Section:*

Daalder and Lindsey, *America Unbound* (entire book).

*The National Security Strategy of the United States of America*,  
issued 20 September 2002 (esp. Chapters 1-5) at:

<http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/nsc/nss/2002/>

**Week 8 Tues & Thurs 9/11 & The 'Long War': America's Global War on Terror (GWOT)**

*Required Reading:*

Trevor McCrisken, "Ten years on: Obama's war on terrorism", *International Affairs*, 87/4 (2011) 781-801.

Jessica Stern, "Obama and Terrorism: Like It or Not, the War Goes On",  
*Foreign Affairs*, Sept-Oct 2015: 62-70

**Week 9 Tues The Threat of Nuclear Proliferation**

*Required Reading:*

Sarah Lohschelder, "Three Presidents Facing North Korea - A Review of  
U.S. Foreign Policy", *Huffington Post*, no date, at Footnote Three <sup>3</sup>

**Thurs 'Blind into Baghdad'? Theory, Optimism and Reality**

*Required Reading:*

David H Dunn, "'Myths, Motivations and Misunderestimations': The  
Bush Administration and Iraq", *International Affairs* 79/2  
(March 2003) pp. 279-289.

**Week 10 Tues 'Blind into Baghdad'? Theory, Optimism and Reality cont.**

**Thurs The Forever War in Afghanistan - From Bush to Obama and Trump**

*Required Reading:* None

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.huffingtonpost.com/young-professionals-in-foreign-policy/three-presidents-facing-n b 9335546.html>.

*Week 11* Tues & Thurs Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq and all that: America and its European Allies

*Required Reading:*

Terry Terriff, "Fear and Loathing in NATO: The Atlantic Alliance after the Crisis over Iraq", *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, 4/3 (December 2004) 419-446.

**Research Essay Due: Tuesday 20 March 2018**

*Week 12* Tues & Thurs 'Leading from Behind': Obama, the Arab Spring, Libya, and Syria/Iraq

*Required Reading:*

Fawaz A. Gerges, "The Obama Approach to the Middle East: The End of America's Moment", *International Affairs*, 80/2 (2013) 299-323.

Jeffrey Goldberg, "The Obama Doctrine", *The Atlantic*, April 2016, at Footnote Four <sup>4</sup>:

Colin Dueck, "The Real Obama Doctrine Exposed", *The National Interest*, 28 April 2015, at Footnote Five <sup>5</sup>

*Week 13* Tues & Thurs The Decline of America? America and Near Peer Competitors

*Required Reading:*

Thomas J. Christiansen, "Obama and Asia: Confronting the Challenge of China", *Foreign Affairs*, Sept-Oct 2015: 28-36.

*Week 14* Tues Trumping the World?

*Required Reading:* To Be Determined

Thurs **Course review** (12 April 2018)

**Winter Term Ends, Friday, 13 April, 2018**

**NB.** All articles listed above without internet addresses can be found in the Library or through the Library's electronic access to journals.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2016/04/the-obama-doctrine/471525/>

<sup>5</sup> <http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-real-obama-doctrine-exposed-12745?page=show>

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons (e.g. illness with the appropriate documentation) are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

### Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head.

### University Regulations:

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html).

### Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

### Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests will be destroyed after three months; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints) and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising) for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)

Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: [ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca](mailto:ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca)

URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)