DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 633 Seminar 01
US Security Policy
Winter 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. T. Terriff
EMAIL: tterriff@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment only, to be held on Zoom. To book, contact the instructor at: tterriff@ucalgary.ca

SEMINAR DAY/TIME: Wednesdays 11:00 to 13:45
SEMINAR LOCATION: The seminar is synchronous and will held online using Zoom
DELIVERY METHOD: Web-Based
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None
D2L WEBSITE: https://d2l.ucalgary.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course examines US security policy, with an emphasis on how US security policy is made and on the main contemporary security issues the US faces today.

COURSE OBJECTIVE
To understand the factors, influences and actors which have shaped and continue to shape American security and defence policy in the post cold war period, and to gain an understanding of the main issues in contemporary US security and defence policy.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT
1 Seminar Presentation 20%
2 Research Proposal Wed 10 February 10%
3 Research Essay Wed 7 April 40%
4 Final exam (take home) Mon 14 April; due 19 April 30%

This is a seminar-based course, with a few exceptions. Each seminar session will consist of a student presentation on a selected issue/question based on the seminar topic. Students are required to deliver at least one oral seminar presentation, with the other students reading at least reading the designated text chapters and the designated required reading,

If a student misses a required course component, please get in touch the instructor as soon as possible.
READINGS

Core Texts
(Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Feb 2017)

Ivo H. Daalder and James M. Lindsay, *America Unbound: The Bush Revolution in Foreign Policy*  
Library: E902 INTERNET, and E902 .D33 2003

Additional Readings
Mead, Walter Russell *Special providence: American foreign policy and how it changed the world*  
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 empires: America’s war in Afghanistan*  
Zakaria, Fareed, *The Post American World, 2008*

Reading Current News

The character and content of US security policy often may be fast changing due to events. 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,* among others; unfortunately, almost all of these have imposed subscription fees in the past year or so and are now behind pay walls. *RealClearPolitics’ World and Defense sections are free, and provide some coverage (may be behind pay wall). The weekly news magazines such as *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 websites, that can be accessed for free; indeed, many if not most US security issues being currently debated are done so in a mixture of journals, newspapers and blogs.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:
• A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
• A current and updated web browser;
• Webcam (built-in or external);
• Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
• Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
• Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

SEMINARS
Do note that the seminar will be held each Wednesday, 11:00 to 13:45, each week of the term except for during the Term Break (Sunday, 14 February to Saturday, 20 February, 2021). The seminars are synchronous only.

CLASS PARTICIPATION
There is no mark for class participation, but students are expected to come to class prepared for discussion. This means staying up with the required readings as set forth on the course outline, plus reading at least one book or the equivalent beyond the identified required reading. Students are also expected to pay attention to 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.

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS
In each seminar session one or more students will be expected to give a presentation on a set question. Each student is required to give at least one presentation. The oral presentation should be approximately 30 minutes in length and develop an argument that addresses the set question. Further instructions, including a list of questions, will be furnished in a separate handout that is available on D2L in the Assignment folder.

Do note that students’ seminar presentation and research proposal/essay cannot be on the same topic.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL
Each student must develop a research question for their course research essay. The purpose of the research proposal is for the student to develop their research question, identify the context and significance of the research question, and identify the research methodology or approach to be used to address the research question. The research proposal shall be 1200 words in length and must in addition include a one-page bibliography of sources cited or consulted. Word count does not include required bibliography. The research proposal must be to be submitted as a MS Word document attached to an email message to Dr. Terriff.

Due date is Wednesday, 10 February 2021.

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

RESEARCH ESSAY
The research essay will address the research question set forth in the research proposal. The research essay shall be 8,000 – 10,000 words in length; word count does not include required bibliography. The research essay must be to be submitted as a MS Word document attached to an email message to Dr. Terriff. Due date for the research essay is Wednesday, 7 April 2021.
Do note that students’ seminar presentation and research proposal/essay cannot be on the same topic.

FINAL EXAM
The final exam is a take home research essay of 5,000 words. The Final Exam will be handed out at the end of the last seminar, **Wednesday, 14 April, 2021** and must be submitted as a MS Word document attached to an email sent to the course instructor no later than **12:00 Noon, Monday, 19 April, 2021**.

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 (3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support).

GRADING SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>(87-89)</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>(60-64)</td>
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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.

A late penalty of three (3) percent will be applied for each hour past the required submission time and date for the final take home exam.

CLASS PREPARATION AND DESIRE2LEARN
Seminars focus on the material presented in the textbook, required readings and general discussion relating to the topic(s) outlined in the seminar schedule. Students are expected to read the assigned text chapters and required readings before class and be prepared for class discussion. Important information and additional readings for US Security Policy (Political Science 633) are posted on Desire2Learn. Students should regularly check the Announcements section of Desire2Learn for ongoing notices.

*Your instructor may not necessarily cover all of the materials in the course outline, and the outline may be subject to change. 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.*
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

There are three main sections to the course. All three are seminar based.

Week 1 (Wed 13 January) Introduction

I Sources of Influence

Week 1 (Wed 13 January) American Political and Strategic Culture (rest of first seminar)

Required Reading:
Fishel, American National Security Policy, Ch 1.

Week 2 American Security Policy Decision Making: Of Policymakers, Bureaucracies, and Organizations

Required Reading:
Fishel, American National Security Policy, Ch. 2-5
The National Security Council: An FPRI Primer, Foreign Policy Research Institute, 5 Sept 2017 (5:20 Min video) At: Footnote 1

Week 3 The Cold War

Required Reading:


**Strongly Recommended Reading:**

## II US Security Policy Before 9/11

### Week 4 From 11/9 to 9/11: The Post Cold War Interregnum

**Required Reading:**


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 Three ³

### Week 5 From 11/9 to 9/11: War in a Time of Peace

**Required Reading:**
Fishel, *American National Security Policy*, Ch. 6-10


David Gray, “The Military as Peacemakers and Enforcers: Military Operations Other Than War in the 1990s”, Foreign Policy Research Institute, 23 April 2018, at Footnote Five ⁵

**Research Proposal Due:** *Wednesday, 10 February 2021*
To be submitted to Dr. Terriff as a MS Word document attached to an email message.

### Week 6 Reading Week: Sunday, 14 February to Saturday, 20 February, 2021

## III US Security and Defense Policy From 9/11 Onward

**Required Reading for Weeks 7 to 14**

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³ [https://www.ieim.uqam.ca/IMG/pdf/foreign_policy_firstcut.pdf](https://www.ieim.uqam.ca/IMG/pdf/foreign_policy_firstcut.pdf)
⁴ [https://warontherocks.com/2016/02/the-long-shadow-of-the-gulf-war/](https://warontherocks.com/2016/02/the-long-shadow-of-the-gulf-war/)

Week 7  The ‘Long War’: America’s Global War on Terrorism (GWOT)

Required Reading:

Week 8  Perils of Proliferation: Deterrence or Defence?

Required Reading:

Week 9  ‘Blind into Baghdad’? The US Intervention in Iraq, 2003-2011

Required Reading:
Fishel, American National Security Policy, Ch. 12
Hakan Tunç, 'What was it all about after all? The causes of the Iraq war', Contemporary Security Policy, 26/2 (2005) pp. 335-355.

Week 10  Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq, and all that: America and its European Allies

Required Reading:
Fishel, American National Security Policy, Ch. 11, 13 & 14

Carter Malkasian, “How the Good War Went Bad: America's Slow-Motion Failure in Afghanistan”, Foreign Affairs (Mar/Apr 2020)

**Week 11**  “Leading from Behind”: Obama, the Arab Spring, Libya, and Syria/Iraq

*Required Reading:*
- ‘President Obama's speech at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony’, 10 December 2009, at: see Footnote Seven 7

**Week 12**  America’s Decline? The Challenge of America’s (Near) Peer Competitors

*Required Reading:*

**Week 13**  Trumping the World?

*Required Reading:*
- Richard Haas, “Present at the Disruption”, *Foreign Affairs* (Sep/Oct 2020)
- “Whither the “City Upon a Hill”?: Donald Trump, America First, and American Exceptionalism”, *Texas National Security Review*, Vol 3, Iss 1 December 2019 , at Footnote Eleven 11:

**Research Essay Due Wednesday, 7 April, 2021.**

**Week 14**  (14 April)  Biden Time: A Return to Normalcy?

*Required Reading:*

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9  This article is available electronically through the Library but can be hard to access, so the instructor will distribute a copy to the seminar participants.

James Goldgeier and Bruce Jentleson, “The United States Is Not Entitled to Lead the World”, *Foreign Affairs*, September 2020


Thomas Wright “The Fraught Politics Facing Biden’s Foreign Policy” *Defense One*, 22 Nov 2020 at Footnote Twelve 12:

**The take home exam will be handed out at end of the final seminar on Wednesday, 14 April, 2021.**

**The exam must be submitted to the instructor no later than 12:00 Noon, Monday, 19 April 2021.**

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

**IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

**Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration**

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioners for Oaths, visit ucalgary.ca/registrar.

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Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html

**Absence From a Mid-term Examination**

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons 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 then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

**University Regulations**

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at 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/.

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.html. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Required Access to Technology
Please see the University’s resource page at https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031

Copyright Legislation
As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, “students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.”

Instructor Intellectual Property
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

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 meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources
For program planning and advice, please consult with the Arts Students’ Centre by calling 403-220-3580 or by email at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit 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].
**Important Contact Information**

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students’ Union Representatives  
Phone: 403-220-6551  
Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca  
Students’ Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students’ Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca  
URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

**Campus Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre*: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/)

*Student Wellness Services*:  
[https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services](https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services)

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website*: [https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/](https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/)