U.S. Foreign Policy Making
Eve Sandberg, Ph.D.
POLT 228; CRN: 14786
Fall 2012 Oberlin College

T & TH 3:00 P.M.- 4:00 P.M.  Room: King 327
Office Hours: Rice 207 W. 1:45-3:45 P.M. or by appointment if necessary

Final Exam: Friday December 21, 2012 at 7-9 P.M.
Please make your travel plans carefully, I cannot change your final exam date.

Questions this Course will Consider:
► What are the “touchstones” of U.S. foreign making?
► Do all U.S. Presidents pursue foreign policies based on common American foreign policy principles? Does “politics stop at the water’s edge” as Senator Arthur Vandenberg observed? If not, why not?
► How did the end of the Cold War affect U.S. foreign policies?
► How do realist, constructivist, analogical, and bureaucratic theories of politics help us understand U.S. foreign policy making?
► How is foreign policy made? How do different areas (economic, security, political) of foreign policy making involve different processes of policy making?
► How are foreign policy decisions implemented? What are the possible, multiple channels of implementation?
► How does domestic politics affect U.S. foreign policy making?
► When did U.S. foreign policy making become so influential globally?
► In 2013, can the U.S. be considered a diminished global actor and should your answer affect the country’s foreign policy making goals and processes?
► Will your world of foreign policy making in the next twenty years differ dramatically from foreign policy making in the past twenty years?
► What will be the top foreign policy challenges for the U.S. in 2013 as a new congress convenes and for whichever candidate wins the Presidency?
Students are required to attend and participate in class, to do assignments, and to attend any scheduled talks or movies. If you travel with a dance troupe or sports club and expect occasionally to miss a class or a speaker, please advise the professor in writing in advance of your absence (electronically is fine).

Grades will be based on the following:
Policy Memo - 20%
Group Paper - 20%
Political Essay – 20%
Final Exam - 20%.
General participation including cases, movies, group participation, postings, attending assigned lectures and events, and class participation (note: you cannot participate in class, if you do not attend class; students working in groups will offer advisory grades on the work of their team members) – 20%

If you do not complete any one of your assignments, regardless of your grades on other assignments, you will not have completed the requirements for passing this course. You will be eligible to receive a "no entry" grade.

Readings:
Most of your readings are not from a single book. Rather your readings consist of journal articles or chapters of books that are electronically available on Blackboard. Relevant links and videos can also be found through Blackboard. Mudd library has books and journals as well as government documents and memoirs, etc. (see handout on doing library research) that you may consult for your research.

You are responsible for the information in the readings when you enter class on the day the readings are listed on the syllabus.

Please familiarize yourself with the Oberlin Honor Code which guides your work in this, and in all, your classes.
http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html

Computer and Cell Phone Etiquette: cell phones may not be used during class and should be off during each class session; computers may be used
only for classroom work such as taking notes or consulting readings or assignments.

Tuesday September 4, 2012  **Introductory Class:**
Faculty presents an overview of this course.
If time permits, class discussion of: What is Power in Foreign Policy?

### Section One: The Historic Roots of U.S. Foreign Policy Norms

Thursday September 6, 2012  **International Affairs in 1776**

**Readings:**

**David Rothkopf,** *Power Inc. the Epic Rivalry Between Big Business and Government- and the Reckoning that Lies Ahead*  

**George Washington,** Farewell Address  
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/washing.asp

**Key Words, Phrases, Concepts, and Theories:**

**David Rothkopf**
Mercantilist system
Treaty of Westphalia- 1648, Locke’s *Two Treatises of Government* -1689/90 and Richard Henry Lee’s three motions in The U.S. Continental Congress - 1776
British East India Company; (a state-sponsored company with, according to to Rothkopf, company-sponsored states)
Empire Wars: The Great Northern War; War of Spanish Succession and War of Austrian Succession; England in India, Caribbean, North America.
Emerich de Vattel, *The Law of Nations*
Thomas Jefferson’s Declaration of Independence –as a foreign policy statement
Alexander Hamilton and Adam Smith’s *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (1776) and issues of capital, international flows, and wealth.

**George Washington**
Union Parties ¶s 31-42. Foreign affairs and Permanent alliances
Peace,War and Expenditures Taxes
Tuesday September 11, 2012 American Exceptionalism and Monroe’s Doctrine


Monroe’s State of the Union Address 1823 (Monroe Doctrine)

In-Class Discussion of First Assignment- Writing a Policy Memo

Section Two: Designing Policies for a New International Power

Thursday September 13, 2012 When and Why was the U.S. Perceived as Building an Empire and Becoming a Major Power?


What forces were pushing Americanization and expansionism during the Antebellum period? What tools did the US have for expansion? What constrained U.S. expansion? How did the Civil War affect US foreign policy? What forces created what many call the “American Empire?” Why do some scholars credit Presidents McKinley and Teddy Roosevelt with the development of an American Empire?

Theodore Roosevelt, The Roosevelt Corollary (1904)

Two Maps of U.S. territorial expansion – on blackboard

Also, see: a timeline of U.S. Intervention in Latin America and the Caribbean.
http://kuhttp.cc.ukans.edu/cwis/organizations/las/interven.html

Evening in Finney Chapel: 7:30 P.M.
Convocation: Duffy, Baker, Fouhy, & Belman National top journalists discuss the election

Friday, September 14th. Amy Goodman , a journalist and host of Democracy Now! a radio program that covers political issues and attempts
to look at less prominent perspectives on the issues at hand, will be speaking on campus.

Tuesday September 18, 2012 **The World in 1945-1950.**  

Thursday September 20, 2012 “**There at the Creation**” of the post-World War II Foreign Policy Strategies of Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennedy.  
*Woodrow Wilson’s Fourteen Points*  
Http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/1918/14points.html  
*The Atlantic Alliance*  
*FDR’s Four Freedoms Address*  
Http://www.freedomshrine.com/documents/four%20freedoms.html  
*Harry S. Truman’s Address Before a Joint Session of Congress, March 12, 1947* (known as the Truman Doctrine this request for aid to Greece and Turkey was seen as a policy statement of containment)  
http://ac.acusd.edu/History/text/coldwar/truman47.html  
*X (George Kennan), “The Sources of Soviet Conduct” Foreign Affairs*  
July 1947 pp. 566-582.  
*John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, John F. Kennedy Alliance for Progress*  
http://www.jfklibrary.org/JFK/JFK-in-History/Alliance-for-Progress.aspx  
*Dean Acheson, Present at the Creation: My Years at the State Department*  

**Key Words, Phrases, Concepts, and Theories:**

The Atlantic Alliance, Hiroshima and Nagasaki; George Kennan and Realism/Containment issues; The Truman Doctrine; The Marshall Plan; Wilsonianism/Idealism, Peace Corps, and Alliance for Progress
The Origins of U.S. Intelligence Gathering


Why was foreign intelligence believed to be a necessary component of American foreign policy under Truman? Who opposed it and why? What were some of its earliest tasks? What special powers did the CIA have? What role, if any, was contemplated for former Nazis? What credibility checks did the CIA have for its sources? What roles did President Ford learn that the CIA played in the Nixon/Kissinger and previous administrations? According to Weiner, how did the Clinton Administration manage and/or mismanage the CIA? How does Weiner evaluate the CIA during the early years of the war against al Qaeda? What should be the role of foreign intelligence?

**Wednesday is Yom Kippur-- no Oberlin College classes.**

(Yom Kippur begins Tuesday night September 25, 2012)

Section Three: Theories and Tools of U.S. Foreign Policy Making

Thursday September 27, 2012 Executive and Congressional Authority and Roles in U.S. Foreign Policy Making


James M. Lindsay’s blog: “Water’s Edge” http://blogs.cfr.org/lindsay/

What motivates different legislators when they take positions on foreign policy options? For a President who wishes to enact foreign policy initiatives, what are the veto points in the system that could prevent him/her from achieving his/her goals? What tools have Presidents used to bypass the veto points for their proposed foreign policy agendas? Are there differing issues for democratic and authoritarian states when making foreign policy?
Tuesday October 2, 2012  Korea and Vietnam through the lens of analogical decision making and group think.


President Eisenhower’s Farewell Address and the “Military Industrial Complex”

Thursday October 4, 2014  Cuban Missile Crisis through the lens of bureaucratic decision making


Tuesday October 9, 2012  JFK, RFK, and Nuclear Decision Making


Evan Thomas, “Bobby at the Brink” NEWSWEEK Aug 14, 2000


Wednesday, October 10, 2012  12:00 to 1:00 p.m. (ET) (TBA probably at Mudd Library 4th floor)
"Campaign 2012 and Foreign Policy" James M. Lindsay, Senior Vice President, Director of Studies, and Maurice R. Greenberg Chair, Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).
Thursday October 11, 2012 Administrative Agencies and Congressional Committees


Friday October 12, 2012 Policy Memo due. Put a hardcopy in the black plastic box outside my office (Rice 207) by 5 P.M. and post electronically on blackboard within twenty minutes.

Tuesday October 16, 2012 LBJ, Nixon, and Kissinger


Thursday October 18, 2012 The foreign policies of Presidents Ford, Reagan, and GHW Bush


President Gerald Ford on Eastern Europe in his debate with Governor Carter

GHW Bush’s New World Order speech to Congress
Tuesday October 20-28, 2012 is Fall Recess
The only Presidential debate devoted to U.S. foreign policy will be held during fall recess

Tuesday October 30, 2012 Foreign Policy Issues in the Campaign: Class Discussion

Joshua Busby and Jonathan Monten, Republican Elites and Foreign Policy Attitudes Political Science Quarterly Volume 127, Number 1. Spring 2012 pp. 105-142(38)

Democratic Party Platform on Foreign Policy
Republican Party Platform on Foreign Policy

In-Class Discussion of Second Assignment- Group Project

Thursday November 1, 2012 Carter’s foreign policies
Carter and Brzezinski Responses to Mead- Foreign Policy March/April 2010
Carter’s Alternative Approach – one page handout detailing Carter’s main foreign policy goals (available on Blackboard)

Tuesday November 6, 2012: REMEMBER TO VOTE!!!!

Group work in the Oberlin College Special Collections Library on the War of 1812. Your group will research and produce a paper based on the special collection material with appropriate footnotes:
Group One: U.S. analogical decision making and the War of 1812
Group Two: U.S. bureaucratic politics and the War of 1812
Group Four: British analogical decision making and the War of 1812
Group Five: British bureaucratic politics and the War of 1812
Group Six: Were there any possible negotiations that might have averted war? Why were such negotiations unsuccessful?
Thursday November 8, 2012 **Foreign Policies of Bill Clinton**


Tuesday November 13, 2012 **Foreign Policies of George W. Bush**

Donald Rumsfeld “Transforming the Military” *Foreign Affairs*  
Vol. 81. No. 3. May/June 2002 pp. 20-32  
President George W. Bush excerpt on “nation building.”  

Thursday November 15, 2012 **The Foreign Policies of Barak Obama**

Zbigniew Brzezinski, “From Hope to Audacity” *Foreign Affairs* vol. 89, No. 1. Jan/Feb 2010  
Parag Khanna, “How’s That New World Order Working Out?” *Foreign Policy* December 2010

In 2007, what goals did candidate Obama and his advisors identify for his future presidency? What are Brzezinski’s goals in publishing this article in *Foreign Affairs*?

Recommended: Barack Obama, “Renewing American Leadership”  

Monday November 19, 2012 Group Assignment Due. Place a hardcopy in the black plastic box outside Rice 207 by 5 P.M. and post on blackboard within twenty minutes.
Tuesday November 20, 2012 Hilary Rodam Clinton and “Civilian Power”


In-Class Discussion of Political Essay Assignment

Thursday November 22, 2012 Happy Thanksgiving!!

Tuesday November 27, 2012 Library Session Mudd Library, Room 113. Resources for Political Essay Assignment

Thursday November 29, 2012 - Research Day for Political Essay Assignment

Tuesday December 4, 2012 The United States and Iran
David Painter, The United States and Great Britain and Mossadegh (Washington D.C. Georgetown University Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, 1993)
Olli Heinonen, “The Rocky Road of Nuclear Diplomacy with Iran” Arms Control Today vol 42 No 6 July/August 2012 pp 8-10.

Wednesday, December 5, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Micah Zenko, Douglas Dillon Fellow, "U.S. Drone Policy" Council on Foreign Relations (ET) CFR (TBA most likely, Mudd 4th floor)
Thursday December 6, 2012 U.S. Foreign Policy and China


Mark Lynas, “How Do I Know China Wrecked the Copenhagen Deal? I Was in the Room.” The Guardian Tuesday 22 December 2009 guardian.co.uk

Trade and diplomacy excerpts from the Economist and BloombergBusinessweek (on blackboard)

Monday December 10, 2012 Political Essay due

Tuesday December 11, 2012 wrap up

Thursday December 13, 2012 wrap up