Course Description

This course provides a review of how US foreign policy is made. It concentrates on the elements of US government and society that are involved in the policymaking process.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate their ability to understand the concepts involved in the creation of US foreign policy
- Have a familiarity with the various elements of government involved in foreign policy
- Understand US foreign policy toward various regions of the world

Texts and Course Materials


Course Requirements and Grading Policy

This course will emphasize the bureaucratic decision making process involved in foreign policy, and focus on student participation. Accordingly, each week, students will submit at the beginning of class two questions based on the assigned readings for the week. The questions can be on any aspect of the readings, but should be limited to the assigned materials. The questions should be based on a minimum of two separate readings; questions that show a synthesis of the readings are preferred. Students’ names should be included on the questions. There will be a midterm and a final. Your grade will be computed on the following basis:

- Attendance, participation, and timely submission of weekly questions 30%
- Midterm 30%
- Final 40%
Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be in class each day scheduled.

Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the policies set forth in UCSD’s academic catalog and Student Handbook. Cooperation with one another is encouraged, but plagiarism is a violation of university policy and will be treated accordingly.

Course Timeline

Week One—Introduction. Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5.

Week Two—Foreign Policy Institutions. Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9.

Week Three —Regional Foreign Policy: Third World. Chapters 12, 16 and 17


Week Five – Midterm Examination


Week Seven—Issues: Terrorism. Chapter 19.

Week Eight – Issues: Environment. Chapter 20


Week Eleven—Final Examination