

POL 374, Comparative Foreign Policies

Spring 2009

Tuesdays, Thursdays 9:30-10:45 am

313 Harrison Hall

THE ONLINE VERSION OF THIS SYLLABUS CONTAINS ACTIVE LINKS:

www.users.muohio.edu/neacklj/374spring2009.pdf

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Office hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 11:00-12:00, Fridays TBA

GOALS OF POL 374

- ✚ To review, analyze, and consider leading research and theoretical puzzles on foreign policy.
 - ✚ To learn about the substance of the foreign policies of many countries from around the world in the present time period and recent past.
 - ✚ To develop and sharpen analytical skills to use when confronting new foreign policy puzzles, whether working in government, working in the private sector in this era of globalization, developing cases and teaching materials to present to students of many ages, reading a newspaper, viewing a news program on television, or deliberating -- as an informed and active citizen -- about the direction of your country's foreign policy.
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REQUIRED BOOK AND READINGS

Laura Neack, *The New Foreign Policy: Power Seeking in a Globalized Era*, 2nd ed. (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008).

All other readings are available on the course Blackboard site or through King Library electronic reserves.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

This is an upper-level political science course, thus students are expected to perform at an advanced level. Students are required to read and master articles from scholarly journals, be active and informed participants in class discussions, and complete three take-home, long essay exams. Much of class time will be spent discussing the readings and not in lecture. Students need to come to class prepared to talk about the assigned readings.

In this course, we will consider how foreign policy scholarship helps us understand contemporary world affairs. It is important that students become informed and stay informed about what is happening in the world. Students should read a national news source every day and tune your radio to WMUB (88.5 FM) every morning to listen to Morning Edition or every afternoon to listen to All Things Considered from National Public Radio.

Pop quizzes will be used in this course to encourage students to complete the reading assignments on schedule.

Pop quiz grades will be computed into the exam grade for the relevant section of the course. Each quiz will count 5% of the exam grade.

Exams.

There will be three exams in this course. Each is a take-home, long-form, problem-solving essay exam that will require extensive use and application of the course readings. *In order to successfully complete and pass these exams, students will need to read the assignments – sometimes more than once.* Students who miss class on any of the exam distribution dates will only be permitted to write the exam with full documentation of the absence. See Attendance Policy below.

- ✚ The first exam will be distributed on February 12 and due at the start of class on February 17.
- ✚ The second exam will be distributed on March 26 and due at the start of class on March 31.
- ✚ The third exam will be distributed on April 30 and due by 5:30 pm on Tuesday, May 5.

Grading Scale.

Plus/minus grades will be used in this course according to the following scale:

97-100 A+	93-96 A	90-92 A-
87-89 B+	83-86 B	80-82 B-
77-79 C+	73-76 C	70-72 C-
67-69 D+	63-66 D	60-62 D-
59 and below F		

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Miami University requires that students attend all regularly-scheduled class sessions. The university attendance policy can be found in full at the following link:

http://www.units.muohio.edu/secretary/policies_guidelines/student_handbook/academic_regulations/chapter9/index.html#toc194198528

The exception to Miami's full-attendance policy is as follows:

"There are no University-recognized excused absences except for religious observances that require absence from a class session and other required class activities. Students must give written notification to their instructor within the first two weeks of class of the religious event which prohibits class attendance, and the date that will be missed, if officially known. Instructors will, without prejudice, provide such students with reasonable accommodations for completing missed work. However, the students are ultimately responsible for material covered in class, regardless of whether the student is absent or present." Student Handbook 2008-2009, Part 1: Undergraduate Academic Regulations, Chapter 1.9.A. General Attendance Policies.

Beyond this, the following attendance policy will be used in this course:

- Students who are 10 minutes late for class will be marked absent for that class meeting.
- Students who leave before the end of class without prior permission of instructor will be marked absent for that class meeting.
- Upon the third unexcused absence, the student's final grade will be reduced one full letter grade.
- Upon the fourth unexcused absence, the student will be dropped from the course with a grade of F.

The instructor retains the sole right to determine what is or is not an excused absence. Early spring break departures and late spring break returns to campus will not qualify as excusable absences.

Consult the Miami University Student Handbook for more information on university attendance policy and other student rights and responsibilities. In the Handbook, be sure to review the Code of Student Conduct (http://www.units.muohio.edu/secretary/policies_guidelines/student_handbook/code_of_conduct/index.html)

especially on matters regarding academic honesty and respect for other members of the class and university community.

DISABILITY RESOURCES

You must be registered with the Office of Learning Assistance if you have a disability for which accommodations should be made. For more information, consult the online directory for services for students with disabilities, http://www.units.muohio.edu/secretary/policies_guidelines/student_handbook/health_and_safety/chapter3/index.html#toc194198556

COURSE OUTLINE

Jan. 13, 15

Introduction: A Tangled Tale of Tibet

- ✚ *New Foreign Policy (NFP)*, Ch. 1

Jan. 20, 22

Rational Actors and National Interests

- ✚ *NFP*, Ch. 2
- ✚ Thomas C. Schelling, "The Diplomacy of Violence," in *Essential Readings in World Politics*, 3rd ed., Mingst & Snyder, eds. (New York: WW Norton, 2008), 338-346, LIBRARY ELECTRONIC RESERVE

Jan. 27, 29

Cognitive Misers and Distrusting Leaders

- ✚ *NFP*, Ch. 3
- ✚ Louise Grace Shaw, "Attitudes of the British Political Elite towards the Soviet Union," *Diplomacy and Statecraft* 13, 1 (March 2002): 55-74. BLACKBOARD
- ✚ Stephen Benedict Dyson, "Personality and Foreign Policy: Tony Blair's Iraq Decisions," *Foreign Policy Analysis* 2, 3 (July 2006): 289-306. BLACKBOARD

Feb. 3, 5, 10

Decision Units, Small Groups and Bureaucratic Politics

- ✚ *NFP*, Ch. 4
- ✚ Patrick J. Haney, "Foreign-Policy Advising: Models and Mysteries from the Bush Administration," *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 35, 2 (June 2005): 289-302. BLACKBOARD

Feb. 12 EXAM 1 DISTRIBUTED AND DISCUSSED.

EXAM ANSWER IS DUE AT THE START OF THE NEXT CLASS SESSION ON FEB. 17.

Feb. 17, 19, 24

National Self-Image, Culture, and Domestic Institutions

- ✚ *NFP*, Ch. 5
- ✚ Richard Devetak and Jacqui True, "Diplomatic Divergence in the Antipodes: Globalisation, Foreign Policy and State Identity in Australia and New Zealand," *Australian Journal of Political Science* 41, 2 (June 2006): 241-256. BLACKBOARD

Feb. 26, March 3, 5

Domestic Politics

- ✚ NFP, Ch. 6
- ✚ Edward D. Mansfield and Jon C. Pevehouse, "Democratization and International Organizations," *International Organization* 60, 1 (Winter 2006): 137-167. BLACKBOARD

March 10, 12 SPRING BREAK

March 17, 19, 24

Public Opinion and Media

- ✚ NFP, Ch. 7
- ✚ Jang Hyun Kim, Tuo-Yu Su, and Junhao Hong, "The Influence of Geopolitics and Foreign Policy on the U.S. and Canadian Media: An Analysis of Newspaper Coverage of Sudan's Darfur Conflict," *Harvard International Journal of Press/Politics* 12, 3 (2007): 87-95. BLACKBOARD
- ✚ John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, "The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy," *Middle East Policy* XIII, 3 (Fall 2006): 29-87. BLACKBOARD

March 26 EXAM 2 DISTRIBUTED AND DISCUSSED.

EXAM ANSWER IS DUE AT THE START OF THE NEXT CLASS SESSION ON MARCH 31.

March 31, April 2, 7

Great Powers

- ✚ NFP, Ch. 8
- ✚ Stephen M. Walt, "A New Grand Strategy for American Foreign Policy," *Boston Review*, Feb-March 2005, available online at <http://www.bostonreview.net/BR30.1/walt.html>

April 9, 14, 16

Other Powers

- ✚ NFP, Ch. 9
- ✚ Charles Ziegler, "The Energy Factor in China's Foreign Policy," *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 11, 1 (Spring 2006): 1-23. BLACKBOARD
- ✚ Tuomas Forsberg, "German Foreign Policy and the War on Iraq: Anti-Americanism, Pacifism or Emancipation?" *Security Dialogue* 36, 2 (June 2005): 213-231. BLACKBOARD

April 21, 23, 28

A Nested Game with Many Players: A Tangled Tale of Pinochet and Beyond

- ✚ NFP, Ch. 10
- ✚ Andrew F. Cooper, *Celebrity Diplomacy* (Paradigm Publishers, 2007), ENTIRE.

April 30 EXAM 3 DISTRIBUTED AND DISCUSSED.

EXAM ANSWER IS DUE TUESDAY, MAY 5, 5:30 PM.