Political Science 430G-001  
Conduct of American Foreign Policy  
Fall 2001  
(MWF 10:00-10:50; CB 231)

Instructor: John M. Cotter  
Office: 1627 Patterson Office Tower  
Office Hours: MWF 1:00-3:00 and by appointment  
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Course Web Page: http://jcotter.pageout.net

Course Description:  
This course serves as a broad overview of contemporary American foreign policy. The goal is to help students develop a better understanding of the actors in, influences on, and outcomes of American foreign policy making.  

This course will not simply be a history lesson in what happened during the Cold War and a few years after 1991. Emphasis will be placed on theoretical understanding of the Cold War, and especially American foreign policy behavior in the post-Cold War era. To develop more thorough knowledge of American foreign policy since World War II we will look at 1) different time periods (Cold War and post-Cold War), 2) different levels of analysis (domestic policy process and international context), and 3) different foreign policy issue areas (including military, diplomatic, economic, and environmental affairs). Emphasis will also be placed on students own critical analysis (in class discussion and assignments) of the competing arguments in various areas of the field.

Due to the amount of material we must cover in one semester, lectures will not simply go over what is in the assigned reading. The readings will serve as a lead into lectures and discussions in class. Consequently, students are strongly encouraged to come to class on a regular basis and read the assigned material before class. You will benefit more from the lectures by being prepared, and using the opportunity to ask questions about the material presented.

Students are encouraged to ask questions during lectures and discussions to clarify concepts that are unclear. Students are also encouraged to stop by my office or make an appointment with me while studying for tests, writing a paper, or just to discuss some of the course material.

Required Texts:  

For Purchase:  

Full Text on Infotrac--several articles as noted on Class and Reading Schedule.  
Plus other articles to be distributed in class.

Grade Distribution and Course Requirements:  

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic Notification</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>List of Sources</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Outline</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total for Research Paper</strong></td>
<td><strong>30%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Short Papers (10% each)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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_Exams_. The final will be cumulative. Exams will be a combination of objective (multiple choice, ids, matching, etc.) and essay questions covering both lectures and assigned reading.

_Research Paper_. Students will be required to write a research paper (10-15 pages) analyzing one of the controversies in the *Taking Sides* text or another controversy in American foreign policy that interests you. In the paper, students will have to examine the arguments made by the two or more sides of the issue, research other interpretations of the controversy, and make an overall evaluation on which side has the best argument making use of the analytical tools we develop throughout the semester. The paper does not require an enormous amount of outside research; instead, your own critical analysis and interpretation is the focus of this assignment. Additional details and potential strategies for this assignment will be discussed and summarized in a future handout in class. If a student wishes to analyze a controversy not covered in *Taking Sides*, the instructor must approve the topic.

_Short Papers_. Students will also be required to write two short papers (5-7 pages). These papers do not require any outside research, and will ask to students to synthesize and evaluate various parts of the course material. Questions for these papers will distributed at least one week prior to the due date.

_Reading Quizzes and Participation_. There will be several announced quizzes throughout the semester that will test students’ knowledge of the week’s assigned reading. This is necessary to make sure students are familiar with the general topics that will be discussed during lectures and to promote quality in-class participation. Consistent class participation will be important in assigning final grades to students that are on the “borderline” between two letter grades. There will be many opportunities for class participation and discussion, especially through answering questions posed to the class during the lectures. These questions will ask students to summarize an argument or concept from the text, give a real-world example of a phenomena being discussed, relate concepts introduced at different points in the course, or address shortcomings in the theories or perspectives discussed. Students may also bring up recent developments in world affairs and relate them to a topic discussed during the course. But in order to analyze these new developments you must be informed on recent events in international politics, by reading newspapers and weekly magazines available in the library, or through links to these news sources contained in the Department of Political Science web page: http://www.uky.edu/AS/PoliSci. These same links may be useful to you in writing your research paper.

_Grading Scale_. Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>89.5-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>79.5-89.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>69.5-79.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>59.5-69.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>59.4% and below</td>
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_Clасс Policies:_

_Plagiarism and Cheating_. Plagiarism and cheating are serious violations and will be dealt with as such and according to University guidelines. For specific policies, see the University of Kentucky Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.htm or, hardcopy available from the Dean of Students, 513 Patterson Office Tower.

_Make-up Exams and Late Papers_. Make-up exams will only be given if the student provides a University approved excuse for having missed an exam. The research paper, and all other related assignments, must be turned in on the due date. One letter grade will be deducted for each day the paper is late.

_Tentative Class and Reading Schedule:_
8/22 - First Day of Class—Course Introduction

Week 1 – 8/24, 8/27, 8/29, 8/31 – Principles of American Foreign Policy: Approaches and Evaluation
Jentleson Ch. 1.

9/3 - No Class - Labor Day
Week 2 – 9/5, 9/7 – Origins of the Cold War
Jentleson Ch.4.

Week 3 – 9/10, 9/12, 9/14 – The End of the Cold War: Lessons and the Future
Jentleson Ch. 5.

Week 4 – 9/17, 9/19, 9/21 – The Domestic Context
Jentleson Ch. 2.
Rourke Issue 8.

Week 5 – 9/24, 9/26 - 9/28 – The Domestic Context cont.
Jentleson Ch. 6.
Rourke Issue 9.

9/28 - SHORT PAPER #1 DUE

Week 6 – 10/1, 10/3 – Grand Strategies
Posen and Ross in America's Strategic Choices
10/5 - No Class - Fall Break

Week 7 – 10/8, 10/10, 10/12 – Liberal Internationalism: Collective Security and Europe
Jentleson Ch. 7.
Kupchan and Kupchan in America's Strategic Choices.
Rourke Issue 18.

10/8 - TOPIC NOTIFICATION DUE

10/15 - MIDTERM EXAM

Week 8 – 10/17, 10/19 – Realism: Competing Visions
Gholz, Press, and Sapolsky in America's Strategic Choices.
Wohlforth in America's Strategic Choices.
Rourke Issues 2 and 3.

Week 9 – 10/22, 10/24, 10/26 – Geopolitics: Russia and China
Jentleson pp. 271-283.
Rourke Issues 5 & 6.
Week 10 – 10/29, 10/31, 11/2 – Alliances and Arms Control
Jentleson pp. 283-298.
Rourke Issues 15 & 16.

11/2 - SOURCE LIST DUE

Week 11 – 11/5, 11/7, 11/9 – Intervention
Jentleson pp. 298-310.
Rourke Issue 4.

Week 12 – 11/12, 11/14, 11/16 – Intervention cont. and Terrorism
11/12 - SHORT PAPER #2 DUE
Jentleson pp. 310-315.

Week 13 – 11/19, 11/21 – Trade and Sanctions
Jentleson Ch. 9.
Rourke Issues 7, 11, and 12.

11/19 - OUTLINE DUE
11/23 – No class – Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 14 – 11/26, 11/28, 11/30 – Environment
Rourke Issue 13.

11/30 - RESEARCH PAPER IS DUE

Week 15 – 12/3, 12/5, 12/7- Democracy and Peace
Jentleson Ch. 10.

FINAL EXAM – Tuesday, December 11, 2001 @ 1pm