SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

This is a seminar on foreign policy analysis. Foreign policy analysis is a broad “field” of study located primarily in the field of international relations, but more appropriately located in the overlap between international and comparative politics. This seminar surveys some of the classic and contemporary research on the sources, determinants, and outcomes of states’ foreign policies using the individual, state, and system levels of analysis as frameworks.

REQUIRED READINGS

No books have been ordered for this seminar. Some books and articles have been placed on paper reserve at King Library. All other readings can be found using the library’s website (search the indexes database).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

25% Participation in Seminar Discussions. This is not a lecture course. The instructor’s role in a seminar is to guide, facilitate, and contribute to the seminar discussion. A seminar is totally dependent on the full and informed participation of its members. All students must come to seminar meetings prepared to discuss the readings and participate in the discussion. Here are the threshold elements of a good seminar discussion:

- Evidence of careful preparation of assigned readings.
- Logical consistency in comments, appropriateness of comments to discussion, originality, and use of relevant evidence in the arguments made.
- Comments that are clear, concise, and respectful of others.
- The extent to which comments contribute to the process of the discussion, such as building on the ideas of others, providing constructive criticism, asking constructive questions, or indicating a careful listening to others.

The reading load in the class does not, in and of itself, constitute a reading list for a Ph.D. qualifying examination in foreign policy. No single seminar or set of seminars will provide students with all the readings in a subject that should be mastered for qualifying exams. Scholarship involves independent study; the time to begin your independent study was yesterday.
25% Reading Summaries and Questions. Each seminar participant must write summaries and questions for every assigned reading. More details on this are indicated in the course outline below and will be discussed in the first seminar meeting. These summaries and questions are due each Thursday at noon via email to the seminar participants and the instructor.

25% Research Design. Each seminar participant will write a research design over the course of the semester. The course outline below indicates when different parts of the research design are due. Expectations about the research design will be discussed in the first seminar meeting.

25% Final Exam. The final exam for this course will be on Thursday, May 8, 7:30-9:30 am.

Attendance. The university requires that students attend all regularly scheduled class sessions, with the exception of University recognized excused absences for religious observances. Miami policy states that, “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.”

- Beyond this, **failure to attend one full seminar meeting will result in a 10% reduction of the final seminar grade, unless the absence is excused.**
- The second unexcused absence will result in the dropping of the student from the class roll with a grade of F.
- Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late for a seminar meeting will be marked as absent without excuse for that entire meeting unless the tardiness is excused.
- Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late will not be permitted to turn in any assignments due on that day.
- The instructor reserves the sole right to determine the type of documentation necessary for an excused absence, beyond those that pertain to the religious observation excused absence noted above.
COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

FOR EACH READING LISTED BELOW, STUDENTS MUST WRITE A 1 PARAGRAPH SUMMARY AND 1 QUESTION. PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME ASSIGNMENTS HAVE A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT SET OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUMMARY AND QUESTION.

EACH SUMMARY SHOULD START WITH A FULL BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY FOR THE ARTICLE.

SUMMARIES AND QUESTIONS ARE DUE BY NOON ON THE THURSDAY BEFORE THE ASSIGNED DATE VIA EMAIL TO ALL OF THE SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS AND THE INSTRUCTOR.

Jan. 18
Introduction to course; discussion of research designs

Jan. 25
Theory or practice? Theory or policy?


Feb. 1
Studying foreign policy before Comparative Foreign Policy

Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, Columbia University Press, 1959, entire. Write a 1 paragraph summary of and 1 question for each “image” discussed. Write a 1 paragraph summary of and 1 question for final chapter. TWO COPIES OF THIS BOOK ARE AVAILABLE AT RESERVE DESK KING LIBRARY.

Feb. 8 // RESEARCH DESIGN QUESTIONS DUE
Comparative Foreign Policy/Foreign Policy Analysis

James N. Rosanau, "Pre-Theories and Theories of Foreign Policy," excerpts in *Classics of International Relations*, J. Vasquez, ed., Prentice Hall, 1996. PAPER COPY AT RESERVE DESK.


Feb. 15
The individual level of analysis: Rational actors and national interests


Feb. 22
The individual level of analysis: Cognition


Feb. 29 // RESEARCH DESIGN LITERATURE REVIEW DUE
The individual level of analysis: Decision units and groupthink


Esra Çuhadar-Gürkaynak and Binnur Özekeci-Taner, “Decisionmaking Process Matters: Lessons Learned from Two Turkish Foreign Policy Cases,” *Turkish Studies* 5, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 43-78.


Mar. 7
The state level of analysis: National identity and culture


Laura Neack, "Linking State Type with Foreign Policy Behavior," Ch. 13 in *Foreign Policy Analysis*, Neack, Hey and Haney, eds., Prentice Hall, 1995. PAPER COPY AT RESERVE DESK KING LIBRARY.

Mar. 14 // RESEARCH DESIGN – REPHRASING OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS DUE
The state level of analysis: Institutions and domestic politics

Joe D. Hagan, "Domestic Political Explanations in the Analysis of Foreign Policy," Ch. 8 in *Foreign Policy Analysis*. PAPER COPY AT RESERVE DESK KING LIBRARY.


Mar. 21 SPRING BREAK

Mar. 28 CLASS TO BE RESCHEDULED FOR EARLIER IN WEEK – ONE HOUR WORK SESSION ON HOW TO MAKE RESEARCH QUESTIONS RESEARCHABLE

Apr. 4 // RESEARCH DESIGN RESEARCHABLE QUESTIONS, DEFINITIONS DUE
The state level of analysis: Public opinion and media


Apr. 11
The system level of analysis: Grand strategy options for the United States


Robert A. Art, A Grand Strategy for America, Cornell University Press, 2003, read Introduction and chs. 2 and 7. THIS BOOK IS ON RESERVE AT KING LIBRARY.

Apr. 18
The system level of analysis: Other powers


Apr. 25  
The system level of analysis: Non-state actors

Karen Mingst, "Uncovering the Missing Links: Linkage Actors and Their Strategies in Foreign Policy Analysis," in Foreign Policy Analysis. PAPER COPY AT RESERVE DESK KING LIBRARY.


May 2 // COMPLETE RESEARCH DESIGN PRESENTED TO CLASS AND SUBMITTED TO INSTRUCTOR

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 7:30-9:30 am // FINAL EXAM