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. Some articles can be found on the seminar Blackboard site. All other readings can be found using the library’s website (search the indexes database).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

20% 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 assigned topic of 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.

30% Reading Summaries and Questions

Each seminar participant must write summaries and questions for every assigned reading.

• For each reading listed below, students must write a one paragraph summary and one question suitable for seminar discussion.
• Each summary should start with a full bibliographic entry for the article using ASPA style (http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocAPSA.html).
• Each summary must contain page citations to the ideas noted. Failure to cite specific page numbers is poor scholarship and will result in no grade for that assignment. For this assignment, citations should take this simple form: (p. 12).
• No summary may be longer than 300 words.
• No summary should just restate the abstract of the article.
• No question may be longer than 75 words.
• This assignment must be typed, single-spaced, in 12 pt font with no more than 1” margins all around.
• Summaries and questions must be emailed to the instructor by 4 pm on the Wednesday before the seminar meeting.
• Questions must be emailed via the seminar’s Blackboard site to all participants and the instructor by 4 pm on the Wednesday before the seminar meeting.

These summaries and questions are due weekly but will be graded monthly.

30% Annotated Bibliography

Each seminar participant will research and write an annotated bibliography. The bibliography is due in different parts at different dates in the semester as indicated on the course outline below.

For an explanation of annotated bibliographies and examples, consult http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/AnnotatedBibliography.html

Using this site, you should plan to write informative annotations for each work that also contain a few sentences of evaluation for each. Specifically, your evaluation must focus on how the work relates to other works in your bibliography. You must also use APSA style for citations. Each annotation must be no longer than 300 words.

The annotated bibliography must contain 20 references consisting of book chapters and scholarly articles. Do not include whole books on your list; instead, use chapters from books. Do not include articles from popular magazines.

20% Final Exam

The final exam will be a take-home exam distributed the last meeting of the seminar. The exam answer is due on Tuesday, May 4 by 4 pm.

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.

**DISABILITY RESOURCES**

Students with disabilities for which accommodation should be made must register with the Office of Disability Resources (ODR) in the Campus Avenue Building. If you do not know how to begin the process of registering with ODR, please see the instructor.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS**

**January 14**  **INTRODUCTION**

**January 21**  **FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS**


**January 28**  **RATIONAL ACTOR AND POLIHEURISTIC THEORY**

→ **TOPIC FOR ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE – 1 typed page**


February 4  COGNITION


February 11  PERSONALITY, LEADERSHIP TRAIT ANALYSIS

⇒ PRELIMINARY LIST OF 20 ARTICLES/CHAPTERS FOR ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE


February 18  NO CLASS

February 25  DECISION UNITS

⇒ REVISED STATEMENT ON TOPIC OF ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE


**March 4  NATIONAL IDENTITY, CULTURE, NORMS**


Wittlinger, Ruth, and Martin Larose. 2007. “No Future for Germany’s Past? Collective Memory and German Foreign Policy,” *German Politics* 16: 481-495.


**March 11 Spring Break**

**March 18  DOMESTIC POLITICS, ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, INTEREST GROUPS, INSTITUTIONS, part 1**

- **FINAL REFERENCE LIST FOR ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE**


**March 25  DOMESTIC POLITICS, ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, INTEREST GROUPS, INSTITUTIONS, part 2**


April 1  PUBLIC OPINION


April 8  MEDIA


April 15  GREAT POWERS AND GRAND STRATEGY

⇒ FINAL VERSION OF ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE


April 22  OTHER POWERS


April 29 NON-STATE ACTORS

FINAL EXAM TOPIC DISTRIBUTED. ANSWER DUE BY 4 pm MAY 4


FINAL EXAM ANSWER DUE BY 4 pm MAY 4