

**Sample Syllabus: U.S. Foreign Policy Course  
(Using the Statecraft: U.S. Foreign Policy Simulation)**

Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:30 pm, and by appointment

Office Location: Smith Hall, Room 1111

Email: ProfessorX@college.edu

Phone: (100) 555-1234

Course Description: Description of your U.S. Foreign Policy course.

Required Readings: Any textbook will work with Statecraft: U.S. Foreign Policy.

Grading Criteria

Midterm Exam:	30%
Final Exam:	30%
Policy Brief:	15%
Simulation Paper:	12%
Sim Participation:	8%
<u>Sim Performance:</u>	5% (plus possible extra credit)
Total	100%

Exams (60%): There are two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. The final exam will not be cumulative; it will only cover material introduced after the midterm. Each exam is worth 30% of your course grade and will include a combination of multiple choice and essay questions.

Policy Brief (15%): This paper requires you to select a current problem in U.S. Foreign Policy, generate options, critically evaluate the pros and cons of each option by drawing upon the evidence and arguments produced by scholars and practitioners, make a policy recommendation, and consider the risks and unknowns associated with the recommended option. More details of this paper assignment will be provided on Canvas.

Simulation Paper (12%): The paper requires you to integrate your simulation experience with a variety of course concepts. For example, part of the paper may ask you to describe conflicts between the President and Congress in the *War Powers* simulation and relate these to the way the Constitution defines (or leaves ambiguous) the foreign policy powers of each branch of government. More details of this paper assignment will be provided on Canvas.

Paper or Debriefing Presentation (15%): The paper or debriefing presentation requires you to integrate your simulation experience with a variety of course concepts. For example, part of the paper may ask you to describe conflicts between the Congress and the Executive Branch in the

*U.S. Foreign Policy simulation and relate these to the War Powers Act. More details of this paper assignment will be provided on Canvas (or another LMS).*

*\*\*\*For online only classes or classes that may need to switch online, we recommend utilizing the debriefing presentation group assignments and allow students to form groups and submit their presentation videos to be shown during zoom sessions. This was a very successful method during the Spring 2020 semester.*

Attendance: Describe your attendance policy here. NOTE: requiring attendance for in-class simulation sessions is recommended. This could be made part of students' simulation participation grade.

Honor Code, Disability Accommodations, and Other Key Syllabus Components:

### **SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE USING ONE SIMULATION**

*\*\*\*Make sure to give students their sim codes and instruct them to signup before period 0 begins of your simulation. The more students that signup before period 0 the better the roll fits and the smoother the simulation runs.*

### **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

**WEEK 1: Introduction; Understanding U.S. Foreign Policy**

**WEEK 2: U.S. Foreign Policy up through World War II**

**WEEK 3: U.S. Foreign Policy from 1947 to Vietnam**

**WEEK 4: U.S. Foreign Policy from Détente to the End of the Cold War**

- *U.S. Foreign Policy Simulation*, Period 0 (Students briefed on their positions and play through a low stakes situation to learn simulation mechanics and their abilities)

**WEEK 5: Post-Cold War U.S. Foreign Policy**

- *U.S. Foreign Policy Simulation*, Period 1 (Politics of Intelligence Analysis and Terrorism)
- Simulation Manual Quiz this week (part of simulation participation grade)

## **THE PROCESS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY MAKING**

### **WEEK 6: The Role of the President vs. Congress; War Powers**

- *U.S. Foreign Policy Simulation*, Period 2 (Bureaucratic Politics, War Powers Act, Midterm Elections)

### **WEEK 7: The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy: State Department and Defense Department**

- *U.S. Foreign Policy Simulation*, Period 3 (Civil Military Relations, Foreign Conflict Avoidance)

### **WEEK 8: The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy: the Intelligence Community, the NSC, and other Agencies**

- *U.S. Foreign Policy Simulation*, Period 4 (Political Parties, Cyber Security, Military Industrial Complex)

### **WEEK 9: Societal Actors: Interest Groups and the Media**

- Midterm Exam end of week

### **WEEK 10: Societal Actors: Public Opinion and Political Parties**

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## **CURRENT ISSUES IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

### **WEEK 11: Nuclear Proliferation and Regional Conflict**

### **WEEK 12: Climate Change and Immigration**

- Policy Brief due this week

### **WEEK 13: Trade, Foreign Aid, and Economic Development**

### **WEEK 14: Terrorism and Cybersecurity**

### **WEEK 15: Civil Liberties at Home and Abroad**

- Simulation Paper due this week

## **WEEK 16: FINAL EXAMS**

- Final Exam this week

## **SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE USING TWO SIMULATIONS**

### **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

**WEEK 1: Introduction; Understanding U.S. Foreign Policy**

**WEEK 2: U.S. Foreign Policy up through World War II**

**WEEK 3: U.S. Foreign Policy from 1947 to Vietnam**

**WEEK 4: U.S. Foreign Policy from Détente to the End of the Cold War**

**WEEK 5: Post-Cold War U.S. Foreign Policy**

- Read Simulation Manual
- Simulation Manual Quiz this week (part of simulation participation grade)

### **THE PROCESS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY MAKING**

**WEEK 6: The Role of the President vs. Congress; War Powers**

- *War Powers* Simulation, Period 1

**WEEK 7: The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy: State Department and Defense Department**

- *War Powers* Simulation, Period 2

**WEEK 8: The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy: the Intelligence Community, the NSC, and other Agencies**

- *War Powers* Simulation, Period 3

**WEEK 9: Societal Actors: Interest Groups and the Media**

- *War Powers* Simulation, Period 4
- Midterm Exam this week

**WEEK 10: Societal Actors: Public Opinion and Political Parties**

## **CURRENT ISSUES IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

### **WEEK 11: Nuclear Proliferation and Regional Conflict**

- *Global Climate Politics* Simulation, Period 1

### **WEEK 12: Climate Change and Immigration**

- Policy Brief due this week
- *Global Climate Politics* Simulation, Period 2

### **WEEK 13: Trade, Foreign Aid, and Economic Development**

- *Global Climate Politics* Simulation, Period 3

### **WEEK 14: Terrorism and Cybersecurity**

- *Global Climate Politics* Simulation, Period 4

### **WEEK 15: Civil Liberties at Home and Abroad**

- Simulation Paper due this week

### **WEEK 16: FINAL EXAMS**

- Final Exam this week