

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

## American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

**School of Security and Global Studies  
IRLS214  
American Foreign Policy  
Credit Hours: 3  
Length of Course: 8 Weeks  
Prerequisite: NONE**

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### Instructor Information

***Instructor:***

**Please contact your instructor through the Messages tab in the classroom.**

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### Course Description (Catalog)

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## **IRLS214 American Foreign Policy (3 hours)**

This class examines the elements and practice of American Foreign Policy. It reviews the history of American Foreign Policy and ideology, and then examines the actors, tools and processes of US foreign policy. This class emphasizes current foreign policy issues, including policy geared toward national security.

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### **Course Scope**

This course provides basic knowledge building and comprehension in the discipline.

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### **Course Objectives**

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- CO-1:** Describe the major themes and patterns in American foreign policy.
- CO-2:** Examine the policymaking process in the formulation of American foreign policy.
- CO-3:** Distinguish structural and strategic constraints on policy options facing the United States.
- CO-4:** Explain the impact of political fragmentation and integration on America's approach to the global community.
- CO-5:** Apply theories and principles of American foreign policy in analysis of current events.

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## Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course resources and access to an online learning management system will be available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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## Course Resources

- Required Course Textbook

Rosati, Jerel A. and Scott, James M. 2014. *Politics of United States Foreign Policy*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Wadsworth (Cengage). The textbook is free and can be downloaded from Vital Source. See Lessons – Course Materials – for more information.

- External websites and other assigned readings are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.
- Weekly Lesson Notes and videos or audio files are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.

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## Evaluation Procedures

### **Forum discussions – 25 percent**

Each week, a discussion question is provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings. Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to more than two classmates by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. The forum discussion grading rubric is located in each

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forum.

### **Midterm assignment - 25 percent**

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 5 questions, 2 pages total, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

### **Progress assignment - 25 percent**

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 5 questions, 2 pages total, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

### **Final assignment – 25 percent**

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 5 questions, 2 pages total, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

<b>Grade Instruments</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Forum Discussions (8)	<b>25</b>
Midterm Assignment	<b>25</b>
Progress Assignment	<b>25</b>
Final Assignment	<b>25</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

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## 8 – Week Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Course Objectives</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1	<b>Introduction to American Foreign Policy</b>	<b>CO-1:</b> Describe the major themes and patterns in American foreign policy.	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 1 – The Politics of US Foreign Policy</p> <p><b>Multimedia Viewing:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Case Study: "The Cuban missile crisis"</a></p>	<p>Introductions Forum due by Sunday at 11:55pm ET</p> <p>Forum Discussion Week One – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.</p>
2	<b>Historical Context and the Future of US Global Power</b>	<b>CO1:</b> Describe the major themes and patterns in American foreign policy.	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 2 – Historical Context and the Future of US Global Power</p>	<p>Forum Discussion Week Two – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by</p>

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			<p><b>Video:</b></p> <p><a href="#">TED Talk: "Which country does the most good in the world?" Simon Anholt 2014</a></p>	Sunday at 11:55pm ET.
3	<p><b>Presidential Power and Leadership</b></p>	<p><b>CO2:</b> Examine the policymaking process in the formulation of American foreign policy.</p>	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 3 – Presidential Power and Leadership</p> <p><b>Video:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Cybersecurity in the Obama Administration</a></p>	<p>Forum Discussion Week Three – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.</p> <p>Midterm Assignment on Chapters 1, 2, and 3 due on Sunday at 11:55pm ET</p>
4	<p><b>The Bureaucracy, Presidential Management, and the National Security Council</b></p>	<p><b>CO3:</b> Distinguish structural and strategic constraints on policy options facing the United States.</p>	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 4 – The Bureaucracy, Presidential Management, and the National Security Council</p> <p><b>Video:</b></p> <p><a href="#">TED Talk:</a></p>	<p>Forum Discussion Week Four – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.</p>

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			<a href="#">"Global Power Shifts" Joseph Nye 2010</a>	
5	<b>The Intelligence Community</b>	<b>CO3:</b> Distinguish structural and strategic constraints on policy options facing the United States.	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 7 – The Intelligence Community</p> <p><b>Video:</b></p> <p><a href="#">China and Cyberattack</a></p>	Forum Discussion Week Five – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.
6	<b>The Foreign Economic Bureaucracy, the NEC, and the Great Recession</b>	<b>CO4:</b> Explain the impact of political and economic fragmentation and integration on America’s approach to the global community.	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 8 – Foreign Economics, the NEC, and the Great Recession</p> <p><b>Videos:</b></p> <p><a href="#">US Trade Policy and China</a></p> <p><a href="#">Goodbye Euro</a></p> <p><a href="#">US Embargo on Cuba</a></p>	Forum Post Week Six – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.  Progress Assignment on Chapters 4, 7, and 8 due on Sunday at 11:55pm ET.
7	<b>Decision-</b>	<b>CO5:</b> Apply	<b>Text</b>	Forum Post

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	<p><b>making Theory and Foreign Policy</b></p>	<p>theories and principles of American foreign policy in analysis of current events.</p>	<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 9 – Decision-making Theory and Foreign Policymaking</p> <p><b>Readings:</b></p> <p>Notes for Simulation on Iran (in Lessons)</p> <p><a href="#">Reading: Pillar 2013 The Role of Villain</a></p> <p>Pillar, Paul R. 2013. "The Role of Villain: Iran and U. S. Foreign Policy." <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> 128, no. 2: 211-231.</p>	<p>Week Seven – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.</p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Summarizing the Major Patterns in US Foreign Policy</b></p>	<p><b>CO-1:</b> Describe the major themes and patterns in American foreign policy.</p>	<p><b>Text Readings:</b></p> <p>Rosati and Scott, Chapter 14 – Patterns, Change, and the Future of US Foreign Policymaking</p> <p><b>Videos:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Guiding Principles of US Foreign</a></p>	<p>Forum Post Week Eight – initial answer due by Thursday at 11:55pm ET; follow-ups by Sunday at 11:55pm ET.</p> <p>Final Assignment on Chapters 8, 9, and 14 due on</p>

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			<p><a href="#">Policy</a></p> <p><a href="#">Top Global Risks for 2014 (pages 1-49)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reading: Krasner 2010 Principles of Foreign Policy</a></p> <p>Krasner, Stephen D. 2010. "An orienting principle for foreign policy." <i>Policy Review</i> no. 163: 3-12.</p>	Sunday at 11:55pm ET.
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**Policies**

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

**Citation and Reference Style**

Attention Please: Students will follow the Turabian/Chicago Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University.

See <http://www.apus.edu/Online-Library/tutorials/chicago.htm>.

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### **Late Assignments**

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Deductions:

Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 percent per day on that week's forum grade.

Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 percent per day on that assignment.

### **Netiquette**

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

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## **Online Library**

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books,

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subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to [librarian@apus.edu](mailto:librarian@apus.edu).

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

**Request a Library Guide for your course**  
(<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOC1111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: [librarian@apus.edu](mailto:librarian@apus.edu).

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