

**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAS  
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

Course	:	PhD
Course No.	:	AW617N
Course Title	:	The Executive, Congress and Foreign Policy
Course Type (Core/Optional)	:	Optional
Course Teacher	:	Dr. Vineet Prakash
Credits	:	4 (Four)
Semester	:	Winter Semester
Contact Hours	:	4 per week

**Course Objectives**

The objective of the course is to interpret United States foreign policy decision-making through the lens of political powers and process. A central aim of the course is to broaden students' understanding of the fundamental dynamics of U.S. foreign policy with an introduction of debates and theories of U.S. foreign policy and engaging students in the politics of the foreign policy process. Harnessing the conceptual, theoretical, and historical components that facilitate an analysis of American foreign policy, it explains the sources of US foreign policy, its goals and instruments of influence. The main focus of the course is to examine and analyze the role of various political institutions and bureaucracies with emphasis on the tussle or balance between Congress and the President in the foreign policy decision-making process since World War II. How does presidential leadership shape American foreign relations? How does the Congress impact and maintain its influence despite domestic political constraints?. How other actors in the federal bureaucracy like the Department of State Defense, Commerce and USTR interact and shape policy is also part of the discourse. What is the role of public opinion and interest groups in US foreign policy? This course will also serve as an overview of American foreign policy establishment, concentrating on overarching tendencies such as its fragmented power structure. The importance of these tendencies will be explained by showing how thoroughly each of them affects policy. Emphasis is also placed on the impact of domestic factors on international issues (e.g. Rise of China, Nonproliferation, terrorism etc.) faced by the United States since the end of the cold war.

**Learning Outcomes**

Achieve significant insights on US foreign policy and develop critical analysis through the lens of decision making. Gain a balanced perspective of salient issues and a deep understanding of the factors influencing relationships between the various actors of US foreign policy. Develop independent thinking about key foreign policy choices and broaden the debates on fundamentals of U.S. foreign policy.

**Evaluation Methods**

Sessional work, Research Paper, Mid and End Semester Examination (50+50)

**Course Content**

## **I. Introduction**

Historical Foundations: America's Traditions in Foreign policy.

Major sources, goals and instruments of US foreign policy

Major Actors in the Foreign Policy Process

## **II. US Foreign Policy in the Cold War and Post-Cold War Era**

The Cold War: Truman Doctrine

Nixon's Realism and Carter's Idealism

The End of the Cold War

Détente: Reagan and Bush years.

Redefining Values and Interests

Clinton: Engagement and Enlargement

George W. Bush and the War on Terror

Obama and Trump years.

## **III. Key Government Institutions: The President, Congress and Executive Bureaucracy**

President:

Constitutional Authority and the "Invitation to Struggle"

Evolution of the role: From modern to post modern Presidency.

Presidential Powers and Functions

Presidential Influence

Instruments of Presidential Power: National Security Strategy, Executive Agreements,

Presidential Directives, Presidential Doctrines, War Powers

Limits of Power

## **IV. Bureaucracies and Foreign policy**

Theory of Bureaucratic politics

Characteristics of Bureaucracies

State Department: Organization & Process

Defense Department and National Defense Strategy

Role of Intelligence organizations

## **V. Congress**

Structure, role and powers of the Congress

Accommodation to Acrimony: War powers and Immigration.

Congressional Influence: Debates and Budget.

Committees in the Congress

Committee on Foreign Relations

Committee on Armed Services

Committee on Authorization

Committee on Appropriations

Select Committee on Intelligence

## **VI. Making of foreign Economic Policies Trade, Investment and aid Sanction**

Elements of the U.S. Trade Policy

USTR

## **VII. Public opinion and foreign policy and elections**

Importance of Interest Groups

### **Readings:**

#### **American Foreign Policy**

Bracken, Paul (2013), The Second Nuclear Age: Strategy, Danger, and the New Power Politics, New York: St Martin Griffin.

Contom, Richard W (1967), Competitive Interference and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Diplomacy Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

Crabb Jr, Cecil V (1982), The Doctrines of American Foreign Policy Louisiana: Louisiana State University Press.

Destler, I.M et al (1984), Our Own Worst Enemy: The Unmaking of American Foreign Policy, New York: Simon & Schuster.

Dorman, Shawn (2011), Inside a US Embassy: Diplomacy at Work, Washington DC: American Foreign Service Association.

Feinberg, Richard E (1984), The Intemperate Zone: The Third World Challenge to US, New York: W. Norton.

Halperin, Monton et al (1974), Bureaucratic Politics & foreign Policy, Washington DC: The Brookings Institution.

Hoffman, Stanley (1978), Primacy on World Order: American Foreign Policy Since the Cold War, New York: McGraw Hill.

Jentleson, Bruce W (2010), American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century, New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

Jr Dizard, Wilson (2001), Digital Diplomacy: US Foreign Policy in the Information Age, Connecticut: Praeger.

Kagan, Robert (2007), Dangerous Nation: America's Foreign Policy from its Earliest Days to the Dawn of the Twentieth Century, New York: Vintage Books.

Kegley Jr, Charles W and Eugene R. Wittkopf (2007), American Foreign Policy: Pattern and Process, New York: St Martin Press.

Kiehl, William P (2006), America's Dialogue with the World, Washington DC: Public Diplomacy Council.

McChrysler, Gen Stanley (2015), *Team of Teams: New Rules of Engagement for a Complex World*, New York: Penguin.

Nathan, James (1983), *Foreign policy-making and the American Political System* Massachusetts: Little, Brown.

Nathan, James and James K. Oliver (1985), *US Foreign Policy and World Order* 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Massachusetts: Little, Brown.

Pfaltznaff, Jr, Robert (1986), *National Security Policy: The Decision-Making Process*, Indian Edition, New Delhi: Transasia Publishers, New Delhi.

Sapin, Burton M (1966), *The Making of United States foreign Policy*, New York: Praeger, Chpts.4-7.

Spanier, John & Eric Uslander (1989), *Foreign Policy-Making and the Democratic Dilemmas* 4<sup>th</sup> edition, New York: Holt, Reinhart & Winston.

Stempel, John D (1981), *Inside the Iranian Revolution*, Indiana: Indian University Press (Chapters 4, 14).

Stuart, Graham H (1949), *The Department of State: A History of its Organization, Procedure & Personnel*, New York; Macmillan Publishers.

Woyes, James H (1981), *The Clouded Land: Persian Gulf Security and US Policy* Rev. edn, Washington DC: Hoover Institution.

## **The US President**

Alberta, Tim (2019), *American Carnage: On the Front Lines of the Republican Civil War and the Rise of President Trump*, New York; Harper Collins.

Barilleaux, Ryan J (1980), *The Post-Modern Presidency: The Office after Ronald Reagan* New York; Praeger .

Belco, Michelle (2017), *The Dual Executive: Unilateral Orders in a Separated and Shared Political System*, California: Stanford University Press.

Cohen, Jeffrey E (2015), *Presidential Leadership in Public Opinion: Causes and Consequences*, New York: Cambridge University Press.

Edwards, George C (1983), *Studying the Presidency* Tennessee: University of Tennessee Press.

Edwards, George C. and Wayne, Stephen J (1985), *Presidential Leadership: Politics and Policy-Making*, New York: St. Martin Press.

Greenstien, Fred I (1988), *Leadership in Modern Presidency*, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Hunter, Robert E (1982), *Presidential Control of Foreign Policy: Management or Mishap*, Westport: Praeger.

Koneig, Louis William (1986), *The Chief Executive* New York: Jovanavich.

Plato, Justin (2015), *American Presidential Power & the War on Terror: Does the Constitution Matter*, New York; Palgrave Macmillan.

Schmitt, Garry, Joseph M Bessette and Andrew E Busch (eds) (2017), *The Imperial Presidency and Constitution*, New York: Rowman & Littlefield.

Thorpe, Rebecca U (2014), *The American Warfare State: The Domestic Politics of Military Spending*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Vaughn, Justin S and Jose D. Villalobos (2015), *Czars in the White House: The Rise of Policy Czars as Presidential Management Tools*, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan. Robert A.

Wilson, Ambrose, Doris Kearns Goodwin, et al. (1997) *Character above all: Ten Presidents from FDR to George Bush*

Yoo, John (2010), *Crisis and Command: The History of Executive Power from George Washington to George W Bush*, New York: Kaplan Publishing.

Zelizer, Julian. E (eds)(2018), *The Presidency of Barack Obama: A First Historical Assessment*, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

## **The US Congress**

Diamond, Robert A (1982), *Powers of the Congress* 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, New York: Congressional Quarterly.

Dodd, Lawrence and Bruce Oppenheimer (2017), *Congress Reconsidered* 11<sup>th</sup> ed Washington DC: CQ Press.

Draper, Robert (2012), *Do Not Ask What Good We Do: Inside the US Representatives*, New York: Free Press.

Frame, Thomas M. ed (1981), *The Tethered Presidency: Congressional Restraints on Executive Power*, New York: N Y Univ. Press.

Jacobson, Gary C (2012), *The Politics of Congressional Elections*, New York: Pearson.

Jones, Gordon S. and Mariai, John A. ed (1988), *The Imperial Congress: Crisis in the Separation of Powers*, New Delhi: Pharos Books.

Kornacki, Steve (2018), *The Red and the Blue: The 1990s and the Birth of Political Tribalism*, New York: Harper Collins.

Lee, Frances and Nolan McCarty (2019), *Can America Govern Itself*, New York: Cambridge University Press.

Loomis, Burdett A (2011), *The US Senate: From Deliberation to Dysfunction*, Washington DC: CQ Press.

McCarty, Nolan (2019), *Polarization: What Everyone Needs to Know*, New York: Oxford University Press.

Oleszek, Walter U (1989), *Congressional Procedures and the Policy Process* 3<sup>rd</sup> edn, New York: C.Q. Press.

Polsby, Nelson W (1989), *Congress and the Presidency* 4<sup>th</sup> edn, New Delhi: Prentical Hall India.

Schick, Allen (2007), *The Federal Budget: Politics, Policy, Process*, Washington DC: The Brookings Institution.

Smith, Steven S. & Deering, Christopher J (1984), *Committees in the Congress*, New York: CQ Press.

## **Bureaucracy**

Barber, Michael J (2016), "Ideological Donors, Contribution Limits, and the Polarization of American Legislatures.", *The Journal of Politics*, 78(1): 296-310.

Cigler, Allan J. and Loomis, Burdelt A (1982), *Interest Group Politics* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, (New York: CQ Press.

Galambos, Louis (1987), *The New American Stated: Bureaucracies and Policies Since World War-II*, John Hopkins Univ. Press.

Goodsell, Charles T (2004), *The Case for Bureaucracy: A Public Administration Polemic* 4th ed., Washington, D.C. : CQ Press.

Leech, Beth L., Frank R. Baumgartner, Timothy M. La Pira, and Nicholas A. Semanko (2005), "Drawing Lobbyists to Washington: Government Activity and the Demand for Advocacy", *Political Research Quarterly*, 58(1): 19–30.

Loomis, Burdett A, Peter L Francia & Dara Z Strolovich (2013), *Guide to Interest Groups and Lobbying in the United States*, Washington DC: C.Q Press.

Nachmias, David and Rosanbloom (1980), David H., *Bureaucratic Government USA*, New York: St. MartinPress.

## **US Trade and Economic policy:**

Library of Congress, *Elements of the U.S. Trade Policy* <https://guides.loc.gov/united-states-trade-policy/elements>

2014 Annual Report of the President of the United States on the Trade Agreement Program

Free Trade Agreements (U.S. Trade Representative)

Provides advisory group reports and final text for each of the free trade agreements.

Free Trade Agreements (U.S. Customs and Border Protection)

Provides information on FTAs and links to other pertinent resources concerning the imported products.

U.S. Free Trade Agreements (Export.gov)

Provides relevant information for exporters on free trade agreements.

Investment Climate Statements (U.S. Department of State)

"Investment Climate Statements provide U.S. firms with country/region and economy-specific information and assessments prepared by the State Department's posts abroad on investment laws, measures, and other factors that may be useful to them in making business decisions."

Bureau of International Labor Affairs (U.S. Department of Labor)

Bureau of International Labor Affairs "implements trade-related labor policy and coordinates international technical cooperation in support of the labor provisions in free trade agreements."

## **Mass Media and Politics, Public Opinion**

Barkman, Roland (1986), *Politics in the Media Age*, New York: McGraw Hill.

Gainous, Jason and Kevin M Wagner (2013), *Tweeting to Power: The Social Media Revolution in American Politics*, New York: Oxford University Press.

Graber, Davis Appel, 1984, *Mass Media and American Politics* 3<sup>rd</sup> edn, CQ Press,.

: Jovanovich. Prior, M. (2013), "Media and Political Polarization", *Annual Review of Political Science*, 16, 101-127.

Stroud, N. J. (2010). "Polarization and partisan selective exposure", *Journal of Communication*, 60(3), 556-576.

## **Suggested Readings**

Bentley, Michael (2014), "Strategic Taboos: Chemical Weapons and US Foreign Policy", *International Affairs*, 90(5).

Berman, Larry (1982), *Planning a Tragedy: The Americanization of the War in Vietnam*, New York: W.W Norton.

Brauer, Carl M (1986), *Presidential Transitions - Eisenhower Through Reagan*, New York: Oxford University Press.

Brezewski, Zbigniew (1983), "Deciding who makes foreign Policy" *New York Times*, Sep, 18, 1983.

Carpenter, Ted Galen and Malou Innocent (2015), *Perilous Partners: The Benefits and Pitfalls of America's Alliances with Authoritarian Regimes*, Washington DC: Cato Institute.

Crabb, Cecil V (1986), *Presidents and foreign Policy Making: From FDR to Reagan*, Louisiana: Louisiana State University Press.

Crabb, Cecil V. Jr. & Pat M. Holt (1980), *Invitation to Struggle: Congress, The President and Foreign Policy*, New York: CQ Press.

Destler, I.M (1980) "National Security Management: What Presidents have Wrought", *Political Science Quarterly*, 95(4), pp.573-88.

Drezner, Daniel W (2020), "Immature Leadership: Donald Trump and the American Presidency", *International Affairs*, 96(2), p. 383-400.

Fettweis, Christopher (2018), *Psychology of Superpower: Security and Dominance in US Foreign Policy*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Ford, R Gerald (1979), *A Time to Heal: The Autobiography of Gerald R. Ford*, New York; Harper & Row.

Fred I Greenstien (1965), "Popular Images of the President" *American Journal of Psychiatry*", 122(5), pp.523-29

George, Alexander (1972), "The Case of Multiple Advocacy in Making foreign Policy", *American Political Science Review*, 66 (3), pp.751-85.

Jr Nye, Joseph (2019), "The Rise and Fall of American Hegemony From Wilson to Trump", *International Affairs*, 95(1), p. 63-80.

Kupchan, Charles (2020), *Isolationism: A History of America's Efforts to Shield Itself from the World*, New York: Oxford University Press.

Neudstat, Richard E (1980), *Presidential Power: The Politics of Leadership from FDR to Carter*, New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Rose, Richard (1988), *The Post Modern President: The White House Meets the World*, New York: Sage Publications.

Sigelman, Lee (1979), "A Reassessment of the Two Presidencies Thesis", *Journal of Politics* 41(4), pp. 1195-1205.

Thrall, A Trevor and Benjamin Friedman (2018), *US Grand Strategy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; The Case of Restraint*, New York: Routledge.