

CENTRE FOR CANADIAN, US & LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

Course MA: IS 572 N

Course Title: Foreign Policy of the United States Since the Second World War

Course Type (Core/Optional): Optional

Course Teacher: Professor Arvind Kumar

Credit: 4

Contact Hours: 4 per week

Course Objectives

The objective of the course would be to provide with a holistic understanding on the unfolding of several events across the globe and how the United States dealt with the complexities of the nature of international system both during the Cold War years and Post Cold War years. The making of US foreign policy and various US institutions associated in evolving a bipartisan consensus on a number of pertinent issues impacting global peace and stability will form a major part of the debate. How the US has been prioritizing its interests and strategy in the emerging dynamics of geopolitics by evolving broad based foreign policy orientations will also feature prominently during the discussion. The way United States' has been grappling with the new situations especially in certain specific geopolitical regions such as 'Indo-Pacific Region' will also form a part of the debate. The advances in science and technology have also impacted on the various dimensions of foreign policy. The emergence of a new world or a multipolar world also needed to be situated in the US foreign policy prism. The course will make a modest attempt in assessing and analyzing the challenges being confronted by the US in formulating its foreign policy in the existing uncertain world.

Learning Outcomes

The research scholars will get an in-depth understanding on the challenges being confronted by the United States in the making of US foreign policy. There will also be a comprehensive learning on the US world view and how the rest of the world views United States'. The key policy institutions involved in the decision making process relating to the US foreign policy will also be understood and perhaps will be an important value addition in the learning process.

Evaluation Method

Research Paper, Mid Semester and End Semester Examination

Course Content

1. An Overview of the Source of American Foreign Policy

- a) External Sources; Societal Determinants; Governmental Sources; Role Sources.
- b) Goals of American Foreign Policy in Historical Perspectives:- Expansionism; Imperialism; Isolationism

2. Mapping Foreign Policy Pattern since 1945

- a) Globalism: Relevance and Significance
- b) Threat Perceptions: Anti-Communism; Soviet Union as adversary
- c) Cold War and Interpretation of its Origin
- d) Containment Phase: Truman Doctrine; Marshall Plan; Alliance Formation; Military Preparedness; Strategic Doctrines
- e) Détente; Linkage Theory
- f) End of Cold War: End of History; Victory of Democracy; Globalization
- g) Clash of Civilization
- h) Post- Post Cold War Phase: New issues, Conflict and Challenges to the foreign policy making.

3. Regional Conflicts and US Engagements

- a) Cuban Missile Crisis; Nicaraguan Conflict
- b) Korean War; Vietnam War
- c) Arab- Israeli Conflict
- d) Bosnia & Kosovo Crisis
- e) Kashmir
- f) Gulf War -I, II
- g) Afghanistan
- h) Humanitarian Interventions

4. Major Foreign Policy Issues/ Concerns

- a) Indo- US Relations
- b) Sino- American Relations
- c) Nuclear Non- Proliferation
- d) Arms Control and Disarmament
- e) Managing International Trade
- f) Human Rights
- g) UN & Peace Keeping
- h) US- Pak Relations
- i) US- Afghanistan Relations

- Reading List will be provided along with the teaching Schedule.