

International Policy Research Seminar

Spring 2013
Mondays, Rm 1104: 6:30-9:30pm

The University of California Washington Center
Menna Demessie, Ph.D., UCDC Adjunct Professor
Office Hours: Tuesdays: 5:45 – 6:45pm and by appointment
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Course Description

This research seminar will focus on the evolution of U.S. foreign policy abroad from a political science and public policy perspective. Students will integrate their internship experience with the research components of the UCDC program. The specific topics to be covered include geopolitical strategy, economic development, democratization, human rights, foreign aid, conflict resolution, etc. and will be analyzed through various case studies around the world. Given the dramatic shift in U.S. foreign policy in Africa over the past decade combined with China's current economic expansion in Africa, this course will also pay particular attention to multilateral relations, trade, technology, military strategy, and how such recent developments have shaped and influenced U.S. foreign policy abroad and particularly in Africa. Guest lectures from former congressman and global pioneer in U.S. foreign policy, Rep. Ronald Dellums, will complement class discussions. This is not a lecture course, therefore, students are expected to come prepared having read the materials and participate in discussion. This course will help students develop the methodological framework necessary to analyze the institutional versus the practical application of international policy as well as the strategy behind the development and implementation of U.S. foreign policy.

Based on readings, lectures, guest speakers, films, and other sources used in the course, students will be encouraged to think critically about the development of U.S. foreign relations as well as develop the analytical tools to better evaluate policy goals & current challenges in U.S. foreign relation as it pertains to the rest of the world and particularly in Africa.

Objectives

1. To broaden students understanding of U.S. foreign policy and equip them with the analytical tools to understand its evolution over time, particularly toward Africa.
2. To help students think critically and strategically about foreign policy toward and the challenges to policy implementation.
3. To familiarize students with different perspectives and to what extent U.S. foreign policy coincides or diverges with Africa's foreign policy priorities.

Requirements

Research Paper (15-20 pgs):	50%	Presentations:	10%
Outline and Bibliography:	10%	Reading Reviews (2-3):	10%
Participation:	20%		

RESEARCH PAPER: Each student will write a 15-20 page paper that will count for 50% of your grade. The outline and bibliography will count for an additional 10%. This assignment will require selecting a specific U.S. foreign policy issue or decision that has affected a particular country or region of countries across the globe. Your paper must address the costs and benefits of the policy issue on both sides (the U.S. government and African government (s)) and make a clear argument in favor or against the policy decision or in support of a modified version of the status quo policy. Students are encouraged to think critically and broadly in formulating their argument. Additionally, since we are located in the hub of political activity with an abundance of resources, you will be expected to interview someone at a relevant policy or government organization or agency, NGO, or think tank in order to help you make an informed and strong argument in your paper. *Draft papers are optional, but if written and sent to me by Friday, May 17th, I will read the paper in its entirety and provide the necessary feedback in order to write a great paper.* More details on this will be given in class. *Papers should be double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 font.*

PARTICIPATION: 20% of your grade depends on your attendance and participation and will be based on Q&A and class discussion. Everyone's opinion should be respected whether you agree or disagree with a comment. Additionally, your grade will *never* depend on whether you agree with the professor or not. Instead, your participation will be based on your knowledge of the readings, understanding of the issues discussed in the class, and the ability to clearly articulate your ideas.

PRESENTATIONS: 10% of your grade will involve a five minute presentation summarizing your research paper. The brief presentation will be similar to a five minute speech on the House floor in which members are free to speak on any topic. You should present as if your classmates are your fellow congressional colleagues, encouraging them to consider the policy or program for which you are advocating. Your presentation should be informative, persuasive, and answer the "So What? Who Cares?" questions. Students will also vote on all student presentations based on the same rubric.

READING REVIEWS: These assignments are 2-3 double spaced pages. There also may be other short assignments that may range from reviews of the reading or brief policy memos to in-class exercises. Students will have sufficient time to complete the assignments.

READINGS have been made available online at no cost to the student in light of the student debt crisis and 25% unemployment rate for teenagers that continue to wreck havoc on the next generation of students. Money is real and so is your savings!

STUDENT FACILITATORS: Students will also rotate as discussion facilitators each class and date selections will be provided in class. Student facilitators should be prepared to speak in brief about the readings (a few minutes) and pose questions of

interest to you for students to answer. You should be prepared to talk about each reading if asked, but you are welcome to focus more heavily on a particular reading if you so choose. This is not a presentation so much as it is your summary and insight into the readings and an opportunity to jumpstart the conversation and frame the discussion as it relates to the broader scope of U.S. foreign policy in the making.

OUTLINE:

This one-page proposal assignment is a summary explanation of your research paper. The 15-20 page research paper will be a policy recommendation report on a specific U.S. foreign policy issue or decision that has affected a particular country or region of countries across the globe. Your outline should be one page and include the following:

- 1) A brief explanation (2-3 paragraphs) of the topic you have chosen and what you intend to argue.
- 2) One paragraph about why the policy you intend to research is important. *So what? Who cares?*
- 3) Listing of relevant legislation (2-3 bills)
- 4) 3-5 bibliographic citations of reports, articles, or books you plan to use for your paper.

Course Rules and Regulations

Tardiness: Students are expected to be in class *on time*. If you are unable to attend class, make sure to discuss the reason with me before class time. Otherwise, the following penalties are in order: 1 unexcused absence = 5% overall grade reduction, 2 unexcused absences= 10% overall grade reduction, 3 unexcused absences = dropped from class.

Plagiarism: Academic integrity requires you to be responsible students with your research, writing, and scholarship. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and you are encouraged to talk with me if you need clarification on citations with regard to writing assignments.

Special Needs Policy: Any student with special needs that may affect his/her academic performance is encouraged to contact me within the first two weeks of class.

Course Introduction & Overview

Week 1: Course Introduction & Overview
Monday
April 1st TED Talk (Paddy Ashdown), "The Global power Shift," (18min)
http://www.ted.com/playlists/73/the_global_power_shift.html

Institutions & the State of U.S. Foreign Policy in the 21st Century

Week 2: U.S. Foreign Policy Post 9/11
Monday
April 8th **Reading Review Due**

The 9/11 Commission Report: Ch 12: "What to Do? A Global Strategy," pp.361-398.
<http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/911Report.pdf>

The 9/11 Commission Report Ch 13: "How to Do It? A Different Way of Organizing the Government," pp. 399-428.

<http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/911Report.pdf>

Department of Homeland Security: President George W. Bush, June 2002, pp.1-29.

<http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/book.pdf>

Week 3:
Monday
April 15th

Congressional Foreign Policy Making, National Security, and Foreign Aid

Outline Due

Rep. Ron Dellums

Davidson, Oleszek, Lee in Congress and Its Members, Ch 15
Congress and National Security Policies," pp.447-475.

Ronald Dellums in *Foreign Policy and the Black International Interest*, 2000:
Chapter 10: "Defining National Security: The African American Stake in U.S.
Defense and Foreign Policy Formulation." pp.219-238.

White House National Security Strategy, pp.1-52.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/national_security_strategy.pdf

State-USAID Agency Priority Goals Fiscal Years 2012-2013, pp.1-7.

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/187155.pdf>

International Law & Policy: Trade, Crime, and Regulation

Trebilcock, Howse, Eliason, *The Regulation of International Trade*, 2013: "The evolution of international trade theory," pp.1-53.

Week 4:
Monday
April 22

Charter of the United Nations (**Read Chapters 1-18, All articles**)

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/intro.shtml>

International Criminal Court Web Site Review (**Click all 9 tabs and review**) :

http://www.icc-cpi.int/EN_Menus/ICC/Pages/default.aspx

The U.S.-Mexico Case

Bibliography Due

CRS Report: "NAFTA and the Mexican Economy," pp. 1-23.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34733.pdf>

Week 5:
Monday

April 29

U.S. Department of Justice: National Drug Intelligence Center, National Drug Assessment Center, 2011: **pp.1-36.**

<http://www.justice.gov/archive/ndic/pubs44/44849/44849p.pdf>

Guest Speaker:

Patrick Zahnd, Head of Regional Delegation, International Committee of the Red Cross (Legal and Diplomatic Advisor)

Economic Development and Foreign Aid

The U.S.-China-Africa Case

CRS Report: U.S. – China Relations, **pp.1-45.**

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R41108.pdf>

Week 6:

Monday

May 6

ROOM 318

Council on Foreign Relations, *More than Humanitarianism: A Strategic US Approach toward Africa* Council on Foreign Relations, 2006:

Introduction: “2005 Was the Year for Africa But We Missed the Point,” **pp. 3-28.**

And “The New Playing Field: China’s Rising Role,” **pp. 40-55.**

<http://www.cfr.org/africa/more-than-humanitarianism/p9302>

U.S. Africa Policy in Transition: AGOA & PEPFAR

Reading Review Due

Hanes Walton in *The African Foreign Policy of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger*, Chapter 3: “Kissinger’s African Policy,” **pp.69-81.**

Chapter 4: “U.S. African Policy Under Henry Kissinger,” **pp. 83-93.**

Week 7:

Monday

May 13

Ronald Walters in *Foreign Policy and the Black International Interest*, 2000: Chapter 1: “The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act: Changing Foreign Policy Priorities toward Africa in a Conservative Political Culture,” **pp.17-34.**

PEPFAR Implementation: Progress and Promise, 2007: “Summary and Introduction,” **pp. 1-33.**

PEPFAR Implementation: Progress and Promise, 2007: The U.S. Global AIDS Initiative: Context and Background,” **pp. 35-73.**

Conflict Resolution, Democratization, and Human Rights

U.S.-African Policy and Apartheid in South Africa

Hanes Walton et al in *The African Foreign Policy of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger*, Chapter 2: “Kissinger’s African Policy,” **pp.69-96.**

Week 8:
Monday
May 20

Michael Clemons, "African Americans in Global Affairs," 2010. Chapter 3: "From Anticolonialism to Anti-Apartheid," **pp.65-85.**

**Rep.
Ron
Dellums**

Council on Foreign Relations, *More than Humanitarianism: A Strategic US Approach toward Africa* Council on Foreign Relations, 2006: "Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping," pp.77-88 and "Democracy and Human Rights," **pp.89-105.**
<http://www.cfr.org/africa/more-than-humanitarianism/p9302>

Jennifer Cooke and Richard Downie in "African Conflict and U.S. Diplomacy," **pp.1-19.**
http://www.academyofdiplomacy.org/programs/Ross/AAD_CSIS%20Africa%20Program%20Final%20Report%20Oct2009.pdf

**NO CLASS MONDAY, MAY 27, 2013, MEMORIAL DAY,
MAKE-UP CLASS WILL BE FRIDAY, MAY 31st, 2013 - SEE BELOW!**

Week 9:

Final Papers Due Today, May 31st, 2013 by 6:30PM, Email to
IPRS2013@gmail.com

**FRIDAY
May 31st**

****DINNER SERVED, FILM SCREENING****

U.S.-Syria Case

Congressional Research Service, "Armed Conflict in Syria: U.S. and International Response," **pp. 1-42.** <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL33487.pdf>

The U.S.-Honduras Case

Congressional Research Service, "Honduras-U.S. Relations," February 5, 2013, **pp.1-37.** <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34027.pdf>

*******FINAL CLASS*******

Week 10:

Monday

June 3

FINAL CLASS

PRESENTATIONS & FINAL CLASS OVERVIEW

Rep. Ron Dellums