**Northeastern University**

**POLS 3425: US Foreign Policy, Spring 2015 (36526)**

**Meeting Time: MWTh 9:15 – 10:20 am**

**Location: Forsyth Building 236**

**Dr. Ryan Maness**

**Email:** r.maness@neu.edu

**Office:** 339 Meserve Hall

**Office Hours:** 11:30a.m.-12:30p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and by appointment

**Required Texts:**

Hook, Steven W. 2013. *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power*, 4th Ed., Washington, DC: CQ Press.

Price-Smith, Andrew. 2015. Rising Threats, Enduring Challenges: *Readings in U.S. Foreign Policy*,

New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard.

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed to give students a more comprehensive understanding of US foreign policy and the most relevant actors to policymaking in the field. Students gain an extensive understanding of the conditions under which foreign policy is made. This course also provides students the ability to understand international events through the lens of foreign policymakers. Additionally, students are given the opportunity to strengthen their ability to contextualize, analyze, and synthesize foreign policy topics in writing, on issues both inside and outside of the course materials.

**Course Requirements:**

*Term Paper*: There is a major paper assignment required for this course. It will be approximately 10-15 pages in length and will be due at the start of class on **Wednesday April 22**. It will require the use of outside sources and students MUST document those sources. Further instructions will be distributed in class. You will also be required to submit a draft outline of your paper on **Wednesday February 18**. Papers must be turned in electronically (through Blackboard Turn-it-in) and in hard copy at the beginning of class. Late papers will be subject to a penalty of one letter grade, and an additional letter grade for each additional day the assignment is late. Additional information regarding this assignment, as well as specific instructions from the professor, will be covered in class at the beginning of the semester.

*Participation*: Attendance is required and an attendance sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. It is crucial to have a strong record of attendance and participation. Students are expected to complete the assigned reading before class, as we will spend a considerable portion of the course discussing both the reading material and current events, in addition to the lectures.

Participation by all students is an integral part of both the class and the student’s success. In addition to attendance, students will be evaluated on the frequency and quality of participation in lecture and class discussions. Students are responsible for completing all assigned readings before coming to class, as well as familiarizing themselves with current events. Students are encouraged to obtain news from a variety of sources and share relevant current events with the class, **as each day we will begin class with a discussion of current events relevant to US foreign policy.**

*Simulation*: <http://hhh.gavilan.edu/mturetzky/pols4/TerrorismSimulation.html>. There will be a major simulation conducted in class. Students will be assigned to small groups and given specific roles to play during the two-day activity. The simulation will require some preparation outside of class, as well as a brief after action report (AAR). Students will be evaluated on their decision-making abilities and their adherence to the assigned role, as well as their ability to work with the members of their group and their fellow classmates.

*Exams*: There will be two exams: A midterm and final. The final exam is non-cumulative. Details on the format of the exams will be provided later in the semester.

**Course Evaluation:** Grades for the course will be based on the following values for each assignment:

Term Paper 25%

Attendance and Participation 10%

Simulation 15%

Midterm 25%

Final 25%

**Electronic Media Policy:** The use of laptop computers, tablets, and e-readers is permitted for academic purposes only, provided that the devices do not disturb the lecture and/or the students. Should these devices become distracting, the instructor reserves the right to refuse the use of any electronic device in the classroom. The use of cell phones is not permitted. Students who do not silence their devices before class or are caught using them during class may be asked to leave.

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY FOR UNDERGRADUATES**

“The Department of Political Science takes very seriously the issue of academic honesty. Any student who cheats on an exam or in the preparation and writing of a course assignment at minimum will fail the assignment in question, and may fail the course. Further, the Department can recommend that the student be put on academic probation (as outlined in the University’s Code of Conduct). Individual faculty, with the support of the Department, can impose harsher penalties as they deem necessary.

Cheating includes plagiarism, which is defined broadly as taking ideas, concepts or actual words of another person or author and passing them off as your own work. This includes, but is not limited to “cut and paste” construction of a paper, buying a term paper, pulling a paper off of the Internet, or using materials without acknowledging the source. A paper written by you (or anyone else) for another course is not acceptable for fulfilling the paper requirements of this course.”

**Course Outline**

\*(BB) indicates that readings will be posted to Blackboard

\*\*assignments are subject to change at instructor’s discretion, as the contemporary nature of many of the course topics may result in new developments and require changes to the syllabus\*\*

**Monday 1/12 Introduction**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 1 (all)

Visit/Read http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/foreign-policy

Price-Smith, pp. 1-6

**Wednesday 1/14 History of U.S. Foreign Policy: Expansion of U.S. Power** *Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 2, pp. 31-45, Price-Smith, pp. 7-17

**Thursday 1/15 History of U.S. Foreign Policy: Expansion of U.S. Power** *Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 2, pp. 46-69

Price-Smith, pp. 17-30

**Monday 1/19 No Class, MLK Day**

**Wednesday 1/21 Dynamics of Decision Making**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 3, pp. 74-83, 91-99

Smith-Price, pp. 47-67

**Thursday 1/22 Dynamics of Decision Making (con’t)** Film: *Thirteen Days*

**Monday 1/26 Dynamics of Decision Making (con’t)** Film: *Thirteen Days* finish

**Wednesday 1/28 The Presidency**

*Assignments*: Hook, Chapter 4 (all)

**Thursday 1/29 The Presidency (con’t)**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp.37-48, 67-81

**Monday 2/2 Congress Beyond the Water’s Edge**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 5 (all), Appendix B, The War Powers Resolution of 1973

**Wednesday 2/4 The Foreign Policy Bureaucracy**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 3 pp. 84-91; Chapter 6, pp. 172-177

**Thursday 2/5 The State Department**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 6, pp. 177-186, 203-207

Price-Smith, pp. 93-103

Hillary Clinton, “Leading Through Civilian Power” *Foreign Affairs* (November/December 2010) (BB)

**Monday 2/9 The Defense Department/Department of Homeland Security**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 6, pp. 186-190

Steven Flynn, “Creating the Department of Homeland Security: Rethinking the Ends and Means” Issue Brief CFR (BB)

**Wednesday 2/11 The Intelligence Community**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 6, pp. 190- 202

Price-Smith, pp. 234-248

**Thursday 2/12 The United States and Cyber Conflict**

*Assignments:* Valeriano, Brandon and Ryan C. Maness. 2014. “The Dynamics of Cyber Conflict between Rival Antagonists, 2001-2011.” *Journal of Peace Research,* 51 (3): 347-360 (BB).

Lindsay, Jon R. 2013. “Stuxnet and the Limits of Cyber Warfare.” *Security Studies* 22 (3): 365-404 (BB).

**Monday 2/16 No Class, President’s Day**

**Wednesday 2/18 Public Opinion at Home and Abroad and Impact of Mass Communications**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 7, Chapter 8

Price-Smith, pp. 154-173

**TERM PAPER: ABSTRACT, OUTLINE, AND WORKING BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE**

**Thursday 2/19 No Class, Conference**

**Monday 2/23 Social Movements and Interest Groups**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 9

Price-Smith, pp. 129-142, 174-225

**Wednesday 2/25 Economic Statecraft**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 11 (all)

**Thursday 2/26 National Security and Defense Policy**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 10 (all)

Price-Smith, pp. 55-66

**Monday 3/2 National Security and Defense Policy (con’t)**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith 104-128

**Wednesday 3/4 Transnational Policy Problems (covered in final)**

*Assignments:* Hook, Chapter 12 (all)

Price-Smith, pp. 355-380

**Thursday 3/5 Midterm examination in class**

**Monday 3/9 NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**

**Wednesday 3/11 NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**

**Thursday 3/12 NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**

**Monday 3/16**  **Simulation**

**Wednesday 3/18 Simulation**

**Thursday 3/19 Transnational Policy Problems (con’t)**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp. 311-354

**Monday 3/23**  **The US and China**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp. 263-270

Buszynski, Leszek. 2012. “The South China Sea: Oil, Maritime Claims,

And the US-China Strategic Rivalry.” *Washington Quarterly* 35 (2): 139-

156.

Morrison, Wayne M. 2011. “China-US Trade Issues.” *Cornell Digital*

*Commons ILR*  (BB).

**Wednesday 3/25 The US and Asia**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp.271-278, 298-310

Robert Blackwill. 2011. Plan B in Afghanistan: Why a de facto Partition is the Least Bad  Option. *Foreign Affairs*. Jan‐Feb (BB).

Stephen Krasner. 2012. Talking Tough to Pakistan: How to End Islamabad's Defiance.  *Foreign Affairs*, 91(1):  87‐96 (BB).

**Thursday 3/26 The US and the Middle East**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp. 288-297

Matthew Kroenig, 2012.Time to Strike Iran, *Foreign Affairs*, 91:76 (BB).

**Monday 3/30 The US and the Middle East**

*Assignments:* James Traub. 2010. Surge Incapacity. Let's face it: America Just Isn't Very Good at Nation‐Building. *Foreign Policy*, March 8,

2010:http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/03/08/surge\_incapacity (BB)

Seth Jones. 2013. Mirage of the Arab Spring: Deal with the Region You Have, Not the Region  You Want. *Foreign Affairs*, 92(1), 55‐63 (BB).

Sheri Berman. 2013. Promise of the Arab Spring: In Political Development, No Gain  without Pain, *Foreign Affairs*. 92(1), (BB)

Hicham Ben Abdallah El Alaoui. 2011. The Split in Arab Culture.*Journal of Democracy,*22(1). (BB)

**Wednesday 4/1 The US and sub-Saharan Africa**

*Assignments:* Straus, Scott. 2012. “Wars do End! Changing Patterns of

Political Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa.” *African Affairs*111/443: 179-

201. (BB)

Buscher, Bram. 2011. “The Political Economy of Africa’s Natural Resources and the Great Financial Crisis.” (BB)

**Thursday 4/2 The US and Russia**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp. 279-287

Maness, Ryan C. and Brandon Valeriano. 2015. “Rivalry Persistence and the Case of the United States and Russia: From Global Rivalry to Regional Conflict.” In *Russia’s Coercive Diplomacy: Energy, Cyber and Maritime Policy as New Sources of Power* (BB)

Orenstein, Mitchell and Bojan Bugaric. 2014. “The Eastern European Spring.” *Foreign Affairs,* December 2014. (BB)

**Monday 4/6 The US and the EU/NATO**

*Assignments:* Barker, Tyson. 2013. “For Transatlantic Trade, This Time is

Different.” *Foreign Affairs* February 2013. (BB)

Berryman, John. 2012. “Russia, NATO Enlargement, and Regions of Privileged Interests.” In *Russian Foreign Policy in the 21st Century.* (BB)

**Wednesday 4/8 The US and Latin America**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp. 256-262

Rigirozzi, Pia. 2012 “Region, regioness, and regionalism in Latin America.” (BB)

Remmer, Karen L. “The Rise of Leftist-Populist Governance in Latin

America: The Roots of Electoral Change.” *Comparative Political Studies*

45 (8): 947-972.

**Thursday 4/9 The US and North America**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp. 249-255

Stéfanie von Hlatky and Jessica N. Trisko “Sharing the Burden of the Border: Layered Security Co­operation and the

Canada–US Frontier” (BB)

**Monday 4/13 Challenges to US Foreign Policy**

*Assignments:* Price-Smith, pp.381-390, 226-233

Cooper, William H. and Rebecca M. Nelson. 2014. “US Foreign Trade in

Services: Policy Challenges.” *Digital Commons ILR* (BB)

**Wednesday 4/15 Future of US Foreign Policy**

*Assignments:*Milne, D. (2012). “Pragmatism or what? The future of US foreign policy”. *International Affairs*, 88(5), 935-951. (BB)

**Thursday 4/16 No Class, Conference**

**Monday 4/20 No Class, Patriot’s Day**

**Wednesday 4/22 Wrap up, Review TERM PAPER DUE – 9:15 a.m. – IN CLASS AND BLACKBOARD SUBMISSION REQUIRED**

**Thursday 4/23 No Class, Reading Day**

**Final Exam TBA**