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TTh: 10 to 10:50 a.m. and 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.  
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Elizabethtown College  
Spring Semester, 2007-2008  
Classroom: Hoover 107

**PS 345 American Foreign Policy**  
(A Policy Approach)  
4 credits

This syllabus is online with assignment links at <http://users.etown.edu/s/selchewa/home/PS345.pdf>.

In this course we will examine contemporary U.S. foreign policy within an analytical framework designed to identify both the processes of reaching policy decisions and the patterns of those decisions over time. We will identify the long-standing principles, values, and interests of the United States that condition the ways in which today's policymakers respond to and shape changes in the international and domestic environments. Forces for continuity and those for change will be considered, especially regarding institutional characteristics and roles, and personal and public perceptions, values, and beliefs. We will analyze some of the current and future issues, debates, challenges, and opportunities facing the foreign policy community and the public, in regard to historical context, trends and options, and pros and cons. The theme of values, alternatives, and choices within bounded decision possibilities will be a constant in our conceptually-based approach. Many of the main concepts are in the "Key Concepts" and "Other Key Terms" lists at the end of every chapter in the Rosati text.

Students are responsible for completing the assigned readings and exercises before each class, and coming to class with observations and questions for the rest of the class. Your regular class attendance and careful preparation before class will both maximize everybody's learning and increase your own class response rate and participation grade. Do come to class prepared to respond to and discuss the topic of the day. Those who fall behind in assignments and cut class too often usually find that their grade, learning, and enjoyment of the course all suffer. **More than three unexcused absences from class per semester will be considered excessive and will reduce your class participation grade.**

One of the main objectives of the course is to develop your ability to interrelate the concepts and principles of American foreign policy with the flow of domestic and foreign events and trends. To develop this skill, you will work through the semester on a foreign policy issue brief in four drafts. The first three drafts (about 3-4 pages each) will focus, in sequence, on the three analytical angles of American policy toward a current international problem or trend you choose: (1) empirical, (2) normative, and (3) policy-oriented. I will provide comments on each of these, in turn. The polished final version will persuasively and succinctly (in 12 pages) synthesize the previous three and provide (section 1) your explanation of the nature, causes, and effects of the situation, (section 2) your assessment of the values, interests and options at stake, and (section 3) your recommendations on what should be done (and by whom) to solve the problem you have identified. Only the final version will be graded. During the semester, you will also become our class expert on your topic as it relates in class discussion to concepts and principles of the course. Further information on this assignment will be distributed early in the course and is online at <http://users.etown.edu/s/selchewa/home/PS345brief.pdf>.

To keep up with international events during the semester, we will be subscribing for three months at special classroom rates to the Christian Science Monitor, a high-quality, "balanced and responsible," award-winning newspaper with a global reputation as one of the best worldwide in the English language for its objective coverage and quality analysis of international matters and American foreign policy. **The Monitor will bill you directly for \$27 for a three months subscription. Please pay promptly.** With your subscription to the print edition, five days a week, you will also receive 24/7 access to the Monitor's full online edition at <http://www.csmonitor.com>, e-mail access to Monitor reporters for questions, and links to Monitor-selected

websites about topics in the news. The Monitor will be very helpful in class discussions and in the growth of your ability to connect concepts and principles with the flow of current international events, including in essay answers on the tests. Three quizzes (20 true-false and multiple choice questions) based on the Monitor's print coverage of international relations will be given during the semester, at intervals of about a month, each one covering about 20-22 daily editions of the paper. Dates of the quizzes will be announced and sample past quizzes shown in class when the newspapers start arriving in your campus mailboxes.

You are expected to abide by the Elizabethtown College Pledge of Integrity in all of your work, in and out of class. It is online at <http://www.etown.edu/web/policies/academicPolicies.html#pledge>. Also see the yearly booklet Academic Integrity at Elizabethtown College, used in the Freshman Seminar and available in the Office of the Dean of College Life.

I edit and maintain a large web directory site in international studies that will help you in this and the other international courses you may take on campus—the WWW Virtual Library: International Affairs Resources at <http://www2.etown.edu/vl/>. It is part of the global WWW Virtual Library system, is very highly ranked on Google, and is widely used and referenced worldwide, including by U.S. government and military personnel. You can find tips on doing quality academic research on the Internet at the top of the “Starter Tips for Internet Research” page at <http://www2.etown.edu/vl/starter.html>.

The class will attend and write reaction papers on several programs on international topics that are presented on campus this semester, including Dr. Cynthia Enloe on March 13 and F.W. de Klerk on April 8. Students may also attend non-required campus events on international affairs and write a reaction paper for extra class participation credit. A reaction paper is a one-page, typed, single-spaced, one-inch margined personal reaction sheet on the event attended. Discuss the event, its significance to and place in international relations or American foreign policy generally, your own reactions to it, and what you learned and why from attending or participating. Turn in this sheet **within two weeks** after you attend the event, or it will not be valid for class credit!

If you have a documented disability and need reasonable accommodations to fully participate in course activities or meet course requirements, you must:

- (1) contact the Director of Disability Services, Shirley Deichert, in the Center for Student Success, BSC 288, (717) 361-1227 or [deichesa@etown.edu](mailto:deichesa@etown.edu) AND
- (2) meet with me, the instructor, within two weeks of receiving a copy of the accommodation letter from Disability Services to discuss your accommodation needs and their implementation.

### **Grading**

Grades will be determined as follows, in proportion to average workload ratios during the semester:

First exam	20%
Second exam	20%
Final exam ( <u>partially</u> comprehensive)	20%
Foreign policy brief	15%
<u>Christian Science Monitor</u> quizzes	15%
Class participation and reaction sheets	<u>10%</u>
	100%

### **REQUIRED TEXTS AND OTHER LEARNING MATERIALS**

Jerel Rosati. The Politics of United States Foreign Policy. Fourth Edition. Wadsworth. 2007.

Glenn P. Hastedt, ed. Annual Editions: American Foreign Policy, 07/08. Dushkin/McGraw-Hill. 2008.

(Reading selections are listed below as “Annual Editions.”)

**NOTE:** Handouts, reaction sheets, and web sites will be assigned through the semester as relevant to our progress and to the flow of current events. Also watch your e-mail for suggestions and for short readings from me as topical online sources become available. Most of these e-mail messages will have hyperlinks that you can open directly if your e-mail client is enabled for HTML.

### **ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE**

January 15	Introduction to the subject, the course, and each other
January 17	Analytical Framework and Purposes-- Searching for the Big Picture beyond Chronologies, Current Events, Immediacy, Media Hype and Frenzies, and Infotainment Rosati: Preface and Chapter 1
January 22, 24, 29, 31	Historical Patterns and the Current Context Rosati: Chapters 2 and 3 <u>Annual Editions</u> : Pages xviii to 1; Articles 1 to 5 “Animated Atlas of US History” <a href="http://www.animatedatlas.com/movie.html">http://www.animatedatlas.com/movie.html</a> BBC Poll. (2007) “World View of US Role goes from Bad to Worse.” <a href="http://www.globescan.com/news_archives/bbcusop/">http://www.globescan.com/news_archives/bbcusop/</a> <b>Topic selection for the foreign policy brief is due on January 24.</b>
February 5	The Paradoxes of Presidential Power and Leadership Rosati: Chapter 4 and Appendix A <u>Annual Editions</u> : Pages 92 to 94; Articles 17 and 18
February 7, 12	The Bureaucracy, Presidential Management, and the NSC Rosati: Chapter 5 <u>Annual Editions</u> : Article 19
February 14, 19	The Department of State Analyzed as a Bureaucracy Rosati: Chapter 6 U.S. Institute of Peace. “U.S. Negotiating Behavior.” October 2002. <a href="http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr94.html">http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr94.html</a> <b>Empirical draft of the foreign policy brief is due on February 14.</b>
February 21	<b>First Section Exam</b>

### **Section Two: Executive Decision-making and the Role of The Other Branches and Levels**

February 26, 28	The Department of Defense and the Military Establishment Rosati: Chapter 7 <u>Annual Editions</u> : Pages 152 to 154; Articles 20 and 27 to 32
March 11	The Intelligence Community Rosati: Chapter 8

- March 13 International Economic Bureaucracy and Politics  
Rosati: Chapter 9  
Annual Editions: Pages 140 to 141; Articles 16, 25 and 26
- March 18 Decision-Making Theory Applied to Washington, D.C.  
Rosati: Chapter 10  
Annual Editions: Pages 122 to 123; Articles 23 and 24  
**Normative draft of the foreign policy brief is due on March 18.**
- March 25 The Role of the Congress  
Rosati: Chapter 11 and Appendix A  
Annual Editions: Article 21
- March 27 Second Section Exam**

**Section Three: The Public Role, Domestic Issues, and the International Challenges of the Future**

- April 1, 3 Public Opinion and Political Culture  
Rosati: Chapter 12  
Annual Editions: Articles 14 and 15  
Program on International Policy Attitudes. "U.S. Role in the World."  
[http://www.americans-world.org/digest/overview/us\\_role/usrole\\_summary.cfm](http://www.americans-world.org/digest/overview/us_role/usrole_summary.cfm)  
Roy Beck and Steven A. Camarota. "Elite vs. Public Opinion: An Examination of Divergent Views on Immigration." (December 2002)  
<http://www.cis.org/articles/2002/back1402.html>  
**Policy draft of the foreign policy brief is due on April 3.**
- April 8 National Security versus Civil Liberties and Political Participation  
Rosati: Chapter 13  
Annual Editions: Article 22
- April 10 Electoral Politics and Trends  
Rosati: Chapter 14
- April 15 Group Politics  
Rosati: Chapter 15  
James G. McGann. "Think Tanks and the Transnationalization of Foreign Policy." Reprinted from the November 2002 issue of the State Department's magazine US Foreign Policy Agenda.  
[http://www.fpa.org/topics\\_info2414/topics\\_info\\_show.htm?doc\\_id=141979](http://www.fpa.org/topics_info2414/topics_info_show.htm?doc_id=141979)
- April 17 The Media and the Communications Process  
Rosati: Chapter 16

- April 24 Conclusions, Patterns, Change, Models, and into the Future  
Rosati: Chapter 17
- April 29, May 1 Bilateral and Regional Overviews from Annual Editions:  
1. Iraq War: Pages 186 to 188 and Articles 33 to 38  
2. Bilateral and Regional Overviews: Pages 30 to 32 and Articles 6 to 13
- May 1 **Final draft of the foreign policy brief is due by 4:00 p.m.**
- Thursday, May 8, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **Final Exam— Heavily on the third section of the course, but partially comprehensive**

### Due Dates for the Foreign Policy Brief

#### Task

1. Selection of a topic
2. Empirical analysis draft (3-4 typed pages)
3. Normative analysis draft (3-4 typed pages)
4. Policy analysis draft (3-4 typed pages)
5. Final version (12 typed pages)

#### Due Dates

- January 24  
February 14  
March 18  
April 3  
May 1

**NOTE: Your adherence to this timeline is CRUCIAL in your semester-long writing improvement process, and severe tardiness at the intermediate or final stages will be a negative factor in the final grade for the brief. The common causes of poor performance (Ds and Fs) on this assignment are**

1. Not staying on the timeline for both the intermediate and final drafts
2. Ignoring the specific requirements of the assignment
3. Handing in poorly done first drafts just to meet the due date, hoping to do well on the final draft
4. When you prepare your final draft, ignoring my comments and suggestions on your intermediate drafts and those I give to the class as a whole.