U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1898
History 512:352
Rutgers University, Spring 2012
MW 4 (1:10-2:30 PM)
Voorhees Hall 105

Professor David S. Foglesong
Office: Van Dyck Hall, 215
Office hour: TBA
dsfoglesong@gmail.com

Teaching Assistant: TBA
E-mail: TBA
Office hours: TBA
Van Dyck ? (basement)

Course Description
This course examines the foreign relations of the United States from the war against Spain in 1898 to the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It addresses major developments such as U.S. imperialism, Wilsonian interventionism, “isolationism,” the origins of “the Cold War,” the Vietnam War, the rise and fall of detente, the end of the Cold War, and "nation building." In lectures, readings, documentary films, and essay assignments, students are asked to compare and analyze different interpretations of controversial issues such as the role of gender in foreign relations and military occupations of foreign countries. The primary objectives of the course are to encourage students to think independently and critically about U.S. foreign relations and to improve their writing skills.

This 300-level course is relatively advanced and requires a substantial amount of reading. Students who have not had introductory surveys of U.S. history or other courses on U.S. foreign relations may wish to delay taking this class.

Requirements
1. Attendance at lectures. Attendance will be recorded on a sign-in sheet available before the beginning of class. Late arrivals and early departures are disruptive. Students who arrive after the beginning of class will not be allowed to sign the attendance sheet. Students who leave before the class ends will be marked absent unless they have explained before the beginning of class why they need to leave early. Students will be expected to comply with the Classroom Etiquette Policy (see http://history.rutgers.edu/undergrad/policy.htm).

Cell phones must be switched off and meals must be eaten before the start of class. Laptops may not be used for purposes unrelated to the class.

Each student will be allowed three unexcused absences. Beyond that, each unexcused absence will result in a deduction of 2% in the final course grade. If the campus is open and class is not
canceled, absences will not be excused because of weather. Absences will be excused on the basis of serious illness or a death in the family after documentation is presented to the Teaching Assistant. Students may use the absence reporting website (https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra) to indicate the date and reason for an absence. However, this will not eliminate the need to present documentation for excuse of absences.

2. **Active, informed participation in class discussions, based on completion of the assigned reading. This will count for 10% of your grade for the course.**

3. Three essays of 1500 to 2000 words (roughly 5 to 7 pages) on assigned topics. The essays will develop critical perspectives on interpretations of major issues addressed in required readings. Students will be expected to be familiar with the History Department’s statement on plagiarism (go to http://history.rutgers.edu/undergraduate. Essays that contain plagiarism (unacknowledged use of others’ words or ideas) will not be accepted. **The essays will be due on February 1, April 4, and April 30. Each essay will count for 25% of your course grade.** Essays may not be submitted by e-mail.

4. **Examination, May ?, ? to ? PM.** The exam will require students to identify and discuss the historical significance of 10 individuals, events, etc. on a list of 12. This will count for **15% of your course grade.**

**Required Reading**
The following books have been ordered through the Rutgers University Bookstore:
Chandrasekaran, Rajiv. *Imperial Life in the Emerald City*
Hoganson, Kristin. *Fighting for American Manhood: How Gender Politics Provoked the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars*
Jacobs, Seth. *America’s Miracle Man in Vietnam: Ngo Dinh Diem and U.S. Intervention in Southeast Asia*
These books have also been placed on two-hour reserve at Alexander Library. Extra copies of the textbook, American Foreign Relations, have been placed on reserve.

Additional required readings have been placed on electronic reserve. To access them, go to www.libraries.rutgers.edu, click on "Find Reserves," and type "Foglesong" in the search field.

**Schedule of Lectures and Reading Assignments**

Note: The required reading must be completed by the dates specified. This is essential to make the lectures and discussions valuable. Lectures will assume that students are familiar with basic factual information presented in the assigned reading. Students will be expected to be able to answer questions about different interpretations presented in the reading. Doing some of the recommended reading may enhance performance, particularly on the essays.

**JANUARY 18: INTRODUCTION TO COURSE.**

"Crucible of Empire: The Spanish-American War“ (Documentary)

**JANUARY 23: AMERICAN INSULAR IMPERIALISM: ABERRATION OR CULMINATION?**

**Required Reading:**


Paterson, American Foreign Relations, Chapter 1.

Hoganson, Fighting for American Manhood (start)

**JANUARY 25: THEODORE ROOSEVELT: GENTLEMAN COWBOY, ROUGH RIDER**

"TR" (Documentary, 1996)

**Required Reading:**

Cooper, Warrior and the Priest, xi-xiv, 3-14, 27-43, 59-88, 109-118.


**Recommended Reading:**


**JANUARY 30: MEN, WOMEN, AND EMPIRE: GENDER & AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS**

**Required Reading:**

Hoganson, Fighting for American Manhood (finish)
Recommended Reading:
Gail Bederman, Manliness and Civilization (1995)
Robert Dean, Imperial Brotherhood (2001)

FEBRUARY 1: TR, THE OPEN DOOR, AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE
Required Reading:
Paterson, American Foreign Relations, Chapter 2.
First essay due.

FEBRUARY 6: WILSONIAN INTERVENTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA
Required Reading:
Kendrick A. Clements, "Woodrow Wilson's Mexican Policy" [E-reserve]
John Mason Hart, Revolutionary Mexico (1987), Chapter 9 [E-reserve]
Recommended Reading:
D. Foglesong, America's Secret War Against Bolshevism (1995), Ch. 2

FEBRUARY 8: THE FIRST WORLD WAR AND THE VERSAILLES PEACE
Required Reading:
Paterson, American Foreign Relations, Chapter 3
Cooper, The Warrior and the Priest, 288-345.

FEBRUARY 13: FROM COLOSSUS OF THE NORTH TO GOOD NEIGHBOR: U.S. POLICY & LATIN AMERICA, 1921-1941
Required Reading:
Paterson, American Foreign Relations, 151-167.
Recommended Reading:

FEBRUARY 15: FDR AND “ISOLATIONISM” ON THE EVE OF WORLD WAR II
Required Reading: Paterson, American Foreign Relations, Chapter 4.

FEBRUARY 20: THE ORIGINS OF THE AMERICAN-JAPANESE WAR "Prelude to War" (Propaganda Film, 1942)
Required Reading:
Paterson, American Foreign Relations, 140-151 and Chapter 6.
John Dower, “Race, Language and War in Two Cultures,” in Dower, Japan in War and Peace: Selected Essays (1993), 257-285. [E-Reserve]

Required Reading:
John Dower, “Occupied Japan and the Cold War in Asia,” in Dower, Japan in War and Peace: Selected Essays (1993), 155-207. [E-Reserve]

Recommended Reading:
M. Schaller, The American Occupation of Japan
John Dower, Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II


Required Reading:
Jeremi Suri, Liberty’s Surest Guardian: American Nation-Building From the Founders to Obama (2011), Ch. 4 [E-Reserve]

Recommended Reading:

FEBRUARY 29: FROM ALLIES TO ENEMIES: THE DETERIORATION OF AMERICAN-SOVIET RELATIONS, 1945-1953

Required Reading:
Paterson, American Foreign Relations, Chapter 7.

MARCH 5: THE IMPACT OF THE ATOMIC BOMB

Required Reading:
Paul Boyer, By the Bomb's Early Light, Chapter 16 [E-Reserve]

Recommended Reading:

MARCH 7: THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY & THE COLD WAR

"Secret Intelligence" (Documentary)

Required Reading:

Recommended Reading:

MARCH 12 AND 14: SPRING BREAK
MARCH 19: EISENHOWER AND THE "NEW LOOK"

**Required Reading:**

MARCH 21: THE CHALLENGE OF NATIONALISM AND COMMUNISM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE U.S. POLITICAL IMAGINATION

“*The Ugly American*” (*Film, 1962*)

**Required Reading:**
Jonathan Nashel, “The Road to Vietnam: Modernization Theory in Fact and Fiction” [E-Reserve]
Jacobs, *America’s Miracle Man in Vietnam* (begin)

**Recommended Reading:**
Jonathan Nashel, *Edward Lansdale's Cold War*

MARCH 26: NATION BUILDING AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

**Required Reading:**
Jacobs, *America’s Miracle Man in Vietnam* (continue)

**Recommended Reading:**
Michael E. Latham, *Modernization as Ideology: American Social Science and “Nation Building” in the Kennedy Era*

MARCH 28: "HEARTS AND MINDS" (*Film, 1974*)

**Required Reading:**
Jacobs, *America’s Miracle Man in Vietnam* (finish)

APRIL 2: THE U.S. WAR IN VIETNAM AND ITS LONG SHADOWS

**Required Reading:**

**Recommended Reading:**

APRIL 4: U.S. INTERVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA SINCE 1961

**Required Reading:** [E-Reserve]
Schmitz, “New Frontiers? Kennedy, Johnson, and the Return to Intervention”
Francis, “United States Policy toward Latin America during the Kissinger Years”
Pastor, “The Reagan Administration: On Its Own Petard”

**Second essay due.**
APRIL 9: THE RISE AND FALL OF DETENTE  
*Film Clip: “The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming”*  
**Required Reading:** Paterson, *American Foreign Relations*, Ch. 10.

APRIL 11: FROM A NEW COLD WAR TO THE END OF THE COLD WAR  
**Required Reading:** Paterson, *American Foreign Relations*, Ch. 11.

APRIL 16: THE U.S.-IRAQ WARS IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE  
**Required Reading:** Paterson, *American Foreign Relations*, Chapter 12.  
**Recommended Reading:**  
Douglas Little, *American Orientalism*

APRIL 18: *“No End in Sight: Iraq’s Descent Into Chaos”* (Documentary)

APRIL 23: POST-COLD WAR NATION BUILDING: THE OCCUPATION OF IRAQ  
**Required Reading:**  
Chandrasekaran, *Imperial Life in the Emerald City*  
**Recommended Reading:**  
Peter Hahn, *Missions Accomplished? The United States and Iraq since World War I* (2012)

APRIL 25: WAR AND NATION BUILDING: THE U.S. AND AFGHANISTAN  
*View part of “Restrepo: One Platoon, One Valley, One Year” (2010)*  
**Required Reading:**  
Seth Jones, *In the Graveyard of Empires: America’s War in Afghanistan* (2009), Introduction and Chapter 7 [E-Reserve]

APRIL 30: **Third essay due.**

**May ?:** Examination