PSCI 313 Making US Foreign Policy
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:10-11:00
Acland House Seminar Room
Professor Tanya Charlick-Paley

Office Hours: My office is Horowitz House 6. Office hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday immediately after class from 11:00-12:00. If these times do not work for you, we can set up an appointment. If you have a serious and unforeseen need to talk to me, you may reach me at home at 392-7420.

Course Objectives:
This course is an introduction to the American policy process surrounding the creation and implementation of US foreign policy. The course is designed to address two broad themes.

1. How does a democracy make foreign policy? In order to answer this, we will examine several models for how the U.S. government arrives at foreign policy decisions and implements them within an environment of partisan conflict and lack of consensus on the proper course of policy. We examine how the original framers of the constitution intended for the policy process to proceed and how that has been informally and formally altered over time.

2. Can the foreign policy process be improved? How do we know a good policy from a bad one? Is good judgment being shown in the process and outcome? This course will enable students to make critical evaluations of the policy process and specific U.S. policy choices.

In addition to lecture on these and related topics, this course will have a large component of discussion-based, interactive and participatory learning. Active participation in simulations and case studies is an effective and fun way of learning and also develops skills that will serve you well not only at Kenyon, but beyond. These include:

1. Critical Thinking Skills: the ability to identify, order and “cut through” evidence; the ability to think on one’s feet; and the ability to create alternative interpretations, as well as “see other sides of the argument”

2. Public Speaking Skills: the capacity to construct logical oral arguments and persuade audiences

3. Group Dynamic Skills: the ability to read and interpret group signals and exercise leadership

4. Writing Skills: the ability to create a focused written reaction that combines critical thinking skills with effective and engaging communication skills
Classroom Policies:

Attendance and Participation: Although some classes will be in lecture format, student participation will be encouraged and evaluated. Students must come to class prepared to discuss the readings and materials on the day they are assigned. At least bi-weekly, class periods will be used to conduct in-class case studies or simulations. Students need to be carefully prepared for these classes in order to gain the most from the exercise. Conversely, absence during these class periods will result in failure to attain critical material for meeting course objectives and assignments.

Class Participation will constitute 25% of your course grade (see below.) To underscore the importance of your active presence in class, after every three unexcused absences your class participation grade will be docked a full letter grade.

Extensions/Make-ups/Late Papers: I do not grant extensions or make-ups except in cases of DOCUMENTED serious illness or family emergency. Late papers will be accepted, but they will be penalized one full letter grade (eg. A to B) for the first day they are late and 1/2 a letter grade for each subsequent day (eg. B to B-). Failure to complete an assignment will result in a 0, not an F. This means that you still have an interest in completing an assignment that is significantly late.

Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty is a serious offense. All students must follow the College’s policies regarding Academic Honesty as outlined in the Course of Study. Please consult with me before you turn in an assignment if you have any questions.

Disabilities: Students with learning disabilities need to discuss your concerns in private with me AND contact Erin Salva, Kenyon’s Coordinator of Disability Services (ph: 5453; salvae@kenyon.edu) No accommodations can be granted without notification from Ms. Salva’s office.

Course Evaluation:
Evaluation will be based upon the Following:
Class Participation, Quizzes, and Case Reaction Papers 25%
Midterm Exam 25%
Term Paper 10-12 pages 25%
Final Exam 25%

You will need to choose a policy topic which you will follow through the semester and which will be the focus of your term paper. The term paper will ask you to address and evaluate the formation and/or implementation of U.S. policy in a particular domain either current or historical. Examples of appropriate US foreign policy challenges include; Trade, The War on Terrorism, Nuclear Biological and/or Chemical Weapons Proliferation, Human Rights, Economic Development, Health Policy, Environmental Policy, Bilateral relationships such as US relations with China, Russia, N. Korea, Iraq, Iran, EU, Cuba... or the US role in ending a protracted conflict such as the Israeli/Palestinian peace process. This is not an exhaustive list. You may pick the topic that most interests you, but you must get it approved by class time September 9. A preliminary bibliography will be due at the time of the midterm.
Required Texts:


Pew Case Custom Reader

Additional course readings will be put on E-Res as indicated in the syllabus by an asterisk, (*) or are available directly on the web.

Course Schedule: (Note: I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus where appropriate. All changes will be announced in class or via class-list email.)

I. Introduction to the Study of US Foreign Policy Making: The Domestic and International Policy Environment

A. Introduction to Course  August 29th

B. Who Are We as a Nation?  What is Our Relationship to the World?
   • Gideon Rose, “Get Real” Thursday August 18, 2005 *NY Times* op-ed piece (handout)

1. International Realities: (September 2)
   • Nye, “Beyond September 11,” W&M pp.25-32
   • Hoffman, “Why Don’t They Like Us?..” W&M pp.33-42

2. Culture and National Identity: (September 5)

   • Pew Case 234 “A King's Exile: The Shah of Iran and Moral Considerations in U.S. Foreign Policy” 18 pages (September 7)

POLICY TOPICS MUST BE APPROVED BY CLASS TIME SEPTEMBER 9TH
II. Institutions and the Policy Processes

A. Public and Elite Opinion (September 9, 12)

- Ole Holsti, “Public Opinion and Foreign Policy; Challenges to the Almond-Lippman Consensus,” International Studies Quarterly 192 vol 36: 439-466
- Nincic, “Elections and USFP” 117-128 In W&M

B. The Role of Congress

- Powers, Ch 4+ pp. 47-63, Chapter 155-171 (September 14, 16)

Week of September 19-23
Movie: “Ghosts of Rwanda” 2 hours long Debriefing and discussion on movie and case (up to 50 minutes). In preparation for movie and discussion, please read Powers, Chapter 10 on Rwanda (329-389)


Case Studies (September 30, October 3)

- Case 160 “Thinking Locally, Acting Globally: Congressman Jim Walsh and the NAFTA Vote” 1 ½- 2 class sessions

- Case 710 “Negotiation Simulation- Drugs, Books and Videos- The U.S. Korean Dispute Over Intellectual Property Rights” 2 class sessions (October 3, 5)

C. Congressional versus Presidential Activism in International Armed Conflict

1. Perspectives on the Policy Process (October 7)

- Fisher, “Presidential Wars,” 155-169 in W&M
- Lindsay, “From Deference to Activism and Back Again,” 183-196 in W&M

READING DAYS- NO CLASS OCTOBER 10
2. Case Studies

Discussion of Case 340 The Reagan Administration in Lebanon as background material for the case study. (October 12)

Case 358 “War Powers Resolution and US Policy in Lebanon,” (October 14)
This case examines the contentious debate between the Reagan administration and Congress over the deployment of U.S. Marines to Lebanon between 1982 and 1984. This case will be used to (1) explore the domestic politics of U.S. foreign policy, (2) stimulate discussion concerning the appropriate roles of Congress and the executive branch in making foreign policy, and/or (3) examine the utility of the War Powers Resolution as a constraint on presidential autonomy in foreign and defense policy.

PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE & IN CLASS MIDTERM EXAM OCTOBER 17

D. Presidents and the Presidency

1. Presidents as Managers October 19, 21
   - Nelson, “Person and Office: Presidents, the Presidency and Foreign Policy” pp. 145-154 in W&M
   - Preston and Hermann, “Presidential Leadership Style and the Advisory Process” pp. 363-380 in W&M
   - October 24 Pew Case 242 Madman’s Appetite-The Nixon Administration & Secret Bombing in Cambodia

2. Personality and Decision-Making (October 26, 28, 31, Nov. 2)
   - Allison and Zelikow, Essence of Decision, Chapters 1&2 pp. 13-129 on Model 1 Rational Actor October 21, 24
   - Fred Greenstein “Impact of Personality on the End of the Cold War,” Political Psychology 1998 vol 18, no. 1 pp.1-16*
E. **Within the Executive Branch: Bureaucratic Processes** (an integration of theory and case studies)
   1. Organizational Structure and SOPs (4, 7, 9, 11, 14)
      - Allison and Zelikow, *Essence of Decision* Model 2 Chapter 3-4 pp. 143-242 October 31, 2
      - Talbott, “Globalization and Diplomacy,” 197-206 in W&M
      - Cohen, “Tale of Two Secretaries,” 207-218 in W&M
      - Deutch and Smith, “Smarter Intelligence,” 219-226 in W&M 11/7
      - Daaldor and Destler, “Advisors, Czars and Homeland Security,” 227-236 in W&M

   2. Governmental and Organizational Politics Nov 16, 18
      - Allison and Zelikow, Model 3 chapters 5-6: 255-366

THANKSGIVING BREAK- READ SELECTIONS FROM GELB AND BETTS!

   - Gelb and Betts, *Irony of Vietnam* (need to specify pages) Nov 28, 30

III. Conclusions and Prescriptions: Improving Policy Processes and Outcomes (December 5, 7, 9)

Lecture: Is Foreign Policy Like Pornography? (Do we know a bad policy when we see it?)

   - Allison and Zelikow Conclusion Ch. 7 379-405
   - Krasner, “Are Bureaucracies Important? (Or Allison Wonderland)” Foreign Policy 1972 Summer vol 7:159-179
   - Powers, Chapter 8 Iraq: Human Rights and Chemical Weapons Use Aside” only specified page numbers, as this case study is extremely long and emotionally difficult to read

TERM PAPERS DUE & IN-CLASS REPORTS ON PAPERS DECEMBER 12

TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM DUE SATURDAY DECEMBER 18TH BY 10 P.M.