

## United States Foreign Relations to 1914

This is a one-quarter lecture and discussion course in the history of United States foreign relations from 1763 to 1914. Its purpose is to cover the major events and themes from the birth of the nation to the eve of World War I. Though no prior knowledge of U.S. history is required, the material covers a significant period of time and a complex range of subjects. Those not familiar with the major issues in U.S. history would be advised to review a standard survey. This course is open to all students but history majors will have precedence. The companion to this course, U.S. Foreign Relations from 1914, will be offered in the Winter term.

Doing well in this course: Please note that the readings will not necessarily cover what I deal with in the lectures and vice versa. Therefore, you will need to attend all of the lectures and do the readings in order to pass the course. But surely you knew that already. Plan to spend at least six to seven hours each week in preparation--not preparing for class will cause confusion and delay. Read at least the material for the day's class in advance. **NOTE: Laptops and audio/visual recording devices are not permitted except in exceptional circumstances.**

You are strongly encouraged to seek me out for questions and comments. My university email address is [jonathan.winkler@wright.edu](mailto:jonathan.winkler@wright.edu). Messages can be left for me on my office phone at 775-3839 or with the History Department administrative staff in 370 Millett Hall. My office hours will be Monday 1:00 to 4:00 and Wednesday 1:00 to 4:00, and other times by appointment. My office is located at 361 Millett Hall.

This course is Writing Intensive (WI) and satisfies the university's requirements for such. As a result, please note that plagiarism (presenting someone else's work as your own) is among the gravest of offenses at the university. It will result in a grade of F for the course and possibly expulsion from the university. Remember—the Internet is not always your friend.

### Assigned Readings:

The readings take two forms: books and articles. The following books are the course texts. You are certainly free to use an online bookseller (Amazon.com, Bookfinder.com, etc.) to obtain copies of these texts—but please make sure to get the same edition as I have listed here.

- Howard Jones. *Crucible of Power: A History of American Foreign Relations to 1913*. (SR Books, 2002).
- John L. Harper. *American Machiavelli: Alexander Hamilton and the Origins of U.S. Foreign Policy*. (Cambridge University Press, 2007 [2004]).
- William E. Weeks. *John Quincy Adams and American Global Empire*. (University Press of Kentucky, 2002).
- There are also several assigned articles.

The assigned articles, starting in Week 6, are indicated on the weeks when you are to read them. These are available through the Electronic Reserves section of the Dunbar Library webpage, at <http://wright.docutec.com/eres/default.aspx> The password is: **diplomacy**

**Assessment:** Your grade for this course will come from a variety of sources, including attendance, two examinations and several writing assignments.

Midterm Exam:	20%
Final Exam:	25%
First Writing Assignment:	10%
Second Writing Assignment:	20%
Third Writing Assignment:	25%

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. Students may miss two classes; those missing three or more will receive a letter grade reduction for each missed class.

Exams: There will be a midterm exam for this course on Friday, October 17, in class. The final exam will be Wednesday, November 19 at 8:30 AM. They will be comprehensive.

Writing: Completion of these writing assignments is required for passage of this class. The first is a short reaction paper to a reading. The second and third are longer papers responding to several readings. I will provide more information on them in class. Please note, however, the following. Late essays will accrue a 10% penalty for each day late, to a maximum of three days. Thereafter the grade will be a zero. Only the final drafts are accepted, and papers in need of major revision will be returned with no grade. This class is Writing Intensive.

### **Graduate Students:**

For this course, graduate students will complete all readings and exams, and will participate in all discussions. In addition, graduate students will complete four additional modules relating to four historiographic themes. These will result in analytic essays of moderate length discussing the works in depth, and these will replace the writing assignments for undergraduates. I will provide more information about them in class.

**Lectures and Reading Assignments:** Except for the first week, you should complete the reading assignments indicated *in advance* of the week for which they are assigned.

Week 1: Read Jones, *Crucible of Power*, pp. ix-48; Harper, *American Machiavelli*, pp. 1-40

- 8 September: Introduction; American colonial history as international history to 1776
- 10 September: Diplomacy of the American Revolution
- 12 September: Independence and Confederation

Week 2: Read Jones, pp. 48-70; Harper, pp. 43-150

15 September: The Constitution as Treaty and Strategic Document

17 September: Federalist Diplomacy I

**[First Writing Assignment Due]**

19 September: Federalist Diplomacy II

Week 3: Read Jones, pp. 70-89; Harper, pp. 151-251

22 September: Federalist Diplomacy III

24 September: International Situation, 1789-1812

26 September: Federalist Diplomacy IV [last day to drop w/out a grade]

Week 4: Read Jones, pp. 89-112; Harper, pp. 251-276; Weeks, *John Quincy Adams*, pp. 1-58

29 September: Jefferson and American Expansion

1 October: Jefferson and American Neutrality

3 October: The War of 1812

Week 5: Read Jones, pp. 112-136; Weeks, pp. 59-147

6 October: J. Quincy Adams & American Empire **[2nd Writing Assignment Due]**

8 October: John Quincy Adams and the Western Hemisphere

10 October: Empire of Commerce

Week 6: Read Jones, pp. 136-188; Weeks, 147-200; Thomas Hietala article

13 October: Empire of Liberty & Manifest Destiny

15 October: The War with Mexico

17 October: MIDTERM

Week 7: Read Jones, pp. 188-221; Sexton article; Love chapters

20 October: Anglo-American Relations

22 October: Diplomacy of the Civil War

24 October: Old Paradigm Diplomacy [last day to drop with a "W"]

Week 8: Read Jones, pp. 221-271; Britton article (MUST read for Monday)

27 October: New Paradigm Diplomacy [Hand out packet for next assignment]

29 October: The War of 1898

31 October: Trappings of Empire

Week 9: Read Jones, pp. 271-297; writing assignment packet

3 November: Theodore Roosevelt

5 November: DEBATE over the War of 1898 [3rd WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE]  
7 November: DEBATE over Roosevelt in the Caribbean

Week 10: Eckes & Zeiler chapter; Ninkovich chapter; Kissinger chapter

10 November: Taft, Knox and Dollar Diplomacy

12 November: Wilson

14 November: Implications, Reconsiderations, Provocations

**FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, 19 November at 8:30 AM.**

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Additional Articles for 485/685:

1. Thomas R. Hietala, "The Myths of Manifest Destiny," in *Manifest Design: American Exceptionalism & Empire*, Revised Edition, (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003), pp. 255-272.
2. Jay Sexton, "Transatlantic Financiers and the Civil War," *American Nineteenth Century History* 2:3 (Autumn 2001): 29-46.
3. Eric T.L. Love, "American Imperialism and the Racial Mountain," and "Santo Domingo," in *Racism & U.S. Imperialism, 1865-1900* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004), pp. 1-72.
4. John A. Britton, "'The Confusion Provoked by Instantaneous Discussion: The New International Communications Network and the Chilean Crisis of 1891-1892 in the United States,'" *Technology and Culture* Volume 48 (October 2007): 729-757.
5. Packet: chapters 12 and 14 from Dennis Merrill and Thomas G. Paterson, eds., *Major Problems in American Foreign Relations. Volume 1: to 1920*, sixth edition (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2005), pp. 325-357 and 394-424.
6. Alfred E. Eckes and Thomas W. Zeiler, "Americanizing Britain's World, 1898-1913," in *Globalization and the American Century*, (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003), pp. 9- 37.
7. Frank Ninkovich, "Roosevelt and Taft: The Emergence of Civilization as Policy Principle" in *Modernity and Power: A History of the Domino Theory in the Twentieth Century*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994), pp. 1-36.
8. Henry Kissinger, "The Hinge: Theodore Roosevelt or Woodrow Wilson," in *Diplomacy*, (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994), pp. 29-55.