

**COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY  
SYLLABUS, SPRING 2003**

Course: POLS 311  
Class Time: 9:40-10:30 MWF  
Classroom: MP118

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Office Hours: 3:00-5:00 TThF,  
or by appointment

This course is an upper division political science course in the international relations area of emphasis. Students taking this course will have already taken either POLS 101 (American National Government) or POLS 231 (International Relations). The course is designed to sharpen the student's ability to (1) differentiate for several countries the fundamentally different worldviews that guide their crafting of foreign policy, (2) identify several phenomena characteristic of foreign policy making that are important regardless of country, such as diplomatic behaviors, sanctions, warlike actions, and war, and (3) interpret the results of foreign policy. What foreign policies worked or failed to work to advance the interests of countries and non-state actors? Foreign policy is a timeless feature of international relations and the successes and failures in this endeavor provide much material for assessing future foreign policy behaviors.

The student is responsible for any changes made by the instructor to the syllabus.

**Learning Objectives:** by the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- identify the political, societal, and cultural sources of foreign policy
- outline the process by which foreign policy is made
- assess the results of the implementation of foreign policies for several countries

The learning objectives will be achieved by way of lectures, classroom discussions, and video presentations, as well as completion of writing assignments and examinations.

**Grade Assessment of Learning Objectives:**

**Midterm Exams**, given on **February 14<sup>th</sup>** & **March 21<sup>st</sup>**, each worth 20% of the course grade

**Final Exam**, given on **Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am-12:30pm**, worth 20% of the course grade

The exams will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

**Research Paper, 8-10 pages**, on a foreign policy issue of your choice, details to be given later, due **April 25<sup>th</sup>**, worth 20% of the course grade

**Two short (3-5 page) foreign policy briefs** on a foreign policy issue assigned to you by the instructor, details to be given later, due **February 7<sup>th</sup>** & **March 14<sup>th</sup>**, each worth 10% of the course grade

**Participation**, influential in borderline final grade cases

Total = 100%

**Required Books** (available at BSU Bookstore):

Caporaso, James A. 2000. The European Union: Dilemmas of Regional Integration. Boulder: Westview.

Cohen, Stephen Philip. 2001. India: Emerging Power. Washington: Brookings Institution Press.

Eban, Abba. 1998. Diplomacy for the Next Century. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Michalak, Stanley. 2001. A Primer in Power Politics. Wilmington: SR Books.

**Topics** (no class on January 20<sup>th</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>):

1. Introduction. Eban, “A Credentials Ceremony”
2. The Language of Foreign Policy. Eban, chapter 1
3. The Power of the State. Eban, chapter 2; Michalak, chapters 1-3
4. Diplomatic Techniques. Eban, chapter 3
5. “Good-Cop” Diplomatic Strategy: Negotiation. Eban, chapter 4
6. “Bad-Cop” Diplomatic Strategy: Force. Eban, chapters 5-10 & “Afterword”
- 7. First Midterm Exam, February 14<sup>th</sup>**
8. Making Foreign Policy Decisions: Power and Geopolitics. Michalak, chapters 4 & 5
9. European Union Foreign Policy: EU-US Relations. Video Presentation, “Ties and Tensions”
10. European Union Foreign Policy: History and Context. Caporaso, chapters 1-3
11. European Union Foreign Policy: Current Issues. Caporaso, chapters 4-5
- 12. Second Midterm Exam, March 21<sup>st</sup>**
13. Foreign Policy of China: Context. Video presentation, “Nixon’s China Game”
14. Foreign Policy of China: Current Issues. Article TBA available at Reserve Desk, Albertsons Library
15. Foreign Policy of India: Context. Cohen, chapters 1-5
16. Foreign Policy of India: Bilateral Relations. Cohen, chapters 6-10
- 17. Final Exam, Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am-12:30pm**

**ALL DONE!**

Here are some comparative foreign policy-related websites:

CNN World News	<a href="http://cnn.com/WORLD/index.html">http://cnn.com/WORLD/index.html</a>
Christian Science Monitor	<a href="http://www.csmonitor.com">http://www.csmonitor.com</a>
Economist	<a href="http://www.economist.com">http://www.economist.com</a>
European Union	<a href="http://europa.eu.int/index_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/index_en.htm</a>
Far Eastern Economic Review	<a href="http://www.feer.com/">http://www.feer.com/</a>
Foreign Gov’t Resources	<a href="http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/foreign.html">http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/foreign.html</a>
Int’l Herald Tribune	<a href="http://www.iht.com/frontpage.htm">http://www.iht.com/frontpage.htm</a>
International Simulations	<a href="http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/intsim.html">http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/intsim.html</a>
Nando Times	<a href="http://www.nandotimes.com/global/">http://www.nandotimes.com/global/</a>
New York Times	<a href="http://www.nytimes.com">http://www.nytimes.com</a>
Times of India	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com">http://www.timesofindia.com</a>
U.S. State Department	<a href="http://www.state.gov/index.cfm">http://www.state.gov/index.cfm</a>
United Nations	<a href="http://www.un.org/">http://www.un.org/</a>

World Factbook

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>