CONTEMPORARY U.S. DIPLOMACY AND THE CONCEPT OF ENGAGEMENT:
CASE STUDIES AND PRACTICAL EXERCISES

Professeur: Mr Philip BREEDEN

Academic Year 2017/2018: FALL Semester

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Section I: Introduction/New Global Realities

Session 1: Origins of U.S. Foreign Policy


Session 2: Diplomacy in the 21st Century Context

Section II: Defining and Achieving Objectives

Session 3: The U.S. Role in the 21st Century

• Kiesling, John Brady. Diplomacy Lessons: Realism for an Unloved Superpower, 2006. Chapter 3 - The Sources of U.S. Legitimacy (pp. 47-65).
• Freeman, Chas (Ambassador, retired), The End of the American Empire, Remarks to East Bay Citizens for Peace, the Barrington Congregational Church, and the American Friends Service Committee, April 2, 2016
• Drezner, Daniel. “I Can’t Stop Laughing at the Trump administration. That’s not a good thing; the President is making the American foreign policy community arrogant again.” Washington Post, June 3, 2017

Session 4: U.S. Foreign Policy Objectives

• FY 2016 State Department Budget Request, Testimony, Secretary Rex Tillerson, June 13, 2017, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Federal News Service
• Biden, Joseph R., Jr., Building on Success, Foreign Affairs, August 7, 2016
• H.R. McMaster and Gary D. Cohn, America First Doesn’t Mean America Alone, Wall Street Journal, May 30, 2017
• New York Times Editorial Staff, America in Retreat, June 3, 2017
• Oren Cass, How to Worry About Climate Change, National Affairs, Winter, 2017
• Robert Stavins, Why Trump Pulled Out of the Paris Accords, Foreign Affairs, June 5, 2017

Session 5: Engage or Confront? (Case Study: China)

SPEECH OR OP/ED DUE

• Neumann, Ronald E., Demystifying the Interagency Process and Explaining the Ambassador’s Role, InterAgency Journal Vol. 6, Issue 3, Summer 2015
• Graham, Allison. The Thucydides Trap, Foreign Policy May/Jun 2017, pp80-81

Session 6: Engage or Confront? (Case Study: Syria/Arab Spring)

• Arief, Alexis and Humud, Carla E. “Political Transition in Tunisia”, Congressional Research Service, October 22, 2014, especially pp. 11-16
Session 7: SMALL GRANT DEVELOPMENT AID STRATEGY SIMULATION

Session 8: Engage or Confront? Case study: Iran

DEVELOPMENT SIMULATION ACTION MEMO DUE

- White House Package on Iran Deal, July 2015 https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/node/328996
- Jeffrey, James F. “Contain Iran? Fine, But Answer These Questions First”, Policy Watch, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, June 1, 2017

The final four sessions of the course will be devoted to the Model Diplomacy multimedia simulation program developed by the Council on Foreign Relations. The program engages the student through role-play to understand the challenges of creating and implementing U.S. foreign policy in a global society. This simulation places the student in the role of a National Security Council (NSC) member and challenges the student to present and deliberate a response to a crisis or long-term policy issue. Each simulation typically includes four distinct sections of activity: reviewing the NSC Guide, exploring a case selected by the instructor, enacting a role-play, and completing a wrap-up.

OBJECTIVES

1. Learn about the NSC system and the U.S. foreign policy–making process.
2. Gain a better understanding of a timely foreign policy concern facing the United States as represented in a case study.
3. Participate in an NSC meeting role-play, taking into account the unique interests and concerns of a role as the students debate policy options for the president’s consideration.
4. Reflect on this policymaking process, the issues confronted, and how they affect the student’s life.

Session 9/10: Model Diplomacy: The NSC System and Introduction of the Case Study: Exploration and Case Study Prep

Session 11/12: Model Diplomacy Simulation and Wrap Up