

U.S. Foreign Policy

Last Updated: Thu, 07/31/2025

Course prefix: INTA

Course number: 3110

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):

84743

Instructor First Name: Rachel

Instructor Last Name: Whitlark

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2025

Course description:

Analyzes the formulation and implementation of America's foreign policy from the founding to the present, stressing economic, political, and strategic factors.

Course learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical debates and competing perspectives inside U.S. foreign policy, paying particular attention to the diverse array of actors that shape the foreign policy process
- Integrate theory and practice through examining current policy arenas and historical cases
- Encourage critical thinking about contemporary policy debates, including the ability to analyze key issues in U.S. foreign policy and offer practical solutions
- Improve professional skills including clear and effective oral presentation, written argumentation, and policy memo formulation
- Apply research skills to address problems in the field of international affairs

Required course materials:

1. ***A Concise History of U.S. Foreign Policy*** by Joyce P. Kaufman (5th Edition)
2. ***Thirteen Days*** by Robert F. Kennedy
3. ***The Jungle Grows Back*** by Robert Kagan

Grading policy:

Class Participation: 20%

Cuba Memo: 20%

Crisis Presentation: 15%

Final Policy Memo: 45%

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 0-59

Attendance policy:

There is no formal attendance grade in this course. The decision to attend class is your choice alone. That said, experience and research suggest that, for most students, course grades and value derived are directly proportional to student attendance, reading, and engaged participation. Of course, as there is a participation grade, which will reflect your regular, thoughtful, informed participation in class discussion, it will be impossible to earn full participation marks while not attending class *and* participating routinely.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy. According to the Georgia Tech Student Affairs Code of Conduct, plagiarism “[includes] submission of material that is wholly or substantially identical to that created or published by another person or persons, without adequate credit notations indicating the authorship.”^[1] It is the act of appropriating the work of another, or parts of passages of his or her writings, or language or ideas of the same, and passing them off as a product of one's own. It involves the deliberate or accidental use of any outside source without proper acknowledgment. Plagiarism is scholarly misconduct whether it occurs in any work, published or unpublished, or in any application for funding. Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty. This policy includes students whose papers are flagged as having been AI generated. The GT Honor Code is available online (<http://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-affairs/academic-honor-code>)

[1] "Student Code of Conduct." <https://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-life/student-code-conduct> (Accessed January 5, 2022).

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities, and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion