

U.S. Foreign Policy

Last Updated: Fri, 01/02/2026

Course prefix: INTA

Course number: 3110

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):

31889

Instructor First Name: Eliza Maria

Instructor Last Name: Markley

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course will critically examine several key aspects of US foreign policy, including the theoretical issues that shape foreign policy making and the system in which foreign policy decisions are made. It will also explore the history and construction of the United States foreign policy since 1945 and the current foreign policy issues and problems facing United States. The course will consider the changing nature of international relations and the possible future role that the US will play in the world. The course is designed to encourage students to think critically about the United States' role in foreign affairs and to become more informed on foreign policy.

Course learning outcomes:

- Students will be able to describe the role of history and political, social, and economic system in shaping the United States foreign policy.
- Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of principal contemporary global challenges in the field of international affairs
- Students will be able to apply research skills to address problems in the field of international affairs.
- Students will be able to use their knowledge of international affairs in a practical problem-solving way to address issues of immediate international concern.
- Students will become more aware of the diversity of cultural and ethical systems in the world.
- Student will be able to think critically about the United States' role in the global system.

Required course materials:

Jentleson, Bruce. (2014). American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century (5th edition).

Grading policy:

Class participation 10% of course grade

Discussion Lead – 10% of course grade

Exams – 60% of course grade

Foreign Policy Analysis – 20% of course grade

Attendance policy:

Attendance required

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.

AI generated tools may be used for research but not be used for writing.

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 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