

HI 409-01, Diplomatic History of the United States

Fa'omnåkan (fall) 2024

Mon. and Wed. 9:30-10:50

Course Syllabus

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Office: HSS 318E, Mon.-Thurs 12:00-2:00

The Basics

Course Description: Covering the period 1898 to the present, this course examines the emergence of the United States as a world power and the factors that influenced the conduct of America's foreign policy.

Objectives: The selected primary and secondary source documents will introduce students the field of American diplomatic history. The assignments are designed to encourage students to contextualize, critically analyze, and interpret the foundations, character, and exercise of American power. Through discussion, group work, and written assignments, students will better understand the consequences American power has had for the world and in their own communities.

Required Readings

- Moodle Course Packet
- Graham Greene, *The Quiet American*. Penguin, 1955. ISBN: 978-0143039020

Plagiarism

The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials (UOG Student Handbook, p. 49). Cases of plagiarism are referred to the Student Discipline and Appeals Committee. In this course this penalty for plagiarism will result in an F on the assignment and, potentially, the course.

Student Safety, EEO/ADA & Title IX

The University of Guam (UOG) is committed to achieving equal opportunity and full participation of persons with disabilities by providing non-discriminatory access to its services and facilities through the ADA Office. The Mission of the ADA Office is to ensure non-discriminatory access to all benefits, privileges, opportunities and obligations to faculty, staff and community members with disabilities and to ensure a process for full compliance by UOG with the ADA of 1990, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, taking into account the economic climate and multi-cultural diversity of the institution.

The ADA Office can be contacted at telephone number (671) 735-2505/2460 or Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) number (671) 735-2243.

The Enrollment Management & Student Success office provides reasonable accommodations for students in accordance with the UOG Policy and Procedure for student applicants with a disability. The ADA policy can be found on this website.

Communication Policy

University policy states that official communications will be sent using university assigned (@gotriton or @triton) email addresses. University electronic mail and messaging is to be used to enhance and facilitate teaching, learning, scholarly research, support academic experiences, and to facilitate the effective business and administrative processes of the University. (OIT policy manual, 3.10, p. 36)

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights for students, parents and school officials can be viewed at: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

Student Evaluation of Faculty

The student course and faculty evaluations for courses will be administered at the completion of the semester within CollegeNet. Student participation is essential and appreciated. Student responses are anonymous and cannot be traced back to individual students. You will need your WebAdvisor login credentials to complete the evaluation. If you experience login issues, please refer inquiries to OIT staff to assist at 735-2630/40.

Student Services

The Uplift program under WestCare and Project Tulaika at Guam Behavioral Health will serve the mental health needs of UOG students through June 2022.

- Contact Uplift Counseling Services at 787-7978 or uplift@westcare.com
- Contact Project Tulaika Mental Health Services at 647-5317; 647-1901; 647-5440; 647-8833/34 or care@gbhwc.guam.gov
- WestCare Pacific Island’s Uplift Counseling Services is another resource of greater care and accessibility to behavioral health services for our most vulnerable populations.

Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)	Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)	Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILO)
SLO 1 Demonstrate deep understanding of how and why the United States has projected power.	HI 1	ILO4

	Analyze major historical themes, developments, and events. HI 2 Evaluate historical methods and sources in written and oral forms.	Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO6 An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7 An interest in personal development and lifelong learning
SLO 2 In written and multimedia projects explore the motivations, limitations, and consequences of American power.	HI 3 Express historical research in written and oral forms.	ILO1 Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO3 Effective oral and written communication

Evaluation: I will evaluate your performance through the following assignments:

Forum (30 percent): Students will write 10 forum posts responding to assigned readings (**SLO 1**, HI 1 and 2, ILO 4, 5 and 7).

Briefs (20 percent total; 5 percent each): Students will write four briefs foreign leader based on selected primary sources (**SLO 1 and 2**; HI 2; ILO 3 and 4).

Unit Essay (15 percent) students will choose to write an essay on a either Unit 1 or Unit 2 prompt.

Book Review/Essay (20 percent total): Students will write an essay that examines Graham Greene's *The Quiet American* in the context of Cold War diplomatic history(**SLO 1 and 2**; HI 1, 2, and 3; ILO 1 and 3).

Final Essay (15 percent): Students will write a comprehensive, synthetic essay on the history of US foreign policy (**SLO 1 and 2**; HI 1 and 2; ILO 1 and 3).

Scale

97-100 A+	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	63-66 D
93-96 A	83-86 B	70-76 C	60-62 D-
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	67-69 D+	0-59 F

Resources

History classes require plenty of writing, and writing is hard to do well. Thankfully, UOG has the [DEAL Writing Center](#).

Getting involved – [Student Organizations](#) can be a great way to meet people you otherwise wouldn't and get more out of your time here than a grade and (hopefully) a degree. Coming soon (perhaps) a history club.

Succeeding - [Trio](#) are federally funded programs “designed to assist students from disadvantage backgrounds; who are first-generation college bound and/or who are from low-income households, complete secondary education and continue to pursue and complete post-secondary education.”

Study overseas – UOG has a variety of options for study abroad – from two-week programs to semester and academic year stays. If you are interested, let me know (I'm a member of the UOG Overseas Study Committee) or contact UOG's [Professional and International Programs \(PIP\)](#).

Topics and Schedule

Unit 1 – Young America

Week 1 – The Foundation Pit

Aug. 14 – Diplomatic History

Introductions

Week 2 – We stand today on the edge of a new frontier...

Forum 1 Wednesday

Aug. 19 – Visions of Greatness

- Peter Maslowski, “To the Edge of Greatness: The United States, 1783-1865,” *The Making of Strategy: Rulers, States, and War*, eds. Williamson Murray, MacGregor Knox, and Alvin Bernstein, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994 (Moodle).

Aug. 21 – Frontier

- [John Winthrop, “A Modell of Christian Charity,” 1630](#)
- [Benjamin Franklin, “Observations on the Increase of Mankind,” 1751](#)

- From Thomas Jefferson to George Rogers Clark, 25 December 1780
- James Madison, "Federalist 10," 1787

Week 3 – Money and Missions

Briefing 1 Monday: Memo to George III re: Prospects for subordination of the United States, 1788

Forum 2 Wednesday

Aug. 26 – Hierarchy of Race

- Ed Ayers, "The American Civil War, Emancipation, and Reconstruction on the World Stage," in *America on the World Stage*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press (2008), 126-137.

Aug. 28 – Materialism and the US in the World

- Walter McDougall, "Progressive Imperialism" in *Promised Land, Crusader State: The American Encounter With the World Since 1776*, Boston, 1997.

Week 4 – It's Reigning Men

Forum 3 Wednesday

SEPT 2 NO CLASS -- LABOR DAY

- no readings

Sept. 4 – Manliness and Civilization in 1898

- Kristin Hoganson, "The National Manhood Metaphor," *Fighting for American Manhood How Gender Politics Provoked the Spanish-American War and Philippine Wars*. New Haven: Yale University Press (1998), 156-179.

Week 5 – WWI and American Internationalism

Briefing 2 Wednesday

Sept. 9 – Wilsonianism, 1917-1919

- Margaret MacMillan, Woodrow Wilson Comes to Europe,"1-19 and "We are the League of People," 53-62, in *Paris 1919*.

Sept. 11 – Briefing 1: To Prime Minister Hara Takashi re: Assessment of US President Woodrow Wilson and American Friendship

- California Alien Land Law, 1913
- My Country 'Tis of Thee – New Prussia, *Life*. 1916
- Wilson Asks Congress to Declare War, 1917
- WEB DuBois letter to Wilson, 191

Unit 2: Making the American Century

Week 6 – It was the best of times, it was the blurst of times...

Unit Essay Option “A” Friday

Forum 4 Wednesday

Sept. 16 – Soft Power

- Victoria de Grazia, Empire of Persuasion: American Mass Consumption in Europe," in *Major Problems in American Foreign Relations, 94-101*

Sept. 18 – Good Neighbor

- Thomas F. O’Brien, “Empire of Coercion: US Corporate and Military Power in Latin America, in *Major Problems in American Foreign Relations, 102-108.*

Week 7 – Primacy

Forum 5 Wednesday

Sept. 23 – WWII Watershed

- David M. Kennedy, “The Origins and Uses of American Hyperpower,” in *The Short American Century: A Postmortem, 2012.*

Sept. 25 - Internationalists All

- Odd Arne Westad, "Europe's Asymmetries," in *The Cold War: A World History, 2017*

Week 8 – Cold War

Forum 6 Wednesday

Sept. 30 – Containment

- Odd Arne Westad, "The Korean Tragedy," in *The Cold War: A World History, 2017*

Oct. 2 – Briefing 3: to Comrade Stalin re: prospects for an American war

- Early Cold War Documents

FALL BREAK -- NO CLASS OCT. 7 AND 9

Unit 3 – The Quiet American

Unit Essay Option "B" Friday

Forum 7 Wednesday

Week 9 – Flexible Response for a New Frontier

Oct. 14 – Old Europe and perils of decolonization

- *The Quiet American* introduction and Part I

Oct. 16 – American idealism

- *The Quiet American Part 2*

Week 10 – The US's Hot Wars in the Third World

Oct. 21 – Pyle takes charge

- *The Quiet American Part 3*

Oct. 23 – **Briefing 4 (see brief folder):** to President Ho re: American Commitment to the Republic of Vietnam

Week 11 – Détente, Human Rights, and other forms of Restraint

BOOK REVIEW/ESSAY DUE FRIDAY AT 11:59 PM.

Oct. 28 – Writer's Workshop

- *The Quiet American* Roundtable

Oct. 30 – Public diplomacy

- no reading

Unit 4 – No limits – 1981 to 2022

Week 12 – Cold War Ends

Forum 8 - Wednesday

Nov. 4 – An Odd Couple

* John Lewis Gaddis, Reagan, Gorbachev, and the Completion of Containment," in *Strategies of Containment*,

Nov. 6 – War Dividend Denied

- John W Dower, “New and Old-World Orders: The 1990s,” *The Violent American Century*. Chicago: Haymarket Books (2017)

Week 13 – Terror and Wars

Forum 9 Wednesday

Nov. 11 – Something new under the sun?

- Marilyn Young, “Ground Zero: Enduring War,” in *September 11 in History: A Watershed Moment?* Duke University Press, 2003.

Nov. 13 – American internationalism revised

- Lloyd E. Ambrosius, “Woodrow Wilson and George W. Bush Historical Comparisons of Ends and Means in Their Foreign Policies,” *Diplomatic History* Volume 30, Issue 3, June 2006, Pages 509–543

Week 14 – Waiting for the Miracle

Forum 10 Wednesday

Nov. 18 – An evaluation

- Erick W. Goepner, “Measuring the Effectiveness of America’s War on Terror,” *Parameters* 46, no. 1 (2016)

Nov. 20 – Hollowed out?

- David Klion, “The American Empire is the Sick Man of the 21st Century,” *FP*, 2019

Forum 11 (optional)

Nov. 25 – Reset and Pivot

- Barry C. Lynn, “The New China Syndrome,” *Harper’s*, Nov. 2015.

Nov. 27 - Cold War redux

- Timothy Snyder, “The Battle in Ukraine Means Everything: Fascism Returns to the Continent it Once Destroyed,” *The New Republic*, May 11, 2014
- Stephen F. Cohen, “New Cold War and the Necessity of Patriotic Heresy,” *Nation*, Aug. 12, 2014

Week 16 – You want it darker

Dec. 2 – To the center

- Daniel Bessner, "Recentring the United States in the Historiography of American Foreign Relations," *Texas National Security Review*, (spring 2020).

Dec. 4 – The indispensable class

- No readings

Final Essay Due Monday, December 11 at 11:59 PM.