

# U.S. as a World Power

HIST363

Thursdays from 6:00-8:50pm

CKB 219

**Instructor:** Dr. Morrison-Santana

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**Office Hours:** Thursdays 5:00-6:00pm in Cullimore 321 (or available virtually by appointment)

## Course Overview:

The role of the United States has changed from its inception to the present. It's transitioned from a colony to an expanding power, from isolation to a global super power. Historical events, domestic factors, and international influences have all played a part in today's America. This course on America and the World will examine that history, the various viewpoints and influences on its foreign policy, current and past threats, and where it stands right now with the current administration. Looking at historical documents, speeches, government documents, prominent scholars, etc., this course will explain how America has grown into what it is today – a world power. Additionally, it will explore factors that have shaped its foreign policy and relationship with the world, ways in which America has influenced the world- culturally, socially, economically and how different world events, rise of identity politics, globalization, transnational networks, and international organizations have in turn shaped its policies and perception of the world. The course is divided into three parts:

Part I: History and Structure of American Foreign Policy

Part II: American Strategy – The Cold War to 9/11

Part III: America in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## Assignments:

- **Participation** – you are expected to attend every class, pay attention, and actively participate in the course discussions – this means being present, not talking, not being on any device during class.
- **Midterm** - This will be held in class and made-up of short answer essay questions and one longer essay.
- **Country Policy Paper** – you will write a paper (6-8 pages) on the current U.S. foreign policy of a specific country with full citations. A rubric for this is on page 3 of this syllabus. Countries will be chosen the in the beginning of the semester.
- **Final Essay** – the rubric for this essay will be given out the last week of class.

**\*\*\* LATE POLICY:** Any late assignments will only be worth half of their original points after the due date (and only for the week after the assignment is due. After that, it is not possible to get any points for an assignment.) PLEASE DON'T APPROACH ME AT THE END OF THE SESSION ASKING TO DO ALL OF THE COURSE'S WORTH OF WORK THE LAST WEEK. This class is designed to be done over the course of 14 weeks, and it is not possible to successfully do everything in a day or two\*\*\*

## Grading:

Participation – 150 points total

Midterm Exam – 150 points

Country Paper – 150 points

Final Essay – 100 points

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550 points total

## COURSE POLICIES:

1. You are required to come to class. Routinely missing class and/or showing up late will negatively affect your participation grade. Students should present official medical or legal documentation if they cannot fulfill any part of the course requirements. Exceptions will only be made under extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness and/or legal obligations.
2. **Academic Dishonesty:** Taking the words and ideas of another and presenting them as your own without proper use of citation constitutes plagiarism and it is considered grounds for receiving an “F” for the course and suspension/expulsion from the university. All students are required to uphold the honor code. Please see NJIT Academic Integrity Policy. All students are required to sign the **NJIT Honor Code Pledge**. To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment”... Additionally, you cannot hand in any assignments that you have completed for a different course. Using AI to complete your work is a form of plagiarism.
3. **No personal technology devices allowed in class.** We’re on our phones, tablets, and laptops enough. This means no cell phones, iPads, laptops, or any other kinds of electronic devices (unless needed for medical reasons, with the proper documentation). These devices are distracting not only to you, but to the rest of the class as well. If you are caught using your phone or another device, you will lose participation credit for the day. Continuous use of these technologies may result in being asked to leave the classroom and lose participation credit for the day. If you are caught using any personal technology during an exam, you will receive a zero for the exam, and the matter will be handed over to the Dean of Students.
4. Students should present official medical or legal documentation if they cannot fulfill any part of the course requirements. Exceptions will only be made under extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness and/or legal obligations.
5. **Open Communication:** I am always available to help you succeed in this course. You may see me during my office hours or reach me through email. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Additionally, it is inappropriate for any parents to contact any professor about your grade, and there are laws that prohibit such communication.
6. **Your grade is your responsibility and is non-negotiable.** If you need a specific grade for your GPA, financial aid, academic standing, personal reasons, etc., you need to earn that grade by following the guidelines presented in this syllabus. Please do not contact me after the semester asking/begging for a better grade.
7. **DO NOT HAND IN WORK YOU’VE SUBMITTED IN ANY OTHER CLASS.** Even if you wrote it, it would still be considered plagiarism because you didn’t write it specifically for this class.
8. Please be **respectful** of everyone in the class, including me. If you are being disrespectful, you will be warned one time. Any subsequent disrespect will be reported to the university.
9. I cannot predict the future, and as we all know from these past few years, things can change overnight – this includes modality of courses taught, requirements for in person classes, etc. I will do my best to be as honest and upfront with you about what I know and to help ease whatever transitions we may need to make throughout the semester. We should all be prepared for everything.

## Country Paper

(must be submitted on Canvas – do not email it to me)

### Things you should cover:

- Historical relations with the United States up through 2024 (end of the Biden administration)
  - This should include origins, changes over time, and conflicts (if applicable)
- Relations with the U.S. under the current administration (Trump 2.0), including any changes or shifts in policy from the previous administration
- Where YOU think U.S. policy with your country is heading (your educated opinion based on your research).
- Your essay should also have an introduction and conclusion. Please note that there are three major sections that need to be covered, and they should have near-equal attention paid to each.

### Guidelines:

- Use credible sources – avoid 24-hour news channels (Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, etc.) as well as opinion essays... If you are unsure of your sources, please email me.
- Be specific. Explain what the United States has done in these countries and how it's changed over time (if applicable). You are to be the expert about your country and US relations.
- Avoid replacing arguments with examples. Use examples to illustrate a general claim, not as a replacement for them. Examples by themselves tend toward selection bias and hasty generalizations.
- I am interested in content, not clever rhetorical flourish. Thus, avoid filler material... DO NOT USE BLOCK QUOTES FROM THE ARTICLES OR READINGS. Direct quotes should be no longer than 2 sentences, MAXIMUM.
- **IF YOU DO NOT CITE, EVEN WHEN YOU PARAPHRASE, IT WILL BE CONSIDERED PLAGIARISM. PLAGIARIZED PAPERS WILL BE PENALIZED EITHER BY AN F ON THE PAPER OR THE COURSE AND WILL BE REPORTED TO THE DEAN.**
- PROOFREAD YOUR PAPER. You will be marked off for typos, punctuation errors, and/or major disorganization.
- The heading of your paper should be your name ONLY. I don't need what class this is for, my name, the date, your favorite color, and your dog's name.
- 1-inch margins all around – no more; no less.
- Double-spaced (except footnotes)
- Page numbers required
- Times New Roman, 12-point font required.
- No subheadings – this should be a flowing essay.
- Do not use Grammarly, ChatGPT, or any other AI technology to write or edit your paper. This is considered plagiarism.
- The paper is to be at least 6-8 pages long, not less (No cover page required).
- Use footnotes, single-spaced, and put full bibliographic information in them (in MLA or APA formats – consistently). All statistics, direct quotes, and non-general knowledge information should be cited, and they should be single-spaced.<sup>1</sup> We will go over how to do them in class.
- Bibliography (Works Cited page) required – not included in the 6-8 pages. Your sources should be in alphabetical order.

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<sup>1</sup> This is a footnote. It goes on the bottom of the page where you are citing. To insert a footnote, you click References and Insert Footnote. It will put a little number by what you're are citing and a corresponding number at the bottom of the page. These should include full bibliographic information only – including URLs if necessary. For repeating citations, after the first one, you can just use the first few words of the bibliographic information. These should be in 10-point Times New Roman font and single-spaced.

<b>U.S. as a World Power Schedule (subject to change)</b>	
<b>PART 1: History and Structure of American Foreign Policy</b>	
<b>WEEK 1</b>	Introduction - American Foreign Policy Overview: Who are the actors?
<b>WEEK 2</b>	19th Century U.S. Foreign Policy
<b>WEEK 3</b>	World War I & the Treaty of Versailles
<b>WEEK 4</b>	Interwar Years & World War II in Europe
<b>WEEK 5</b>	No class - Oct. 2nd - Wellness Day
<b>WEEK 6</b>	World War II in the Pacific & the Aftermath
<b>Part II: American Strategy - The Cold War to 9/11</b>	
<b>WEEK 7</b>	The Cold War: Containment & Korean War
<b>WEEK 8</b>	Cuban Missile Crisis & Vietnam
<b>WEEK 9</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
<b>WEEK 10</b>	From the Carter Administration to the Reagan Era (Soviet-Afghan War and the End of the Cold War)
<b>WEEK 11</b>	A New World Order, Operation Desert Storm, & The Shadow of Somalia
<b>Part III: America in the 21st Century</b>	
<b>WEEK 12</b>	9/11, The War on Terror, Iraq War (2003)
<b>WEEK 13</b>	From Bush to Obama: Unilateralism to Multilateralism & U.S. and the Arab Spring
<b>WEEK 14</b>	The First Trump Era: "Principled Realism" to multilateralism in the Biden Administration
<b>WEEK 15</b>	Trump 2.0