

# Race and Foreign Affairs

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## Course Description

A history of United States foreign affairs with attention paid to the origins of racialism and the impact of expansionism on various ethnic and racial groups. Topics include the myths of Indian atrocities in the War of 1812; Manifest Destiny and expansionism, 1848; the war with Mexico, 1845-1848; the creation of California and Texas, 1850; the civil war; the war with Spain, 1898; intervention in Mexico, 1916; and Panama, 1898-1914; colonialism in the Philippines, 1898-1947; the significance of Central and Latin America in global commerce, with particular attention to the new NAFTA agreements; racialism and Japan in World War II; interventions in Korea and Vietnam as interpreted through the lens of cold world geopolitics and the general theme of the course.

An upper level course open to first year students with Advanced Placement scores of 3 in American History; or equivalent history background. Students who plan to enter upon a career in some field of international affairs and are pursuing a concentration in PUBLIC POLICY may use this course to satisfy the requirements (see college catalogue for more information).

## Course Reading

Thomas Paterson, *American Foreign Policy vol. 1&2*  
Michael Paul Rogin, *Fathers and Children: Andrew Jackson and the Subjugation of the American Indian*.  
Thomas Hietala, *Manifest Design: Anxious Aggrandizement in Late Jacksonian America*. Stanley Karnow, *In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines*.  
John W. Dower, *War without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War*.  
Bruce Cumings, *The Origins of the Korean War*. Marilyn Young, *The Vietnam War: 1945-1990*.

*ON RESERVE:* Paterson, Major Problems in Diplomatic History V. 1 &2 All Books pertaining to the debates.

## Course Schedule

Response papers, ungraded one page responses to your classroom readings due on the classes server at 9:30 am before class. Consult due dates each week and in the back of the syllabus. (10%). Five Debates, Oral Assignments requiring command of a half dozen possible readings. (15%). Students are expected to give a full definition of the subject, be able to make cogent arguments and stick to the issues raised. One document paper 2-5 pages (25%) based on primary research and one larger analytic paper expanding the research begun in the earlier exercise. (50%)

### September 3 & 5

Read: *AFP* Paterson Chapters 1&2; Rogin, *Fathers and Sons*, pp.1-125

Tuesday: Introduction: Race to the *Rio Grande*

Thursday: "Wheel of Fortune: The Game of Getting the Teams Set"  
Teams Prepare Debate for next week.

Prepare Debate I.: Indian Treaties vs. International Treaties Question: In the period from 1607 to 1827 Europeans treated Native Americans as they would any other foreign and sovereign state. The subjects, goals, language and nuance of the texts is objectively equal between sovereign states be they European or Native American.

Source: Wilcomb Washburn, *The American Indians of the United States. Vol 1-4*. Other sources in the library from call number E51 to E118.

Suggestions for research Question #1: (1) One person on each team should get an overall sense of what treaties were made with the Native Americans, rely on Washburn and *Indian Treaties, Laws* (E95.U54) (2) another team member should then be responsible for treaties with other nations: *Documents in American History* should have the Treaty of Paris, 1783; look also for Jays Treaty, for Treaties between England and France (and Spain) before 1765. (3) Another team member should be aware of the secondary literature on treaties between the US and native americans, review one major work in the area; (4) final member should learn more about the balance of nations, the way europeans conducted treaties and wars in the 17th and 18th centuries (5) a fifth person might investigate the ways of war for native americans, their alliances etc. Remember two sets of individuals are seeking similar information so share it. *Students should always consult Paterson, Major Problems in American Foreign Policy Volumes I &2 and should also use the bibliography at the end of chapters in the text book for additional secondary readings.*

### **September 10 & 12**

Read: Rogin, *Fathers and Sons*. pp 126-205 Read: AFR. Chapter 3.

Tuesday: Lecture: The Ordeal of the Long House: North America as International Zone 1600-1776

Thursday: Debate I.: International Treaties

### **September 17 & 19**

Reading: Finish Rogin, *Fathers & Sons* pp. 206-313

Tuesday: Lecture: Sovereignty and the Balance of Power: 1776-1783

Thursday: Lecture: Restoration and War: 1776-1815

### **September 24 & 26**

Read: Hietala, *Manifest Design*. pp. 1-131.

Tuesday: Discussion: Indian Removal, Rogin

Thursday: Library preparation for original documents

### **October 1 & 3**

Read: Paterson, ch 4; Documents for Paper 1 due.

Tuesday: Lecture: From the Monroe Doctrine to the Filibusters

Wednesday: Movie: *Rio Grande*

Thursday: Filibusters, Slavery and the civil war.

Prepare for Debate II on Manifest Design. (Suggested readings: Reginald Horseman, *Race and Manifest Destiny: The Origins of Racial Anglo-Saxonism* ; Robert Johansen: *To the Halls of Montezuma*; Samuel Flagg Bemis, John Quincy Adams and the Union: Paul H. Bergerson, *The Presidency of James K. Polk*; Norman Graebner. "The Mexican War a Study in Causation," *Pacific Historical Review*. 1980; Frederick Merk, *Manifest Destiny and Mission in American History* ; Documents in Thomas Paterson, *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy* (also look at the bibliography for additional sources in the chapters on Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny).

Question for Debate: American expansion was a peculiar period of our American past and in the period between 1803 and the conclusion of the Treaty with Mexico in 1848 our policy though expansionist to be sure, had nothing to do with imperialism; it was instead a mission to promote economic and democratic freedoms.

### **October 3 & October 10:**

Read: Hietala, .Manifest Design,finish.

Tuesday: Debate II: American Expansion: A peculiar period of our past or The dictum of Imperialism?

Thursday: Discussion, Hietala, Response documents, paper due October 21

### **October Break: October 11-October 21**

#### **October 22 & 24th:**

*AFR* Ch. 5-6 Read: Stanley Karnow: In Our Image: America's Empire in the *Philippines*. pp. 1-195.

Tuesday: Paper 1 Due; Lecture: Globalism, Colonialism and Free Trade

Thursday: Lecture: Open Door, Colonialism, and the Spanish Empire

Prepare debate III on Imperialism: Use documents and readings in Paterson on expansionism and economics chapters 10 & 11.; also look at the bibliography in this. text for additional sources.also see Arthur Schlesinger, *The Cycles of American History* ch. 1,3-7. William A Williams *Empire as a Way of Life*.

Question for Debate: It is highly misleading to think in terms of a unified American business community, backed by a determined government, striving unremittingly to break into the markets of Asia and Latin America in the late nineteenth century; the general framework of a significant political and ideological orientation toward market economics overstates American foreign policy at this time and ignores issues of national security.

#### **October 29 & 31:**

*AFP*. chapter 7; Karnow, pp. 196-286 finish.

Tuesday: Imperialism Debate III.

Thursday: Response, Karnow, Discussion

#### **November 5 & 6:**

Read: *AFR*, chapter 8.. Volume 2 chapters 4&5

Tuesday: Lecture: South of Our Borders; Cuba, NAFTA and the OAS

Thursday: Lecture: Racialism, Education and Global Power

Prepare Debate IV on America and revolutionary politics: Use documents and readings in Paterson on chapter 3 in vol. 2, "The League Fight"; See also George F. Kennan, *American Diplomacy. 1900-1950*; Michael Hunt, *Ideology and US Foreign Policy* chapters 1&4; Arthur Link, *Woodrow Wilson and a Revolutionary World*. N. Gordon Levin, *Woodrow Wilson and World Politics: Americas Response to War and Revolution*: Ross Gregory, *The Origins of American Intervention in the First World War*;Lloyd Gardner; Safe for Democracy. The Anglo American Response to Revolution. 1913 - 1923: Robert Endicott, Osgood, *Ideals and Self Interest in America's Foreign Policy* ; The debate will focus on our involvement in World and Revolution in the era of the Great War, 1914-1919 and the period of our emergence as a world power.

Question for Debate: The perils of revolution served to reinforce concepts of racial superiority in the United States; by defining the limits of acceptable social and political change Americans could assert a kind of Anglo superiority of market place moderation and employ this argument as a realistic basis for our entry into balance of power politics.

#### **November 12 & 14:**

*AFP* Chapter 6; Read; John Dower, *War Without Mercy* . part 1, pp. ix-73.

Tuesday: Lecture: Revolution, Globalism and the Cold War.

Thursday: No Class; Work on Draft of Papers. Students should have a good idea of what documents they are using for their final papers, an outline and a rough draft.

**November 19 & 21:**

AFP chapters 7 & 8 Read; John Dower, *War Without Mercy* pp. 77-317

Tuesday: Debate IV Revolutionary Politics

Thursday: Response, Dower, Discussion

**November 26**

Bruce Cumings, *The Origins of the Korean War* chapters, 1,2,4,6,7, 10 & 11

Tuesday: Lecture: Containment, Communism and Commitment Thanksgiving Break, November 28th.

**December 3 & 5**

Read: Marilyn Young, *The Vietnam Wars* chapters 2, 4 -12; Tuesday: Lecture: The Cold War and Globalism

Thursday: Discussion of Cumings; Prepare for Debate V: Richard Drinnon, *Facing West: The Metaphysics of Indian Hating and Empire Building*, Chapters 1,4,5,19, 22-30; Schlesinger, *Cycles*, chapter 8; Paterson, *Major Problems*, Chapter 13; basically, the literature on Vietnam is vast; the debate should focus on the issue of continuity or discontinuity in US Foreign policy; was this the same internationalized version of the past; or had the cold war and the new geopolitical struggle led us to Vietnam?

Question for Debate V: "The extravagant foolishness of the domino theory has long diverted attention from its serious origins; It was an updated internationalized version of the old fear of pan-Indian movements that went back to the Pequots and Narragansetts. Now as then it was the revealing outcrop of deep seated dread: let one lot of natives slip from under Western control and then other lots would contagiously rise up one after another to throw off that "association of the philanthropic, the pious and the profitable" called colonialism and would therewith send the pieces tumbling down all the way back to the Pacific slope or even---in its earliest incarnations---all the way back to the Atlantic strand."

Thursday: Debate V.

**December 10:**

Tuesday: Response Paper, Young

Final Paper

Summary of Assignments:

Debates: I. Sept 12,II,Oct 8;III, Oct.29; IV, Nov.19; V, Dec.5 Response Papers: One page 250 word response to Readings on file server at 9:30 on the morning of the following due dates; No response detracts from grade.

September 24 Rogin

October10 Hietala

October 31 Karnow

November 21 Dower

December 5 Cumings

December 10 Young

Movie: *Rio Grande*: October 3rd

Research Papers: Sept 24; Library Search; October 1 Document Due; October 22, 2-5 pages due; Nov 14 Draft; December 13th Analytical paper due.