

## Course Outline

### Part I

<b>Programme Title</b>	: For all undergraduate programmes
<b>Programme QF Level</b>	: 5
<b>Course Title</b>	: United States Foreign Policy
<b>Course Code</b>	: SSC3295
<b>Department</b>	: Social Sciences
<b>Credit Points</b>	: 3
<b>Contact Hours</b>	: 39
<b>Pre-requisite(s)</b>	: Nil
<b>Medium of Instruction</b>	: EMI
<b>Course Level</b>	: 3

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### Part II

The University's Graduate Attributes and seven Generic Intended Learning Outcomes (GILOs) represent the attributes of ideal EdUHK graduates and their expected qualities respectively. Learning outcomes work coherently at the University (GILOs), programme (Programme Intended Learning Outcomes) and course (Course Intended Learning Outcomes) levels to achieve the goal of nurturing students with important graduate attributes.

In gist, the Graduate Attributes for Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate and Research Postgraduate students consist of the following three domains (i.e. in short "PEER & I"):

- Professional Excellence;
- Ethical Responsibility; &
- Innovation.

The descriptors under these three domains are different for the three groups of students in order to reflect the respective level of Graduate Attributes.

The seven GILOs are:

1. Problem Solving Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Creative Thinking Skills
- 4a. Oral Communication Skills
- 4b. Written Communication Skills
5. Social Interaction Skills
6. Ethical Decision Making

## 7. Global Perspectives

### 1. Course Synopsis

The United States has gained prominence in the imaginations of Hong Kong people, often accompanied by misunderstandings of how U.S. foreign policy (a.k.a. “American” foreign policy) is formulated and implemented. In order to enhance rational understanding of U.S. foreign policy, this course will acquaint students with the historical, institutional and political frameworks within which contemporary foreign policies of the United States are formulated and executed. Students will learn about the U.S. foreign policy process by studying the role of the United States in several international and global issue areas. The course will familiarize students with the complexities and difficulties faced by U.S. decision makers as they formulate and implement foreign policy, thereby helping students understand why the United States behaves the way that it does in global affairs. A broad aim of the course is to develop a grounding in the fundamentals of U.S. foreign policy in the context of contemporary global affairs, including the vital China-U.S. relationship. Among other objectives, the course will assist students in understanding major policymaking institutions and historical precedents underlying U.S. foreign policy, and to grasp the way that those precedents affect the United States’ external affairs. Students will gain understanding of the processes and limitations of U.S. foreign policy making, contemporary challenges facing the global community and the U.S. role in responding to them, and expectations of U.S. global influence in coming years. This understanding will allow students to place foreign policy – and U.S. foreign policy in particular – within larger theoretical frameworks and approaches to international relations and global governance.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:*

- CILO<sub>1</sub> Explain how U.S. foreign policy is formulated and implemented from historical and institutional perspectives
- CILO<sub>2</sub> Comprehend literary works on U.S. foreign policy and related international relations
- CILO<sub>3</sub> Critically evaluate news reports about U.S. foreign policy and official statements related to foreign policy and international relations
- CILO<sub>4</sub> Logically and rationally think about, discuss and assess U.S. foreign policies in major issue areas, including Sino-U.S. relations

### 3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

<b>Course Content</b>	<b>CILOs</b>	<b>Suggested Teaching &amp; Learning Activities</b>
Constitutional foundations and institutional mechanisms of U.S. foreign policy	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>	Lectures, class discussions, reading of texts and news, essay research and writing
Historical milestones in U.S. foreign policy: from isolation to global influence	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>	Lectures, class discussions, reading of texts and news, essay research and writing
China in U.S. foreign policy: past, present and future	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>	Lectures, class discussions, reading of texts and news, essay research and writing
Selected issues in U.S. foreign policy (e.g., trade, environment, human rights, etc.)	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>	Lectures, class discussions, reading of texts and news, essay research and writing, group presentations

#### 4. Assessment

<b>Assessment Tasks</b>	<b>Weighting (%)</b>	<b>CILO</b>
(a) Participation in class discussions and debates	30	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>
(b) Presentation and short written report	25	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>
(c) Three essays (~1,000 words each)	45	<i>CILO<sub>1-4</sub></i>

#### 5. Required Text(s)

Hastedt, Glenn P., *American Foreign Policy: Past, Present, and Future*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020. (Or similar undergraduate textbook.)

*The New York Times* (foreign affairs articles available online via the library at <https://www.lib.eduhk.hk/nytimes/>).

#### 6. Recommended Readings (sample)

Anderson, Perry. *American Foreign Policy and Its Thinkers*. New York: Verso, 2017.

- Bacevich, Andrew, ed. *Ideas and American Foreign Policy: A Reader*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Brazinsky, Gregg A. *Winning the Third World: Sino-American Rivalry during the Cold War*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2017.
- Brewer, Thomas L. *The United States in a Warming World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- Cohen, Warren I. *America's Response to China: A History of Sino-American Relations*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010.
- Cox, Michael, and Doug Stokes, eds. *US Foreign Policy*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Haas, Richard. *World in Disarray: American Foreign Policy and the Crisis of the Old Order*. New York: Penguin Books, 2018.
- Harris, Paul G. *Climate Change and American Foreign Policy*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.
- Hastedt, Glenn P., *American Foreign Policy: Past, Present, and Future*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020.
- Herring, George C. *From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations since 1776*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- Herring, George C. *The American Century and Beyond: U.S. Foreign Relations, 1893-2014*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Hook, Steven W., ed. *U.S. Foreign Policy: The Paradox of World Power*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington: CQ Press, 2020.
- Hook, Steven W., and John Spanier. *American Foreign Policy Since World War II*, 21<sup>st</sup> edition. Washington: CQ Press, 2018.
- Jentleson, Bruce W. *American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2013.
- Kaufman, Joyce P. *A Concise History of U.S. Foreign Policy*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017.
- McCormick, James M. *The Domestic Sources of American Foreign Policy: Insights and Evidence*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Rowman & Littlefield, 2017.
- Peterson, James W. *American Foreign Policy: Alliance Politics in the Century of War, 1914-2014*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2014.
- Sachs, Jeffrey. *A New Foreign Policy: Beyond American Exceptionalism*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2018.
- Snow, Donald M., and Patrick J. Haney. *U.S. Foreign Policy: Back to the Water's Edge*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017.
- Walt, Stephen M. *The Hell of Good Intentions: America's Foreign Policy Elite and the Decline of U.S. Primacy*. New York: Picador, 2019.

## 7. Related Web Resources (sample)

Council on Foreign Relations, U.S. Foreign Policy, <https://www.cfr.org/us-foreign-policy>

Foreign Affairs: U.S. Foreign Policy, <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/topics/us-policy>

Human Rights Watch, US Foreign Policy, <https://www.hrw.org/united-states/us-foreign-policy>

The Guardian, US Foreign Policy: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/us-foreign-policy>

U.S. Department of State, <https://www.state.gov/>

White House, Foreign Policy: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/foreign-policy/>

## 8. Related Journals

*Foreign Affairs*

*Foreign Policy*

*Foreign Policy Analysis*

*The New York Times*

*The Washington Post*

## 9. Academic Honesty

The University adopts a zero tolerance policy to plagiarism. For the University's policy on plagiarism, please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity with Specific Reference to the Avoidance of Plagiarism by Students* (<https://www.eduhk.hk/re/modules/downloads/visit.php?cid=9&lid=89>). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

## 10. Others

Nil

*August 2020*