



# EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE of PROFESSIONAL  
and CONTINUING STUDIES

## IAS 5940-302: Topics in International Studies: US Diplomatic History

### Course Description:

This course focuses on the establishment and evolution of U.S. foreign policy from 1776 to the present. It introduces key events and the roles of key players, including the President, National Security Council, State Department, and Congress, in the development of U.S. foreign policy.

This is primarily a lecture course, but with significant use of multimedia sources and class discussions based on documents—text, video, and so on—viewed together in class. Lively and engaged participation from the students is expected.

### Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: September 13 – 19, 2020  
Format: Combination of synchronous Zoom sessions and asynchronous work via Canvas  
Times: Sunday, 8a – 4:30p, Monday-Tuesday asynchronous, Wednesday 6p-7:30p,  
Thursday-Friday asynchronous, Saturday 8a-12:30p  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 15, 2020

### Site Director and Information for VA Benefits:

Location: Hangar 2, Room 202, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.  
Hours: Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Monday - Friday 6:00-10:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.  
Email: [aphickam@ou.edu](mailto:aphickam@ou.edu). Phone: 808-449-6364 (DSN & Commercial).

### Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Alan McPherson  
Mailing Address: 1115 W. Berks St, Room 914  
Philadelphia, PA, 19122  
Telephone Number: (202) 255-1643  
Email Address: [alan.mcpherson@temple.edu](mailto:alan.mcpherson@temple.edu)  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

### Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at <https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php>. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact [apsyllabi@ou.edu](mailto:apsyllabi@ou.edu). Text prices are available online

1. Paterson, T. (2015). *American foreign relations: A history, Volume 2: since 1895* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) Mason, OH: Cengage. ISBN 9781285433332.

2. McPherson, A. (2016). *A short history of US interventions in Latin America and the Caribbean*. New York: Wiley. ISBN 9781118954003.
3. Priest, D. & Arkin, W.M. (2012). *Top secret America: The rise of the new American security state*. New York: Little, Brown & Co. ISBN 9780316182201.

### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Discuss key trends in the history of U.S. diplomacy.
- Describe the roles of various U.S. government agencies in the development and execution of foreign policy.
- Discuss the evolution of the U.S. role in multilateral diplomacy.
- Identify specific events and eras that produced shifts in American diplomacy.
- Identify the roles, responsibilities, and impact of U.S. Government officials and agencies throughout U.S. history in the formation of diplomatic practices and policies.
- Identify lessons learned from U.S. diplomatic history that can inform current U.S. foreign policy formulation.

### **Course Outline:**

#### **Sunday, 13 September:**

8:00-9:30am: Introductions and Relations with Europe, 1776-1815

10:00-12:00: Synchronous DISCUSSIONS:

Manifest Destiny, the Monroe Doctrine, and Isolation

World War I: Idealism v. Realism

1:00-2:30pm: Synchronous DISCUSSIONS:

How the Big Three Won the War but Started the Cold War

Cold War in Europe, 1945-1949: Dividing the World, Committing to Allies

3:00-4:30pm: Cold War in Asia, 1950-1953: Containment v. Rollback

Reading: Paterson, Chapters 1-8

#### **Monday, 14 September:**

Asynchronous CANVAS DISCUSSION: The War of 1898: Defending a Hemisphere or Creating an Empire

Asynchronous CANVAS DISCUSSION: FDR and the Coming of WWII: Internationalism v. Isolationism

#### **Tuesday, 15 September:**

RECORDED LECTURE: Cold War, 1960s-1970s: Détente, the New Realism?

Asynchronous CANVAS DISCUSSIONS:

Nixon in China: Détente

Cold War, 1980s: Reagan's Diplomacy: Dangerous Gamble or Wise Strategy?

#### **Wednesday, 16 September:**

6-7:30pm: Growing Tensions in the Middle East to 1979: Cold War, Petroleum, and Arab Nationalism

#### **Thursday, 17 September:**

RECORDED LECTURE: A Diplomatic Bind: The Israeli – Palestinian Question

Asynchronous CANVAS DISCUSSION: A Diplomatic Bind: The Israeli – Palestinian Question

#### **Friday, 18 September:**

RECORDED LECTURE: Interventions and Middle East

Asynchronous CANVAS DISCUSSIONS:

Interventions and Non-interventions

US Policy in the Middle East

Readings: Paterson, Chapter 11-12

**Saturday, 19 September:**

8:00-10:00am: The Cuban Missile Crisis: Diplomacy on the Nuclear Brink

10:30-12:30pm: Vietnam, Decolonization, and Low-Intensity Warfare in the Cold War

Paterson, Chapter 9-10

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

**Participation:**

You will be graded on attendance **and** contributions to class discussions. You should be an enthusiastic and collegial presence in the classroom at all times. This is an opportunity to perfect your public speaking. To help you in these discussions, you should read the chapters in **Paterson** when indicated.

**Reading responses:**

There are two reading responses, on the McPherson and the Priest and Arkin books, worth 20% each, for a total of 40%. Each reading response will be no less than 2 pages long and no more than 3 pages, typed, and double-spaced (not space and a half). You will lose points for anything outside that range. You will be evaluated on 1) your ability to answer the question and only the question; 2) your historical analysis, that is, your ability to both think abstractly and use concrete evidence from the book; and 3) your mastery of written English. Use only the assigned reading. You can quote it, but do so sparingly and put the page number in parentheses. Footnotes are not necessary. Your task is to answer the following questions and upload them to Canvas by the due date:

Reading response #1, **due 30 August**, on McPherson:

Rank and explain the importance of causes, consequences, and context in US military interventions in Latin America and the Caribbean. In other words, were causes, consequences, or context as a whole most important?

Reading response #2, **due 6 September**, on Priest and Arkin:

What forces have created the expansion of the National Security State?

**Exam:**

There will be one final exam for 40% of your grade, based on the textbook, *American Foreign Relations: A History*, and on lectures. I will provide you with a list of identifications and questions to choose from, as well as with instructions, at the end of class, and you will have until **Sunday, 27 September** at noon to upload answers to Canvas. **Do not copy sentences from the textbook in your exam.** That is plagiarism and will result in a grade of 0.

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Assignment	Due Date	Percent of Grade
Attendance & Participation	During Class Sessions	20%
Reading Response #1	August 30, 2020	20%
Reading Response #2	September 6, 2020	20%
Take-Home Final Exam	September 27, Noon	40%
Total	N/A	100%

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

## **POLICIES AND NOTICES**

### **Attendance/Grade Policy**

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

### **Academic Integrity and Student Conduct**

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at [http://integrity.ou.edu/students\\_guide.html](http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html)

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

### **Accommodation Statement**

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

### **Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues**

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

### **Title IX Resources**

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at [smo@ou.edu](mailto:smo@ou.edu) or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

### **Course Policies**

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

## INSTRUCTOR VITA

Alain McPherson, PhD

### Education

- 2001 Ph.D., History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 1996 M.A. with Distinction, History, San Francisco State University.
- 1994 B.A. magna cum laude, major in History, minor in Economics, Université de Montréal.

### Current Positions

- Thomas Freaney, Jr., Professor of History
- Director of the Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy, Temple University.

### Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

IAS 5940 Topics in International Studies: U.S. Diplomatic History

### Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- US Foreign Relations
- Latin American International Relations
- US-Latin American Relations

### Representative Publications and Presentations

- *Ghosts of Sheridan Circle: How a Washington Assassination Brought Pinochet's Terror State to Justice*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019.
- *A Short History of US Interventions in Latin America and the Caribbean*. Malden, Mass.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016.
- *The Invaded: How Latin Americans and their Allies Fought and Ended U.S. Occupations*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- *Intimate Ties, Bitter Struggles: The United States and Latin America since 1945*. Series: Issues in the History of U.S. Foreign Relations. Series editor: Robert McMahon. Washington, D.C.: Potomac Books, 2006.
- *Yankee No! Anti-Americanism in U.S.-Latin American Relations*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2003.

### Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Fulbright Fellowships, 2006 (Dominican Republic) and 2012 (Argentina).
- Central American Visiting Scholar, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 2010.
- Dissertation Fellowship, SSHRC Canada, 1999-2001.

### Major Professional Affiliations

- Council Member, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations
- American Historical Association
- Latin American Studies Association