

HIST 5362

Sel. Topics: US Foreign Policy

Spring 2023

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Course Description

This course focuses on research and writing on topics in the foreign policy history of the United States and its' interactions with other nations. Topics will range from the early national period to the end of the Cold War Era. Going beyond gaining mastery of the major themes and players in foreign policy history, the course will focus on the historiography and archival opportunities available.

Course Objectives

- a. Understand and articulate the key ideas and policies that have shaped US foreign relations through time
- b. Be familiar with the historiography surrounding US foreign relations.
- c. Conduct archival research on an approved topic in US foreign policy using our special collections or document collections available in digital archives.
- d. Demonstrate historical writing and documentation at a graduate level.

Mode - This is a real course in an actual classroom. The gradebook and syllabus are maintained in a course shell on Canvas.

Required Textbook

George Herring. *From Colony to Superpower: US Foreign Relations Since 1776*. New York: Oxford U.P., 2008. ISBN 9780195078220

Recommended Textbooks

Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, any edition from the current century

Strunk, W., Jr., & White, E. B. *The elements of style* (any ed.). New York: McMillan, 1959
—A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore

Office Hours

My office hours are TR 1:00-3:00. If necessary other appointment times can be available. I will also set aside some class time for conferences on the paper proposal and rough draft.

Course Requirements

There will be an essay exam at the midterm covering major topics and reading from the first half of the semester. Grades are based upon the demonstrated depth and breadth of understanding those topics.

The writing assignment is a 20-30 page graduate seminar paper based on primary research. Papers should be double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pnt type with one inch margins, left justified. You may use either endnotes or footnotes following Turabian (Chicago). Also include a bibliography. Your paper should have a cover page (see Turabian for examples).

Grammar and Style are should be appropriate for the graduate level. All history majors should have a copy of both Turabian and Strunk & White for reference.

Avoid lengthy quotations. They give a cut-n-paste appearance. Paraphrase when possible, with a full-citation. Have a relevant introduction, clear thesis, and conclusion that compliments your intro. Secondary sources should be adequate for perspective and the historiography of your topic, but the majority of citations should be from primary sources. Papers are due in a Canvas email attachment.

Among the many archival sources available to you are the following:

Foreign Relations of the United States found online at <https://search.library.wisc.edu/digital/AFRUS>. This collection is a fairly comprehensive copy of the Foreign Relations volumes of correspondence from the early republic to the Carter administration. The collection is searchable.

Another source is the Franklin papers at <https://franklinpapers.yale.edu/>

The Library of Congress has digital collections of some presidents and their correspondence with consuls and secretaries of state.

Yet another large collection is the Digital National Security Archive, which includes declassified government documents covering U.S. policy toward critical world events – including their military, intelligence, diplomatic and human rights dimensions – from 1945 to the present. This collection is available through the University Library databases at <https://tamuct.libguides.com/az.php?a=d&p=1>

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The Special Collections of the Cold War Era at TAMUCT are housed in the University Archive and belong to our history program. Some of the relevant collections include:

William Chapman Foster papers. Foster (1897-1984) was the founding director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. He earlier

served as Under Secretary of Commerce and then Deputy Secretary of Defense during the Truman administration. Trained as a chemical engineer, Foster also had a successful business career when not in government service.

Sven Kraemer Papers. Kraemer served on the staff of the National Security Council during the Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Reagan administrations. He was Reagan's NSC Director of Arms Control (1981-1987). He also served in the office of the Secretary of Defense during the Kennedy and George W. Bush presidencies. He is the author of *Inside the Cold War: From Marx to Reagan*, published in 2015. The collection includes memoranda and extensive research materials for Kraemer's analysis for the NSC during the Vietnam War, including South Vietnamese government documents and news items.

Federal Documents Collection. This includes electronic files from Dr. Luke A. Nichter's FOIA requests to Federal agencies for historical material from the early 20th Century to the early 21st Century, focused on the Cold War and the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations. The wide scope of this collection makes it a useful source for both student researchers and specialists on the era.

I can also make available through the archive my personal research on 19th Century US consuls and secretaries of state from their private papers in the Library of Congress. The collection includes images of their originals and some transcripts.

Each student will give a brief presentation of their research (5 minutes or so). Participation credit is based wholistically on your engagement with the material and quality of contributions to class discussions.

Class Policies

Clear cases of plagiarism or cheating will result in a failing grade for the class. For general guidance about what constitutes plagiarism or for tips on writing and citation see:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

Late Policy/make-up Work

Students who find themselves unable to meet established deadlines should drop the course. Exceptions can only be granted for valid and verifiable reasons, such as medical emergency or deployment. Incomplete grades can only be given in extraordinary circumstances and must have the approval of an administrator.

Grading and Communications

Please use my TAMUCT email for communications or see me in office hours. Email received during the weekend will not have a response until Monday. All other email should have a 24 hour response time. If I do not respond in that time then please ping me again in case I overlooked your message. I normally return graded assignments a week after the due date. Grades are kept in the gradebook in the Canvas course page. If I need to message the class, I will use both email and an announcement in Canvas. The Canvas email copies to my university email.

Evaluation

Exam	100 Points
Paper	300 Points
Presentation	50 Points
Participation	50 Points
Total	500 Points

Final Grades will be determined based upon the following scale:

A = 450-500 points

B = 400-449 points

C = 350-399 points

D = 300-349 points

F = Below 300 points

Course Schedule

19 Jan	Intro, Revolutionary Diplomacy
26 Jan	1812, Settlement with Britain
2 Feb	Mexican War, Manifest Destiny Abroad
9 Feb	Civil War Diplomacy
16 Feb	War with Spain and the rise of American Power
23 Feb	Diplomacy of The Great War and the Failed Peace
2 Mar	The 1930s and the Grand Alliance
7 Mar	The Cold War Era
9 Mar	Exam, discussions and Chapters 1-19 Herring
14 Mar	Spring Break
16 Mar	Spring Break
23 Mar	Paper topics due and discussed.
30 Mar	On Historiography of Foreign Relations
6 April	On Sources
13 April	On Writing
20 April	Paper development and consultation
27 April	Paper development and consultation
9 May	Paper Due at 11:59:59
11 May	Presentations

Although very unlikely, this syllabus could be modified if necessary for the good of the class.

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the student conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](#) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](#) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu.

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](#) [<https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT>] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111

Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 631,525 eBooks and 75,149 journals, in addition to the 97,443 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant

style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WCOonline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

OTHER POLICY STATEMENTS

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/bit]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.