

# AMERICAN DIPLOMACY III

History 51/ Political Science 47

FALL 2007

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Advising Hours: Monday 3:00-5:00pm

Friday 2:00-4:00pm

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Morgan Hall 111

*Using the methods of diplomatic history and political science, this course will explore the evolution of American diplomacy from the end of the Korean War to the end of the Cold War. Our central concern will be to understand how and why the United States was able to emerge from decades of dangerous bipolar conflict into a position of unipolar predominance. Among the topics we will examine are the globalization of the Cold War under Eisenhower and Kennedy; the Cuban Missile Crisis; the escalation of the Vietnam War under Kennedy and Johnson and the domestic conflict over Vietnam; the efforts of Nixon and Kissinger to use detente with the Soviet Union, the opening to China, and step by step diplomacy in the Middle East to stabilize the Cold War and to achieve a peace in Vietnam consonant with American interests; the American defeat in South East Asia and its consequences under Ford and Kissinger; Carter's achievements in Panama and the Middle East, and the origins of the Carter Doctrine amidst the crises of 1979-1980; the revitalization of American diplomacy under Reagan and the domestic conflicts over policy in Central America; and Reagan, Bush and Gorbachev and the ending of the Cold War on American terms.*

## SYLLABUS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

- (1) You can find the electronic version of this syllabus at <http://www.amherst.edu/~pmachala/syllabi>.
- (2) The course is divided into fourteen sections. Unless otherwise indicated, each section corresponds to one seminar meeting.
- (3) **Course requirements:**
  - Regular attendance.

- Read all the assigned literature in advance of each class session.
- **FOUR BLACKBOARD “DISCUSSION BOARDS” LETTERS** (each “Discussion Board” corresponds to one class meeting). During the first class we shall distribute the class roster, identifying FOUR specific classes for which readings you will be responsible for commenting on. No later than proceeding Sunday morning we shall post questions in the Discussion Board” that will address the readings for the Thursday’s seminars for you to keep in mind while writing your comments. Please submit your comments no later than **Thursday morning 5:00am** prior to the given seminar meeting. Because these comments will be available to anyone enrolled in the course, our hope is that some of them will generate serious counter-comments, which will then spill over into our seminar meetings. (*None of these comments will be graded, though we will consult them if your final grade is borderline.*)
- **TWO PAPERS – midterm (eight pages) AND final (twelve pages).**

**Midterm Paper** – chose ONE of the following topics: (In a sign-up sheet circle your first and second preference. If you have no preference, circle all four options. By our second meeting we will let you know which topic you will write on your mid-term essay. )

- o **FINAL PAPER** will be due on **XXX, 2007** on the following topic: (the topic will be announced by December 3)
- **IF you choose to take this course to fulfill the ADVANCED SEMINAR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENT:** Same TWO regular papers + one fifteen -page research paper. If you decide to write a research paper, you need to submit a two-three page proposal, including a preliminary bibliography. After you produce your paper proposal you are welcome to come to see about it. The deadline for the proposal will be Sunday, November 1, and the paper will be no later than Tuesday, December 1. For producing your preliminary bibliography you may want to consult <http://www.amherst.edu/library/research/courserelated/spring07/polisci38.html>

*As pursuant to the honor code, plagiarism, multiple submissions, or any other serious violations will result in failure for the course.*

#### (4) **Materials to be Read:**

- **Books.** The following books are available at the Amherst Books (corner of Main and South Pleasant Street), and 2 copies of each book are also on reserve at Frost Library’s Circulation/Reserve Desk. All other assigned readings are in the multilithed form.

John Lewis Gaddis, WE NOW KNOW, Oxford

Henry Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, Simon and Schuster

David F. Schmitz, THANK GOD THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE, North Carolina

Steven L. Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, Chicago

Patrick Tyler, A GREAT WALL, A Century Foundation Book,  
Public Affairs, New York

George Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, McGraw-Hill

William Taubman, KHRUSHCHEV, THE MAN AND HIS ERA, Norton

Kenneth M. Pollack, THE PERSIAN PUZZLE, THE CONFLICT BETWEEN  
IRAN AND AMERICA, Random

- **Multilith.** You may also purchase all other assigned readings in THREE multilith volumes. The first volume of the multilith is already available. The second volume of the multilith will be ready by early October. **You can purchase the multiliths in the Political Science Office, Room 103, Clark House.)**
- **The readings for the VERY FIRST CLASS (Wednesday, September 12) are already included in the first volume of the multilith packet. Since none of the readings in the multilith packets are available on Reserve, you need to purchase this multilith as soon as possible so that you can read all the material for the first seminar meeting prior Wednesday, September 12 and be ready to discuss it at the meeting.**

**ONE: Wednesday, September 12**  
**From Truman to Eisenhower**

John Lewis Gaddis, STRATEGIES OF CONTAINMENT, 25-126 (M)

McGeorge Bundy, DANGER AND SURVIVAL, 236-260, 273-305 (M)

John Lewis Gaddis, WE NOW KNOW, 70-84, 115-129, 221-234 (P)

Henry Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 493-521 (P)

**TWO: Wednesday September 19  
Eisenhower and World Politics, I**

George Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 24-68 (P)

Douglas J. Macdonald, "Communist Bloc Expansion in the Early Cold War,"  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, Winter 1995/96, 152-153, 179-185 (M)

David Schmitz, THANK GOD THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE, 178-187, 193-209 (P)

Kenneth M. Pollack, THE PERSIAN PUZZLE, THE CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAN  
AND AMERICA, 57-71 (P)

H.W. Brands, "The Cairo-Tehran Connection in Anglo-American Rivalry in the Middle  
East, 1951-1953," THE INTERNATIONAL HISTORY REVIEW, August 1989, 434-456  
(M)

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 522-567 (P)

Steven Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 50-82 (P)

Gaddis, WE NOW KNOW, 163-176, 208-211 (P)

William Taubman, KRUSHCHEV, THE MAN AND HIS ERA, 289-299, 330-347 (P)

**THREE: Wednesday, September 26  
Eisenhower and World Politics, II**

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 568-583 (P)

Taubman, KRUSHCHEV, 347-360, 388-441, 447-455 (P)

Gaddis, WE NOW KNOW, 129-143, 234-253 (P)

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 68-97 (P)

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 628-642 (P)

Fred L. Greenstein and Richard H. Immerman, "What did Eisenhower tell Kennedy about Indochina? The Politics of Misperception," THE JOURNAL OF AMERICAN HISTORY, September 1992, 373-383 (M)

Taubman, KRUSHCHEV, 441-447, 455-479 (P)

Schmitz, THANK GOD THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE, 209-233 (P)

Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 83-93 (P)

**FOUR: Wednesday, October 3**  
**Kennedy and Krushchev**

Taubman, KHRUSHCHEV, 482-493, 500-506 (P)

Michael Beschloss, THE CRISIS YEARS, 171-181, 194-247, 255-290 (M)

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 583-593 (P)

Letter of John J. McCloy to Nikita Krushchev, September 6, 1961 (M)

Beschloss, THE CRISIS YEARS, 431-545 (M)

Taubman, KRUSHCHEV, 529-537 , 567-577 (P)

**FIVE: Wednesday, October 10**  
**From Kennedy to Johnson**

Beschloss, THE CRISIS YEARS, 596-608, 618-638, 671-678 (M)

Taubman, KHRUSHCHEV, 582-585, 597-599, 602-606 (P)

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 89-129 (P)

Schmitz, THANK GOD THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE, 234-250, 255-264 (P)

Amos Elon, "A Very Special Relationship," THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS, January 15, 2004 (M)

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 131-169 (P)

Schmitz, THANK GOD THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE, 264-292

Frederick Logevall, CHOOSING WAR, 375-395 (M)

David F. Schmitz, "Congress Must Draw the Line," in Randall B. Woods, ed., VIETNAM AND THE AMERICAN POLITICAL TRADITION, 121-133 (M)

Tom Wells, THE WAR WITHIN, 24-26 (M)

Alexander Bloom and Wini Breines, eds. TAKIN IT TO THE STREETS, A SIXTIES READER, 214-229 (M)



**SIX: Wednesday, October 17**  
**Johnson and World Politics**

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 171-223 (P)

C. Dale Walton, THE MYTH OF INEVITABLE US DEFEAT IN VIETNAM, 61-63,  
75-79, 83-84 (M)

Wells, THE WAR WITHIN, 158-164 (M)

Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 118-165 (P)

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 225-268 (P)

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 643-673 (P)

Robert W. Tucker, "The American Outlook," in Robert Osgood, et al. eds., AMERICA  
AND THE WORLD, 27-48 (M)

Michael Lind, VIETNAM, THE NECESSARY WAR, 60-66

**SEVEN: Wednesday, October 24**  
**Nixon, Kissinger and World Politics**

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 271-296 (P)

Wells, THE WAR WITHIN, 364-375 (M)

Mark W. Woodruff, UNHERALDED VICTORY, 194-197 (M)

John M. Shaw, THE CAMBODIAN CAMPAIGN, 153-170 (M)

N. Gordon Levin, Jr., "Nixon, the Senate and the War," COMMENTARY, November 1970, 69-79 (M)

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 296-320 (P)

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 674-695, 703-732 (P)

Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 181-218 (P)

**EIGHT: Wednesday, October 31**  
**From Nixon to Ford**

Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 263-305 (P)

Robert Dallek, NIXON AND KISSINGER, 509-533, 582-586 (M)

Schmitz, "Congress Must Draw the Line," in Woods, ed., VIETNAM AND THE AMERICAN POLITICAL TRADITION, 121, 142-148 (M)

Herring, AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR, 323-353 (P)

Walton, THE MYTH OF INEVITABLE DEFEAT IN VIETNAM, 137-139, 142-150 (M)

Kissinger, DIPLOMACY, 695-702, 732-761 (P)

Henry Kissinger, "Between the Old Left and the New Right," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, May/June 1999, 99-116 (M)

Tyler, A GREAT WALL, 193-210

**NINE: Wednesday, November 7**  
**Carter and World Politics**

Michael Mandelbaum and William Schneider, "The New Internationalisms,"  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, Winter 1978, 34-41, 62-70 (M)

Raymond Garthoff, DETENTE AND CONFRONTATION, 653-673 (M)

Zbigniew Brzezinski, POWER AND PRINCIPLE, 146-150 (M)

Tyler, A GREAT WALL, 229-285 (P)

Gaddis Smith, MORALITY, REASON AND POWER, 95-99, 133-156 (M)

Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 340-373 (P)

Pollack, THE PERSIAN PUZZLE, 114-153 (P)

James Theberge, "The Collapse of the Somoza Regime," in Pipes and Garfinkle, eds.,  
FRIENDLY TYRANTS, 109-129 (M)

Jeane Kirkpatrick, "Dictatorships and Double Standards," COMMENTARY, November  
1979, 34-37, 44-45 (M)

Tom, J. Farer, "Reagan's Latin America," THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS,  
March 19, 1981, 29-37 (M)

Jeane Kirkpatrick, "U.S. Security and Latin America," COMMENTARY, January 1981,  
29-37

**TEN: Wednesday, November 14**  
**From Carter to Reagan**

Pollack, THE PERSIAN PUZZLE, 153-180

Coll, GHOST WARS, 38-52 (M)

Smith, MORALITY, REASON AND POWER, 208-240 (M)

Brzezinski, POWER AND PRINCIPLE, 340-353

Garthoff, DÉTENTE AND CONFRONTATION, 1036-1042, 1099-1121 (M)

Robert W. Tucker, "Reagan Without Tears," THE NEW REPUBLIC, May 17, 1980, 22-25 (M)

Stanley Hoffmann, "The Unhappy Choice," THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS, November 20, 1980 (M)

Don Oberdorfer, THE TURN, 15-77 (M)

Raymond L. Garthoff, THE GREAT TRANSITION, 542-553, 629-637 (M)

McGeorge Bundy, George F. Kennan, Robert S. McNamara and Gerard Smith, "Nuclear Weapons and the Atlantic Alliance," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, Spring 1982, 753-760, 766 (M)

Karl Kaiser, George Leber, Alois Mertes, and Franz-Josef Schulze, "Nuclear Weapons and the Preservation of Peace," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, Summer 1982, 11-57-1162 (M)

Spiegel, THE OTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, 395-429 (P)

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**

**ELEVEN: Wednesday, November 28**  
**Reagan and World Politics**

Oberdorfer, THE TURN, 79-209 (M)

James Schlesinger, "Reykjavik and Revelations: A Turn of the Tide?" FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AMERICA AND THE WORLD, 1986, 426-437 (M)

Peter Rodman, MORE PRECIOUS THAN PEACE, THE COLD WAR AND THE STRUGGLE FOR THE THIRD WORLD, 240-271 (M)

Joan Didion, "'Something Horrible' in El Salvador," THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS, July 17, 1994 (M)

Robert S. Leiken and Barry Rubin, eds., THE CENTRAL AMERICAN CRISIS READER, 567-576 (M)

Cynthia J. Arnson, CROSSROADS: CONGRESS, THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION, AND CENTRAL AMERICA, 201-220 (M)

Pollack, THE PERSIAN PUZZLE, 198-216 (P)

Stanley Hoffman, "Reagan's Underworld," THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS, May 7, 1987 (M)

Franklin Foer, "Founding Fakers" THE NEW REPUBLIC, August 18 and 25, 2003, 17-21 (M)

**TWELVE: Wednesday, December 5**  
**From Reagan to Bush**

Oberdorfer, THE TURN, 211-326 (M)

Robert W. Tucker, "Reagan's Foreign Policy," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 1988/1989, 1-17, 23 (M)

Hendrick Hertzberg, "The Child Monarch," THE NEW REPUBLIC, September 9, 1991, 27-29, 33-35 (M)

Josef Joffe, "The 'Amazing and Mysterious' Life of Ronald Reagan," THE NATIONAL INTEREST, Fall 2004, 85-90 (M)

Robert L. Hutchings, AMERICAN DIPLOMACY AND THE END OF THE COLD WAR, 31-38, 46-54, 60-74 (M)

Robert Levgold, "The Revolution in Soviet Foreign Policy," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AMERICA AND THE WORLD, 1988/1989, 82-98 (M)

Jacques Levesque, "Soviet Approaches to Eastern Europe at the Beginning of 1989," COLD WAR INTERNATIONAL HISTORY PROJECT BULLETIN, Issue, 12/13, Fall/Winter 2001, 49-52 (M)

**THIRTEEN: Wednesday, December 12**  
**Bush, Baker and the Cold War Endgame**

Oberdorfer, THE TURN, 361-386 (M)

Michael R. Beschloss and Strobe Talbott, AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS, THE INSIDE STORY OF THE END OF THE COLD WAR, 172-214 (M)

Hitchings, AMERICAN DIPLOMACY AT THE END OF THE COLD WAR, 90-109, 112-128 (M)

Coit D. Blacker, "The Collapse of Soviet Power in Europe," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AMERICA AND THE WORLD, 1990/1991, 88-100 (M)

Robert Zoellick, "Two Plus Four, The Lessons of German Unification," THE NATIONAL INTEREST, Fall 2000, 17-28 (M)

Vladislav M. Zubok, "New Evidence on the 'Soviet Factor' in the Peaceful Revolution of 1989," COLD WAR INTERNATIONAL HISTORY PROJECT BULLETIN, Issue 12/13, Fall/Winter 2001, 5-14 (M)

Hitchings, AMERICAN DIPLOMACY AND THE END OF THE COLD WAR, 131-133 (M)

Daniel Deudney and G. John Ikenberry, "Who Won the Cold War?," FOREIGN POLICY, Summer 1992, 123-138 (M)

Zbigniew Brzezinski, "The Cold War and its' Aftermath," FOREIGN AFFAIRS, Fall 1992, 31-49 (M)

Vladislav M. Zubok, "Gorbachev and the End of the Cold War: Perspectives on History and Personality," COLD WAR HISTORY, January 2002, 61, 80-93 (M)