

Central European University
Political Science Department
2019/2020
Fall Semester

Foreign Policy

Instructor: Tamás Meszerics
Mon 15:30- 17:10
Room

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The course intends to acquaint the students with certain aspects of foreign policy analysis. It will emphasize those approaches that focus on the instrumental rationality or lack of it in decision-making groups. It will enable the participants to identify and evaluate the major concepts and models in foreign policy analysis and to test these abstract and/or formal conceptual tools on the examples provided by cases in diplomatic history. The course is accessible through the e-learning website of CEU. The enrolment key can be obtained from the instructor.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Ability to use theoretical concepts coming from different subfields in a coherent way
Ability to apply abstract concepts for the evaluation of empirical phenomena within the topic of foreign policy studies
Increased argumentative skills within the norms of scholarly debate
Writing an analytic essay in clear structure and format
Pointing out the essence of an argument through targeted questions
Ability to make brief written comments on extensive scholarly texts

REQUIREMENTS:

Since the course consists of one lecture and one seminar on the same topic we will be covering six topics in twelve weeks. Therefore **it is essential** that the participants read the compulsory literature as preparation for the seminars. To help this preparation students are required to submit at least two short questions on the readings on the day before the seminar. The questions should be uploaded to the e-learning site of the course 12 hours before the seminar the latest.

Each student is expected to write one **take-home examination papers**. (The questions of the take-home examinations will be uploaded to the e-learning site Friday evening, and they are to be submitted to the site by the morning of the following Monday the latest.)

Students are also required to submit a **position paper** covering one of the topics including the recommended readings. The position paper should contain an evaluation of the readings and identify a question on which the student develops her position.

The instructor will take every effort to screen out cases of plagiarism. These will be dealt with according to university regulations. For definitions please consult the academic honesty section of the relevant university policies.

The final grade will be a composite of the following values:

Take-home examination paper	- 40%
Position paper	- 30 %
Questions and comments	- 20 %
In-class activity	- 10 %

SYLLABUS

1. THE BASIC TOOLKIT: DIPLOMACY

The nature and actors of foreign policy. Executing foreign policy decisions, Diplomatic representation. Who are the diplomats? 21st century challenges.

Compulsory readings

Homes, Alison R. and J. Simon Rofe, *Global Diplomacy: Theories, Types and Models*. Boulder CO: Westview Press, 2016. Ch. 2-3

Recommended readings

Kralev, Nicholas, *America's Other Army: The U.S. Foreign Service and 21st-Century Diplomacy*. (2nd ed.) 2015. Ch. 3, 4, 11.

2. STATE IDENTITY AND THE LONG-TERM VIEW OF FOREIGN POLICY

Are there any constants in the behavior of a state in the international arena? Is there a specific repertoire of foreign policy actions? The advantage of the long-term view.

Compulsory readings

Petersen, Nikolaj, "Denmark as an International Actor 706-2006" *World Political Science Review* Vol. 2 No. 3 (2006) pp. 201-222.

Branner, Hans, "Denmark Between Venus and Mars: How Great a Change in Danish Foreign Policy?" in: Hvidt, Nanna, and Hans Mouritzen (eds.) *Danish Foreign Policy Yearbook 2013*. Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies, 2013. pp. 134-166.

Recommended readings

Berenskoetter, Felix "Identity in International Relations" *Oxford Research Encyclopedias* (2010)

(<https://oxfordre.com/internationalstudies/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.001.0001/acrefore-9780190846626-e-218>)

3. POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS

Attitudes to risk, misperceptions and cognitive biases in risky foreign policy environments. Prospect theory, theory of policy change.

Compulsory Readings

Welch, David A., *Painful Choices: A Theory of Foreign Policy Change*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005. Ch. 2-3.

Recommended readings

Jervis, Robert, "The Drunkard's Search" in: Iyengar, Shanto and William J. McGuire (eds.) *Explorations in Political Psychology*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1993. pp. 339-360.

4. GENERATIONS AND POLICY CHANGE

Do generations matter?; the role of common formative experience; what role for social connections?

Compulsory readings

Mann, James, *The Obamians. The Struggle Inside the White House to Redefine American Power*. London: Viking, 2012. Prologue & Ch 5.

Halberstam, David, *The Best and the Brightest*. London & New York: Penguin Books, 1983. Ch 3-4

5. INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN POLICY

Functions and structures of intelligence communities; are intelligence failures unavoidable?

Compulsory Readings

Betts, Richard, *Enemies of Intelligence*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2007. Ch 2-3 and Ch 5

Recommended Readings

Wirtz, James J., *Understanding Intelligence Failure: Warning, Response and Deterrence*. New York: Routledge, 2017. Ch.7-9.

6. EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY

Can member states combine to have a common voice and action? Is there anything beyond “soft power” for Europe? Are the new challenges strengthen or weaken CFSP?

Compulsory Readings

Keukeleire, Stephan and Tom Delreux, **The Foreign Policy of the European Union**. (2nd ed.) Houndmills, Basingstoke - New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014. Ch. 4, 7

Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe: A GLObal Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy. Brussels: EEAS, 2016.

Recommended Readings

Forsberg, Thomas and Hiski Haukkala, *The European Union and Russia*. Houndmills, Basingstoke - New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014. Ch.

