

POSC 239 The Diplomat's Craft

Fall 2011
Tu Th 1:15-3:00
Leighton 402

Ambassador Burton Levin
Office: Willis 408, ext. 7848
Office Hours: By appointment

What is the meaning of diplomacy? How has its practice evolved in response to a changing world? What are the special characteristics of the American way of conducting diplomacy and do they benefit or harm the nation's interests? In addition to readings, I shall draw on my experiences during thirty-six years in the Foreign Service in the hope of shedding further light on these issues.

Requirements

Mid-term essay outlining proposed term research
paper and reason(s) for your choice of topic 20%
Attendance and participation in class discussions 40%
Term research paper..... 40%

Texts

Selected writings will be on E-Reserve.

Reading Assignments

October 18 Introduction

Freeman, *The Diplomat's Dictionary*, pp. 70-92.

October 20 History, Theory and Practice of Diplomacy

Freeman, *Arts of Power*, pp. 99-128

Lauren, Craig and Goerge, *Force and Statecraft* (4th ed.), pp. 24-45.

Polk, *Neighbors and Strangers*, pp. 217-278.

October 25 The American Way of Diplomacy: Structure and Practice

Kopp and Gillespie, *Career Diplomacy: Life and Work in the U.S. Foreign Service*, pp. 3-33.

Halperin and Clapp, *Bureaucratic Politics and Foreign Policy*, pp. 25-96; 181-203; 313-344.

Tuchman, "Why Policymakers Do Not Listen," *Foreign Service Journal*

Shanker, "Three Terrorist Groups in Africa Pose Threat to U.S." *New York Times*, Sept. 2011.

- October 27 The American Way of Diplomacy: Expertise as an Ingredient
- Kennan, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct, *Foreign Affairs* (July, 1947) pp 566 – 583.
- Levin, "Reflections on Forty Years in Asia," The Asia Society, Hong Kong Center, 1995.
- U.S. Relations with China, 1944-49, Department of State, 1949, pp. 901-922.
- Langewiesche, "Welcome to the Green Zone, *Atlantic Monthly*, November, 2004, 61-88.
- Brooks, "The Art of Intelligence," *New York Times*, April 2, 2005.
- "Tying Our Own Hands," *Foreign Service Journal*, Sept. 2011, pp. 21-22.
- November 1 The American Way of Diplomacy: The Role of the Military
- Eisenhower, *Military and Industrial Speech*, 1961
- Bacevich, *The New American Militarism*, pp. 9-33.
- Schlessinger, "Folly's Antidote," *New York Times*, Jan. 1, 2007.
- Emery, "Defense Lobbyists Say Cuts Mean Jobs," *Boston Globe*, Oct. 11, 2011.
- Carroll, "Saving Our Young From Ourselves," *Boston Globe*, Sept. 2011.
- Pfaff, "Manufacturing Insecurity," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov./Dec. 2010, pp. 133-140.
- Kennan, *The Cloud of Danger*, pp. 3-18.
- Kalb, "The Other War Haunting Obama," *New York Times*, Oct. 9, 2011.
- Deresiewicz, *New York Times*, Aug. 21, 2011.
- November 3 The Use and Misuse of Intelligence
- Kahin, *Subversion as Foreign Policy*, University of Washington Press, 1995, pp. 3-19.
- Risen, *State of War*, Free Press, 2006, pp. 1-20, 61-84, 109-32.
- Bamford, *Pretext for War*, Anchor Books, 2005, pp. 367-386.
- Pillar, "Unheeded Intelligence," *Foreign Affairs*, March/April, 2006.
- November 8 When Ideology Confronts Reality
- Bogdanovich and Nordberg, "Mixed U.S. Signals Helped Tilt Haiti Toward Chaos," *New York Times*, Jan. 29, 2006.
- Prendergast, "Echoes of the Past," *Foreign Service Journal*, Nov. 2008, pp. 50-51.
- Healy, "Afghans Rage at Young Lovers," *New York Times*, July 31, 2011.
- Blank, "Invading Afghanistan Then and Now," *Foreign Affairs*, Sept./Oct. 2011, pp. 156-162.
- Haas, "Regime Change Has Its Limits," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2005, pp. 67-68.
- Leffler, "9/11 In Retrospect," *Foreign Affairs*, Sept./Oct. 2011, pp. 33-44.
- West, "Groundhog War," *Foreign Affairs*, Sept./Oct. 2011, pp. 163-171.

November 10 The Present

Hoffman, "The Foreign Policy the U.S. Needs," *New York Review of Books*, Aug. 10, 2006, pp. 60-64.

Gelb, "Necessity, Choice and Common Sense," *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2009, pp. 56-72

Sanger, "The Price of Lost Chances," Sept. 12, 2011.

Allison, "America's Choices and Their Costs," *Boston Globe*, Sept. 10, 2011.

Brzezinski, "From Hope to Audacity: Appraising Obama's Foreign Policy," *Foreign Affairs*, Jan./Feb. 2010.

November 15 Peering Ahead

Ikenberry, "The Future of the Liberal World Order," *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2011, pp. 56-68.

Drezner, "Does Obama Have a Grand Strategy," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2011, pp. 57-68.

Nye, "The Future of American Power," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov./Dec. 2010, pp. 2-12.

Bacevich, *Washington Rules*, Metropolitan Books, 2010, pp. 223-250.