

Issues and Challenges in American Foreign Policy

Final Examination
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In the introduction to his textbook, Chittick proposes a framework for analyzing foreign policy. For the remainder of his book, he uses it to analyze the ideal points of the foreign policies pursued by presidents and other foreign policy makers in the United States. This framework is based on three dimensions, roughly corresponding to the three major modes, or perspectives, in International Relations.

During this last half of the course, we have covered many foreign policy decisions from a scholarly perspective. The selections I had you read were (mostly) from reputable academic journals written by researchers who specialize in foreign policy. You read from some of the big names in Foreign Policy: Graham Allison, Yuen Foong Khong, and Michael Shupe. They have each tackled one foreign policy event in American history and attempted to give a theoretical explanation for the results.

The Examination:

Your examination will be to take one of the events that over which you had a reading assigned since the first examination and analyze it using Chittick's framework.

This analysis must be a well-written essay in five sections: Introduction, Dimension One, Dimension Two, Dimension Three, and Conclusion. In the Introduction, make sure that you introduce the framework, the event, and the location in the cube the decision holds. In each of the three dimensions, make sure you clearly define the dimension and the associated perspective from International Relations. In the Conclusion, you need to do two things. First, reiterate where in the cube the decision stands. Second, please provide your own analysis of the decision: Did it accomplish what it attempted to accomplish? Could the goals have been achieved in a less-costly manner? Was this an appropriate strategy to use?

What I will be grading:

The grade you earn on the examination will be based on the following areas. First, it must be written in Standard American English. Failure to follow the rules of the language will result in lower grades. Additionally, it must follow academic style. This means there can be neither contractions nor colloquialisms. Second, you must cite your definitions. Third, you must cite your information regarding the event. Fourth, you must follow the directions provided. Fifth, you must format your paper as described in the course's style sheet. Sixth, if you make an assertion with which I do not agree, you need to support it with unassailable logic *and* an unassailable source. Such sources do not include random people on the street, nor do they include politicians giving their own analysis of the event. Moreover, such sources do not include your parents or your dog. Such sources, however, *do* include academics who are scholars of foreign policy and who have

published in foreign policy academic journals. Seventh, since so many ask this, you need to use *at least eight* appropriate sources.

There is neither an upper bound nor a lower bound to this examination. Write everything you think you need to write and nothing more. Writing more is not necessarily a good thing, nor is writing less. Per the style sheet for the course, you must avoid unnecessary words—especially adverbs and adjectives. Every word in the English language has a reason for existing and a definite meaning, which include not only its denotation but its connotation. Think about what you write and the words you choose. Are you actually writing what you intend to say? I hope you are, for *I am grading what I read*.

Turning it in:

You will email your examination to me as an attachment in one of the following three formats: Adobe portable document format (.pdf), Microsoft document (.doc), or rich text format (.rtf). Every word processor of any import in the Western world can save in .rtf. If you have WordPerfect, save in .rtf or .pdf. If you have MS Word 2007, save in .rtf or .doc; *do not save in .docx*. If you use Open Office, save in .doc or .rtf.

This examination is due in my mailbox at 9:40am on Friday, December 14, 2007. Failure to get your examination to me in the appropriate format by the due time will result in a failure for the examination. I will acknowledge when I receive your examination.

My email address is OleForsberg@creighton.edu

If you run into an emergency, my cell phone number is (865) 405-0751. This is an east Tennessee number. I do not guarantee I will answer, so leave a message if I do not.

Extra Credit:

Should I receive your examination by 11:59pm on Sunday, December 9, 2007, you will receive five extra credit points, and you will be able to receive your results by 3:00pm, Tuesday, December 11, 2007.