

American Foreign Policy: Processes and Outcomes

The First Examination: Review Sheet

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The first examination for this course will take place on Friday, October 26. It will consist of a take-home portion and an in-class portion. Usually, this means that the professor will give an in-class portion to take the entire block of time.

What are you responsible for knowing? Briefly, you are responsible for all of the assigned readings, everything we talked about during class, and the major events that are taking place in the world now. In other words, everything.

The take-home portion will consist of an issue analysis like we did in class regarding the current problems in Ruritania. An updated version of that in-class activity can be found on the website.

The layout for the in-class portion will be simple multiple choice and short answer. The multiple choice questions will have but one best answer. That means you must weigh each of the options for the best one. Some multiple choice questions will be hybrid MC/SA. Make sure you read the directions for each section CAREFULLY. Finally, the short answer section will require you to write such that I can read your writing. I have already failed someone on a quiz because I could not read their answer (other class); do not let that happen to you.

In this first half of the course, we have covered three areas: basic IR theory, American history (and the foreign policy that resulted), and models of foreign policy making. To reflect this, the examination will cover those three broad areas. It will also use current events to motivate answers on the examination. While it does not seem like a lot of things, there is a lot of depth not reflected in the breadth.

Some things to study

This should not be considered an exhaustive list of topics that I can cover on the in-class portion

- The Realisms:
 - Classical Realism, Structural (Neo-) Realism, Liberal Realism, Neoclassical Realism
- The Liberalisms:
 - Idealism (Wilsonianism, Neoconservatism), Liberalism, Neoliberalism
- The Idea-based -isms:
 - Constructivism, Marxism, Functionalism
- Definitions of:
 - Foreign Policy, State, Sovereign, System, State Actor, Non-State Actor
- Examples of
 - Foreign Policies, States, Sovereign States, State Actors, Non-State Actors

- Non-State Actors:
 - International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO), International Governmental Organization (IGO), Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
- Chittick's framework
 - Security, Prosperity, Community
- Hook & Spanier's framework
 - History of America and of American Foreign Policy
- Models of making foreign policy
 - The Institutional Model
 - The Organizational Behavioral Model
 - The Governmental Politics Model
 - The Majoritarian Model
 - The Pluralist Model
 - The Elitist Model
 - The Other Models

Expectations

- I expect you to be able to take an organization's description I provide and to classify it into the above three categories (NGO, IGO, INGO)
- I expect you to be able to 'wear the hat' of each of the eleven major theories of international relations and explain a foreign policy decision from that hat
- I expect you to be able to compare and contrast each of the models of foreign policy making
- I expect you to be able to evaluate foreign policy decisions by comparing real outcomes with expected outcomes