

GE CRITERIA APPROVAL FORM

Course Number and Title: POLS 328

Faculty Member(s) Proposing Course: United States Foreign Policy

Indicate which of the following categories would be satisfied by this course by marking an "X" on the appropriate lines. Courses may be placed in up to two GE categories as appropriate. Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE courses may be placed in two categories plus the UDIGE category.

	A1: Oral Communication
	A2: English Writing
	A3: Critical Thinking
	B1: Physical Sciences
	B2: Life Sciences
	B3: Mathematics
	B4: Computers and Technology
	C1: Fine Arts
	C2: Literature
	C3: Languages & Cultures
X	D: Social Perspectives
	E: Human Psychological & Physiological Perspectives
	Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE

Lab Included? Yes _____ No x_____

Please provide a brief explanation of how the proposed course meets each of the criteria for the selected General Education categories.

D: Social Perspectives

- 1) Promote understanding of how the issues relevant to social, political, contemporary/historical, economic, educational or psychological realities interact with each other within the realm of human experience.

This course is designed to foster a greater understanding of the role and behavior of the United States in the world system through systematic study of political, historical, economic and psychological aspects of United States foreign policy and policy making. While this is a course that emphasizes the political dimensions of U.S. foreign policy, significant emphasis will be placed on the historical development of the current situation (including a study of the geopolitics of World War I and the Cold War and its demise), the development of globalization of the world economy and the importance of economic considerations to political behaviors of U.S. policy makers. The psychological dimension of political behavior in the foreign policy making, including the concept of group think and analysis of the motivations of terrorists will also be analyzed.

- 2) Focus on how a social science discipline conceives and studies human experience.

Foreign policy analysis relies on methods from political science, but also borrows heavily from other disciplines, especially economics. There are various theoretical perspectives for examining the role of the U.S. in the international arena (realist, hegemonic, idealist etc.) and students will explore and evaluate U.S. policy and behavior through the competing frameworks. Special attention will be paid to the economic motivations that lead to foreign policy behaviors.

3) Address issues using methods commonly employed by a social science discipline.

Both qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis are used in foreign policy studies, and this course will examine ways that political scientists perform inquiry from both perspectives.