

Disclaimer: This is an indicative syllabus only and may be subject to changes. The final and official syllabus will be distributed by the instructor during the first day of class.

The American University of Rome
International Relations Program

Department or degree program mission statement, student learning objectives, as appropriate

Course Title: Comparative Foreign Policy
Course Number: IA 301
Credits & hours: 3 credits – 3 hours
Pre/Co-Requisites: A lower-level Political Science course

Required Textbook (*subject to change*)

- R. K. Bealey, edited by, (2013), Foreign Policy in Comparative Perspective, Sage: London
ISBN: 978-1608716968

Recommended Readings (*subject to change*)

A list of readings will be provided early in the course.

Course description

The course examines today's main crises by comparing the attitudes, interests, ideologies, and policies of the powers affected by them. Topics include the foreign policies and goals of the major powers, the role of neutral countries and the influence of international and local revolutionary movements on contemporary world politics.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. assess critically the complex interplay of multiple factors that influence foreign policy choices in different countries
2. apply theoretical framework to case studies
3. demonstrate analytical skills in using case studies to better understand the foreign policies of different countries and the external relations of the European Union
4. employ skills to assess the role of psychology in influencing foreign policy decision making
5. illustrate how memory of the past shaped foreign policy in the post-World War period
6. employ critical thinking and analytical skills;
7. use research skills (relying on both primary and secondary sources)
8. demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills within the context of international politics

Course Learning Activities

Students are expected to:

- attend class regularly (a minimum of 70% of the course in order to be considered for a passing grade, maximum three absences from class to avoid penalization)
- participate in class discussions and in class debates
- provide an approximately 10 minute long oral presentation on the impact of external and internal factors on a particular foreign policy decision (the title should be communicated to the Prof. in order to arrange the presentation dates)
- submit a research paper on the same topic (around 2500 words, using APA citation style): research abstract - one paragraph which includes the title and a few sentences explaining the choice and the most important issues - with running bibliography must be submitted before the mid-term exam;
- participate in a group exercise (prepare and present three 15 minute long presentations on the European Union's foreign policy (or on the EU's foreign policies) towards the United States, Turkey or Russia
- follow political news about states' and the EU's foreign policies in major newspapers and mainstream media

Assessment tools

Class participation in debates	10%
Oral presentation	10%
Midterm exam	20%
Research paper	20%
Group Exercise	10%
Final exam	30%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 1	Introduction The Analysis of Foreign Policy in Comparative Perspective	Textbook, Chapter 1
Week 2	British Foreign Policy French Foreign Policy	Textbook, Chapter 2 Textbook, Chapter 3
Week 3	German Foreign Policy The European Union's Foreign Policy	Textbook, Chapter 4 T. Chopin and M. Lefebvre, Three Phone Numbers for Europe: Will the Lisbon treaty Make the European Union more Effective abroad?; The Lisbon Treaty and Its Implications for CFSP/ESDP
Week 4	Italian Foreign Policy Group exercise I. Is there such a thing as European Foreign Policy?	Carbone, M. (ed.) Italy in the Post-Cold War Order: Adaptation, Bipartisanship, Visibility. Chapter 7
Week 5	Hungarian Foreign Policy between 1990 and 2010 Russian Foreign Policy	Terényi, 1989-2009: Twenty Years in Hungarian Foreign Policy Textbook, Chapter 5
Week 6	Turkish Foreign Policy Chinese Foreign Policy	Textbook, Chapter 9 Textbook, Chapter 6
Week 7	Debate on the issues discussed in class Mid-term Exam	
Week 8	Mid-term Exam results Group exercise II. Is there such a thing as European Foreign Policy?	
Week 9	Indian Foreign Policy Iranian Foreign Policy	Textbook, Chapter 8 Textbook, Chapter 10
Week 10	Brazilian Foreign Policy Venezuelan Foreign Policy	Textbook, Chapter 13 Textbook, Chapter 14
Week 11	South African Foreign Policy Group exercise III. Is there such a thing as European Foreign Policy?	Textbook, Chapter 12
Week 12	Comparing Contemporary Foreign Policies. Review Oral Presentations	Textbook, Chapter 15
Week 13	Oral Presentations	
Week 14	FINAL EXAM	

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In keeping with AUR's mission to prepare students to live and work across cultures, the University places a high value on classroom experience. As a result attendance is expected in all classes and attendance records are maintained. The University's attendance policy is as follows:

1.0. Minimum Attendance Requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 70% of a course in order to be eligible to be considered for a passing grade.

1.1. Automatically Accepted Absences

Students will not be penalized for one absence from classes meeting once a week;
Students will not be penalized for three absences from classes meeting twice a week;
Students will not be penalized for four absences from classes meeting more than twice a week, as in the case of some intensive courses.

1.2. If further absences are recorded, grade penalties will be applied according to the Instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus, and following the institutional parameters given in the Note* below.

1.2.1. If the Instructor does not specify an attendance policy, there will be no grade penalty other than that attached to the minimum attendance requirement, and any penalized absences recorded above the basic 70% attendance requirement for the course will be invalidated.

1.3. During Summer sessions where courses are taught more intensively over a shorter period the following applies:

- Students will not be penalized for two absences from class.

2.0. Tolerated Absences

Certain categories of absence will not be penalized but they will be counted as an absence (for a 3-credit course meeting twice a week). These absences are:

- The Model United Nations (MUN);
- Permit to Stay,
- SG's "Ambassador Program" (Student Government initiative)
- Religious Holidays

The American University of Rome makes all reasonable efforts to accommodate students who must be absent from classes to observe religious holidays. (Please refer to the Provost's Office list of accepted absences for religious holidays)

Not attending a class due to the observance of a religious holiday will normally not be counted as an absence.

Students who will need to miss class in order to observe religious holidays must notify their Instructors by the end of the Add/Drop period (first week of classes), and must make prior arrangements with their Instructors to make up any work missed.

2.1. The list does NOT include academic field trips because these (including arrangements for travel) must not overlap with other classes.

3.0. Cases of prolonged absences caused by an emergency or a medical condition may require students to withdraw from some or all of their courses. Under such circumstances students should first consult their academic advisors.

*Note: No Instructor may penalize a student more than half a letter grade for each absence beyond the tolerated limit (e.g. from A- to B+).

Grade Point Average

A student's grade point average (GPA) is computed by multiplying the quality points achieved by the number of credits for each course. The result is then divided by the total number of credit hours taken. The Cumulative or Career Total Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the grade point average for all credit hours taken at the University and at approved study abroad programs. The GPA and CGPA are calculated by truncating after the second digit after the decimal point. Transfer credits have no effect on the CGPA at The American University of Rome.

Grades

Grades are posted on a secure area of the University's official website and are mailed to AUR degree students only upon written request. Grades are mailed to the various study abroad programs. Grades computed in the (GPA) reflect the following grade equivalents:

GRADE		GPA	
A	Excellent	4.00	94 – 100 points
A-		3.70	90 – 93.99 pts
B+	Very Good	3.30	87 – 89.99
B	Good	3.00	83 – 86.99
B-		2.70	80 – 82.99
C+		2.30	77 – 79.99
C	Satisfactory	2.00	73 – 76.99
C-	Less than Satisfactory	1.70	70 – 72.99
D	Poor	1.00	60 – 69.99
F	Failing	0.00	59.99 – 0
WU	Unofficial withdrawal counts as an F	0.00	
P	Applicable to development courses	0.00	
<i>Grades not computed into the grade point average are:</i>			
W	Withdrawal		
AUDIT (AU)	Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student		
I	Incomplete work must be completed within the ensuing semester. Failure to do so results in automatically converting the I grade to the default grade, which is then computed into the grade point average		
P	Pass grade is applicable to courses as indicated in the catalog.		
WIP	Work in progress		