POLS 4611 – Contemporary Foreign Policies
Monday/Thursday 2:00-3:20PM @JAMEEL C105
Professor Ezzedine Choukri FISHERE
ecfishere@aucegypt.edu
Office hours: Mondays and Thursdays 12H00 – 1H00 @HUSS 2015
Teaching Assistant: Mostafa Tharwat
mostafatharwat@aucegypt.edu

This course is an introduction to foreign policy analysis. It begins with an examination of the theoretical foundations and frameworks of foreign policy analysis. Then, it analyzes the foreign policy making of fourteen different states, including the United States, Russia, China, as well as European, Latin American, Asian and African states. In each of these cases, we look into the role of various actors involved in formulating foreign policy as well as the constraints and opportunities they face – internally and externally. We will examine how the interaction between these various actors, the definition they give to their constraining/enabling structures, contribute to defining the foreign policy behavior of the state in reference.

Textbooks

Evaluation
1. Reading and Participation 10%
   - Students’ participation refers to their taking part in class discussions based on reading the texts – not just expressing their general views.

2. Mid-Term I 30%
   - Covering the theoretical part only.
   - Students will take the test in class.

3. Mid Term II 30%
   - Covering the case studies.
   - Students will take the test in class.

4. Final Paper 30%
   - Each student will write a research paper about the Foreign policy of one of the studied countries regarding a major challenge it faces today. Students will discuss their choice of country/challenge with the instructor through the semester. The paper is due on 21 December. No extensions are possible. Late submissions are not accepted.
Format of submissions

- Submissions should be typed in Times New Roman font, size 12, spaced in 1.5, 1-inch margin each side, on regular A4 sheets.
- Students should write their name (as it appears in the Registrar), the name of the course and instructor and the date on the top of the first page.
- Work should be concise, reflect clarity of thinking, and follow a logical presentation.
- Name your files as LastName.4611.Exercise. Example: Smith.4611.Midterm2.

Expectations

- Students are required to read the texts thoroughly before coming to class. Not reading means a loss of the participation grade. Students will be quizzed on the readings.
- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class; late-comers will lose a third of the attendance grade. Students who are absent for more than six sessions, regardless of the reason, will receive an F grade in the course.
- The AUC has a zero-tolerance policy regarding academic integrity.
- Negotiation is a skill that students will not need in this course in any shape or form. Students who feel that they are subject of unfairness are encouraged to complain directly to the Political Science Department.
- Students are expected to observe general rules of civility (turn off your mobile phone before you come, listen to your colleagues and avoid interrupting them, don’t monopolize the discussion, be considerate of others, etc.).

Communication

- Questions regarding the readings’ availability, deadlines and other details related to the course should be addressed to the teaching assistant.
- The instructor is available to answer questions about the academic content of this course.
- All emails to the instructor should be copied to the teaching assistant.
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Readings

Introduction
Thursday, 3 September What FPA is about

Week 1
Monday, 7 September Foreign Policy Analysis
1. Pages 1-27 in:

Thursday, 10 September Foreign Policy Leaders
1. Pages 29-64 in:

Week 2
Monday, 14 September Foreign Policy Making, Culture and National Role
1. Pages 81-94 in:

Thursday, 17 September Foreign Policy Making and Domestic Constraints
2. Pages 95-128 in:

Week 3
Monday, 21 September Decision Units and Bureaucratic Politics
1. Pages 65-79 in:

   Eid Al Adha Break

Monday, 28 September Foreign Policy of Great Powers
1. Pages 129-152 in:
Week 4
Thursday, 1 October  The Other Powers
1. Pages 153-171 in:

Monday, 5 October Foreign Policy as a Nested Game
1. Pages 173-189 in:

Thursday, 8 October (Midterm I in class)

Week 5
Monday, 12 October American FP: the National Context
1. Chapter 2, Pages 25-57 in:
   Jentleson, Bruce W., *American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century*
   (New York: W.W. Norton, 2007) (Available in Library’s Reserve)

Thursday, 15 October American FP: a “New” Era?
1. Chapter 6, pages 258-303 in:
   Jentleson, Bruce W., *American Foreign Policy: The Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century*
   (New York: W.W. Norton, 2007) (Available in Library’s Reserve)

Week 6
Monday, 19 October China’s Foreign Policy: Basic Concepts

Thursday, 22 October China’s Peaceful Rise?

Week 7
Monday, 26 October German Foreign Policy

Thursday, 29 October French Foreign Policy
Week 8
Monday, 2 November  British Foreign Policy

Thursday, 5 November  the Origins of a European Foreign Policy

Week 9
Monday, 9 November  Russian Foreign Policymaking

Thursday, 12 November  Iran

Week 10
Monday, 16 November  Turkey
1. Ozkececi-Taner, Binnur. "Turkish Foreign Policy: Bridge, Buffer, and Barrier.", in: Beasley, Ryan K. Foreign Policy in Comparative Perspective, pp. 183-203.

Thursday, 19 November  Nigeria

Week 11
Monday, 23 November  Venezuela

Thursday, 26 November  Thanksgiving

Monday, 30 November  India
**Week 12**

**Thursday, 3 December**  
South Africa  

**Monday, 7 December**  
Brazil  

**Week 13**

**Thursday, 10 December**  
Japan  

**Monday, 14 December: Mid-Term II**

**Monday 21 December: Final Paper**