



Department of Political Science and International Relations

BA COURSE

POLS 204 – FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS (FPA)

Teaching Staff

Yrd. Doç. Dr. Oğuzhan Göksel
ogoksel@29mayis.edu.tr

University Regulations:

Attendance to **at least 70%** of all classes per term is **compulsory** as stated in your course handbooks and student manuals. Students should let me know in advance and as early as possible if there is any valid reason for absence. In case of illness or emergency, we will require proof in the form of an official document taken from the relevant authority. Those who do not fulfil the 70% attendance criteria **will not be allowed to take the final exam** and **they cannot pass the course**.

Course Description:

This course aims to provide a detailed introduction to the field of foreign policy analysis. Foreign policy can be defined as “purposive action with the view towards promoting the interests of a single political community or state”. The study of foreign policy is referred to as foreign policy analysis (FPA), and its focus is the intentions and actions of states aimed at the external world and the response of other actors to these actions. This course is not designed to give you detailed exposure to the changing foreign policies of any particular country, though of course you will have many opportunities to learn about the foreign policies of major, middle and small powers through the reading material. It is aimed at giving you the tools to analyse, interpret and, ultimately, understand the dynamics of foreign policy generally so that you might apply these to your study of the role of states in international affairs.

The course focuses on how states formulate and implement their foreign policies. Foreign Policy Analysis is a well-defined subfield within International Relations. Our orientation in this course is more theoretical and process-oriented than substantive or interpretive. We focus on policy inputs and the decision-making process rather than on policy outputs. An important assumption underlying this course is that the processes through which foreign policy is made have a considerable impact on the substantive content of policy.

We follow a levels-of-analysis framework to organize our survey of the theoretical literature on foreign policy. We examine rational state actor, bureaucratic/organizational, institutional, societal, and psychological models. We look at the

government decision-makers, organizations, political parties, private interests, social groups, and mass publics that have an impact on foreign policy. We analyse the various constraints within which each of these sets of actors must operate, the nature of their interactions with each other and with the society as a whole, and the processes and mechanisms through which they resolve their differences and formulate policy.

One important question underlying many of our discussions is the extent to which hypotheses and models of foreign policy analysis developed for the United States or other advanced industrial states can be generalized to other countries and cultures. In that sense this is a course in comparative foreign policy, and I encourage students to bring comparative perspectives to bear on class readings and discussions and in their papers. While our primary focus, following the literature, is on the behaviour of states, we might also speculate about the extent to which models of foreign policy might also be applied to non-state actors, including terrorist organizations.

This course aims to:

- introduce you to the central concepts in foreign policy analysis,
- develop your comparative skills of analysis of differing foreign policies in practice,
- promote critical engagement with the foreign policy analysis literature,
- and enable you to display this engagement by developing an ability to present, substantiate and defend complex arguments.

At the end of the course, and having completed the essential reading and activities, you should be able to:

- identify and assess the processes involved in foreign policy decision making
- discuss the contexts, pressures and constraints with which foreign policy makers have to deal
- conduct comparative analysis of foreign policy without losing sense of historical context.

Essential Textbook:

- ❖ Christopher Hill – *Foreign Policy in the Twenty-First Century*, 2nd Edition (London: Palgrave, 2016).

During our weekly classes, you will be prompted to read specific sections from this textbook. Please note that **it is compulsory to obtain this book**, yet **it is not sufficient by itself. You have to use the textbook alongside my lecture notes and prepare for the exams accordingly.** Second hand copies of the book are available on the Internet. You can buy either the first or second editions. All are acceptable. For any other information or questions regarding the book, please contact me through e-mail.

You can buy the books online and have them delivered to your address from the website of the bookshop given in the next page:

<http://www.pandora.com.tr/urun/foreign-policy-in-the-twenty-first-century-2e/473078>

Please rest assured that I will personally provide all the other required reading material when necessary during the term. **Check your email accounts during the academic term.**

Other Recommended Readings:

In addition to the main textbook of the course, I occasionally use three other renowned works of this field in the preparation of my lectures. The textbook and my lectures would prove sufficient for your exams. So, you are not obligated to obtain these extra books, but I would recommend them to you if you wish to support your learning experience. The first book in particular (Steve Smith et al.) is very helpful for your presentations (i.e. country case studies). If you cannot obtain these sources, please let me know and I will help.

- ❖ Steve Smith, Amelia Hadfield and Tim Dunne – *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases*, 2nd Edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012).

<http://www.pandora.com.tr/urun/foreign-policy-theories-actors-cases/273434>

- ❖ Valerie M. Hudson – *Foreign Policy Analysis: Classic and Contemporary Theory* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2007).

<http://www.pandora.com.tr/urun/foreign-policy-analysis-2e-classic-and-contemporary-theory/356741>

- ❖ Stephen G. Walker, Akan Malici, and Mark Schafer – *Rethinking Foreign Policy Analysis* (London: Routledge, 2011).

<http://www.pandora.com.tr/urun/rethinking-foreign-policy-analysis-states-leaders-and-the-microfoundations-of-behavioral-international-relations/273378>

Course Schedule and Weekly Readings:

Lecture 1 – Introduction: Course Overview & Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA)

Essential Reading:

- Hill (course textbook) – *Chapter 1*

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – *Introduction & Chapter 1*

Lecture 2 – The Politics of Foreign Policy

Essential Reading:

- Textbook – *Chapter 2*

Recommended Reading:

- Walker et al. – *Chapter 1*

Lecture 3 – Theories of Foreign Policy Analysis: Grand Narratives

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 5*
- Walker et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 14*

Lecture 4 – Theories of Foreign Policy Analysis: Alternative Narratives

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 5*
- Walker et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 14*

Lecture 5 – Theories of Foreign Policy Analysis: Small-Group Dynamics

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 5*
- Walker et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 14*

Lecture 6 – Theories of Foreign Policy Analysis: The Making of Individual Leaders

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 5*
- Walker et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 14*

Lecture 7 – The Political Economy of Foreign Policy-Making

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 5*
- Walker et al. – *Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 14*

STUDENT SEMINARS [Cases of Foreign Policy]

Lecture 8 – The Making of Turkish Foreign Policy towards the Middle East

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 13

***The Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962**

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 14

***The American Invasion of Iraq, 2003**

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 16

***China and the Tian'anmen Massacre, 1989**

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 17

***Brazil: A Rising Hegemon from South America**

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 19

***The Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Yom Kippur War**

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 21

***Energy Politics and Foreign Policy: Russia versus Europe**

Recommended Reading:

- Smith et al. – Chapter 23

Final Lecture – Conclusion & Revision

Assessment and Marking Criteria:

This course is assessed by means of four assignments:

- 1) Presentation (20%)
- 2) Essay (20%)
- 3) Mid-Term Exam (20%)
- 4) Final Exam (40%)

Grading Scale of the University

AA	4.00	90-100 %
BA	3.50	85-89 %
BB	3.00	80-84 %
CB	2.50	75-79 %
CC	2.00	70-74 %
DC	1.50	65-69 %
DD	1.00	60-64 %
FD	0.50	50-59 %
FF	0.00	0-49 %

Presentation (20%) and Research Essay (20%)

At the beginning of the academic term, I will inform you of the essay and presentation subjects. **Each will affect 20% of your overall grade for this course.**

While I will provide the reading materials for your presentations, I will not provide readings for your essays. Conducting a research by yourselves and finding helpful materials to write an academic essay is a skill we expect you to develop during your degree program and it is an invaluable part of the learning experience.

The essays should be no longer than the maximum of 1,500 words.

The acceptance of late submissions of the essay is the prerogative of the lecturer who will be marking the papers. In general, the deadline should be regarded as fixed, and there is no obligation to accept late work. If you think that you will be unable to submit the paper by the deadline, you should consult your lecturer as soon as possible.

However, requests must be made with sufficient notice. We will not accept any requests made on the day of deadline. Papers submitted late without prior approval will not be accepted.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR ESSAY INCLUDES YOUR NAME, THE COURSE NAME, DATE AND WORD COUNT.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO STAPLE YOUR PAPER BEFORE HANDING IT TO ME.

Mid-Term Exam (20%) and Final Exam (40%)

The Mid-Term Exam will be held in the week of 3 April - 8 April 2017.

The Final Exam will be held between 31 May and 13 June 2017.

You will be given sufficient preparation throughout the academic term to be ready for both exams. In our classes, I will provide the necessary information about my expectations from you in the exams in addition to their content, style and the required readings.

Guidance on Essays: Rules of Academic Writing and Conduct

Plagiarism (“*intihal*” in Turkish) occurs when you copy or summarise someone else’s work without clear and accurate acknowledgement of what you have borrowed and from where. When you submit work, whether an essay, project or dissertation, you are claiming to be its author. This means that it consists of your own ideas and is written in your own words, except where you specifically indicate other sources.

Students must not claim others’ (including other students’) work as their own. Doing so is a form of cheating. In addition, students must make every effort to avoid plagiarism arising out of defects in note-taking, attribution of sources and presentation of work. Ensure that all submitted work uses a proper referencing style. ***Ignorance of the requirements for proper referencing and attribution does not constitute a defence against an accusation of plagiarism.***

Any concerns about proper referencing must be brought to the attention of the relevant lecturer before work is submitted.

Allegations of plagiarism are dealt with initially by a panel convened by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme concerned, and conducted in accordance with Istanbul 29 Mayıs University regulations. In extreme cases, plagiarism may be classed as a dishonest practice. **Proven cases of plagiarism will form part of a student’s record.**