

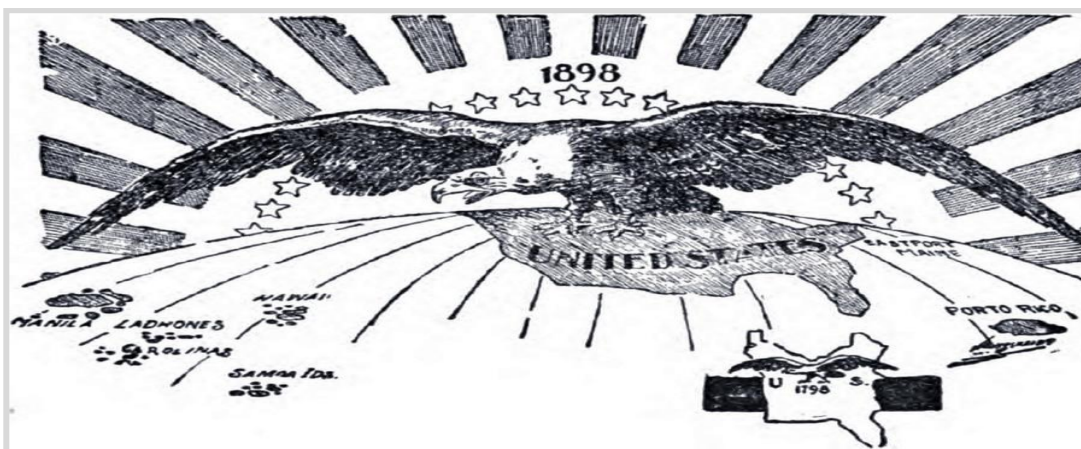
HH 3006 (Semester 1, 2017)

The United States and the Modern World

Lecture Venue/ Time: LT18, 1.30 – 3.30 pm

Dr. Ngoei Wen-Qing
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(Allow 24 hours turnaround)

Office: HSS-05-20
Hours: Wednesday, 2.00 to 4.00 pm
(Appointment by email preferred)



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores American foreign relations from when the United States was a small republic on the eastern seaboard of North America up to the present. The central theme of the course is how American international power arose, mutually constitutive with the U.S.'s territorial and commercial expansion and encounters with other nations, cultures and empires within and beyond the American continent. We will critique how U.S. international power has been shaped by seminal events such as the U.S.'s colonial project in the Philippines and the global wars of the twentieth century, how the U.S. competed and collaborated with other great powers, how ideas such as self-determination, communism, race and modernization affected the exercise of American power, and how smaller powers and non-state actors influenced the United States.

LEARNING OUTCOME

Students will have gained an understanding of some of the key themes in the study of American history, and obtain a comprehensive view of how the United States emerged as a world power towards the end of the 19th century. Students will also learn about the social changes which the US was experiencing during its momentous rise to prominence especially during the period between the two world wars and through the duration of the Cold War.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Books (available at the Campus Bookstore and the Library Outpost):

- Eugene Burdick and William J. Lederer, *The Ugly American* (New York: Norton, 1958).
- Kristin Hoganson, *Fighting for American Manhood: how gender politics provoked the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998).

Note: The Final Examination is open-book. You are best served if you have copies of these books for reference at your exam. Books in digital format will not be allowed in the examination hall.

Weekly Course Readings (links to journal articles, e-books in the library, etc) can be located via information in the reading schedule below and available via iNTU Learn.

- There is no textbook for this class. If you need a reference text, you may wish to refer to these works, which will be placed at the Library Outpost.
 - Walter LeFeber, *The American Age: United States Foreign Policy at home and abroad since 1750* (New York: Norton, 1989).
 - Dennis Merrill and Thomas Paterson, *Major Problems in American Foreign Relations* (Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2010).
 - Robert D. Schulzinger, *U.S. Diplomacy since 1900* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008).

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Participation (20% of overall):

Your participation in the discussions (in tutorials and lectures), as measured by your **regular and punctual attendance** and your **informed contributions**, will be worth 20% of your grade.

Note: You are expected to have completed your weekly assigned readings before Tuesday's lecture. Each unexcused absence from your tutorial will lower your participation grade by 10%.

Mid-term Essay (30% of overall):

You will write an essay of not more than 4,000 words (including notes). It is due on **29 September 2017, 5.00 p.m.** Essay questions and instructions will be distributed in advance.

Final Exam (50% of overall):

The final **open-book** examination occurs on **1 December 2017**. Students will be furnished with instructions on the conduct of the exam by the final week of teaching. Please note that **failure of the final exam constitutes failure of the class.**

LECTURE and READING SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introduction and "The Young Republic in the World"
Required: Jeremi Suri, <i>Liberty's Surest Guardian: American Nation-Building from the Founders to Obama</i> (New York: Free Press, 2011), Chapter 1 (35 pp). Optional: Jack P. Greene, "Paine, America, and the 'Modernization' of Political Consciousness" <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> (Spring 1978), 73-92. [http://www.jstor.org/stable/2149051] (21 pp)
Week 2: "American Colonialism"
Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frederick Jackson Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History", Address at the American Historical Association, 1893. (~9 pp) [http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/pds/gilded/empire/text1/turner.pdf] • Anthony F.C. Wallace, <i>The Long, Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians</i> (New York, Hill and Wang, 1993), Chapters 2 and 3. (42 pp)
Week 3: "American Manhood and Overseas Empire"
Kristin L. Hoganson, <i>Fighting for American Manhood</i> (Yale, 1998), Chapters 1 to 6. (141 pp) [E-book is available through NTU Library; book is also in the reserves at the Library Outpost. Note that the book will be used in the open-book exam so purchasing a copy is recommended.]
Week 4: "The Great War – Transformation and Business as Usual"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erez Manela, "Dawn of a New Era: The "Wilsonian Moment" in Colonial Contexts and the Transformation of World Order, 1917-1920" in Sebastian Conrad and Dominic Sachsenmaier, eds., <i>Competing Visions of World Order: Global Moments and Movements: 1880s-1930s</i> (New York:

<p>Palgrave MacMillan/ Springer, 2007), 121-149. (30 pp)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Herring, "Chapter 11: Involvement Without Commitment, 1921-1931," <i>From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations since 1776</i> (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011), 436-483. (48 pp)
Week 5: "Know Your Enemy—Japan"
<p>Required:</p> <p>John Hersey, "Hiroshima," <i>The New Yorker</i> (~54 pp) Online – [http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/1946/08/31/Hiroshima] Hardcopy – John Hersey, <i>Hiroshima</i> (Penguin Reprint, 2009) [available at Library Outpost].</p> <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Dower, "Chapter 3: War Hates and War Crimes," <i>War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War</i> (New York: Pantheon Books, 1986). (41 pp) • Robert D. Schulzinger, "Chapter 9: Politics of Coalition Warfare," <i>U.S. Diplomacy Since 1900</i>. (33 pp)
Week 6: Global War (and Love) in the Middle 20th Century
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petra Goedde, "From Villains to Victims: Fraternization and the Feminization of Germany, 1945-1947," <i>Diplomatic History</i> 23 (1), 1999, 1-20. [https://doi.org/10.1111/0145-2096.00149] (21 pp). • Monica Kim, "The Intelligence of Fools: Reading the U.S. Military Archive of the Korean War," <i>Positions</i> 23 (4), 2015, 695-728. [10.1215/10679847-3148382]. (34 pp).
Week 7: "Cold War Constructions and Confrontations"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campbell Craig and Fredrik Logevall, "Chapter 2: Confrontation," <i>America's Cold War: The Politics of Insecurity</i> (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2009), (42 pp). [Book is available at Library Outpost] • George Kennan, "The Long Telegram" 22 February 1946 [http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/coldwar/documents/episode-1/kennan.htm] (~19 pp) • Melani McAlister, "Chapter 1: Benevolent Supremacy: The Biblical Epic at the Dawn of the American Century, 1947-60," <i>Epic Encounters: Culture, Media and U.S. Interests in the Middle East since 1945</i> (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005). [Also available as e-book through NTU Library]. (41 pp) <p>Optional:</p> <p>George Kennan, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> (July 1947) [http://www.historyguide.org/europe/kennan.html].</p>
<p>NOTE:</p> <p>Mid-Term Essay due 29 September 2017, FRIDAY, 5.00 pm.</p>
Week 8: Recess
Week 9: "Race and the Cold War"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penny Von Eschen, "Who's the Real Ambassador?: Exploding Cold War Racial Ideology," in Christian Appy, ed., <i>Cold War Constructions: The Political Culture of United States Imperialism, 1945-1966</i> (Amherst, U Massachusetts Press, 2000), 110-131. (22 pp) • Mary Dudziak, "Brown as a Cold War Case," <i>Journal of American History</i> 91 (4), June 2004, 32-42 [https://doi.org/10.2307/3659611]. 11pp). • Matthew Jones, "A Segregated Asia?": Race, the Bandung Conference and Pan-Asianist Fears in American Thought and Policy, 1954-1955," <i>Diplomatic History</i> 29 (5), 2005, 841-868. [https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-7709.2005.00520.x] (29 pp).

<p>Optional: Carol Anderson, "International Conscience, the Cold War, and Apartheid: The NAACP's Alliance with the Reverend Michael Scott for South West Africa's Liberation, 1946-51," <i>Journal of World History</i> 19 (3), 2008, 297-325 [doi:10.1353/jwh.0.0018] (29 pp)</p>
Week 10: "Nation-Building—Brick and Mortar; Hearts and Minds; Blood and Guts"
<p>Eugene Burdick and William Lederer, <i>The Ugly American</i> (New York: Norton, 1958). (entire) [Book is also in the reserves at the Library Outpost. Note that the book will be used in the open-book exam so purchasing a copy is recommended.]</p>
Week 11: "The Indispensable Nation"
<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 72 (3), 1993, 22-49 [10.2307/20045621] (28 pp). • Samantha Power, "Bystanders to Genocide," <i>The Atlantic</i>, September 2001 [https://faser.essex.ac.uk/armedcon/story_id/BystandersToGenocideRawanda.pdf] or [https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2001/09/bystanders-to-genocide/304571/] (~34pp) <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naomi Paik, "Carceral Quarantine at Guantanamo: Legacies of U.S. Imprisonment of Haitian Refugees, 1991-4," <i>Radical History Review</i> 2013, (2013), 142-168 [10.1215/01636545-1724751] • Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?," <i>The National Interest</i> 16 (1989) [http://www.jstor.org/stable/24027184] • Chalmers Johnson, "Blowback World" in <i>Dismantling the Empire: America's Last Best Hope</i> (New York, Metropolitan Books, 2010), 11-28.
Week 12: "The New American Century"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Atwood Lawrence, "The Uses of Vietnam in the Age of Terrorism," <i>International Journal</i> 59 (4), 2004, 919-928 [https://doi.org/10.1177/002070200405900416] (10 pp) • Melani McAlister, "Conclusion: 9/11 and After: Snapshots on the Road to Empire," <i>Epic Encounters</i> [Also available as e-book] (42 pp) • Alfred McCoy, "Grandmaster of the Great Game: Obama's Geopolitical Strategy for Containing China," <i>TomDispatch</i>, September 2015 [http://www.tomdispatch.com/blog/176044/] (~12 pp)
Week 13: Review Session
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jeffrey Goldberg, "The Obama Doctrine," <i>The Atlantic</i> (April 2016) [https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2016/04/the-obama-doctrine/471525/] (~71 pp)
FINAL EXAMINATION, 1 December 2017 (A.M. session)