



INSTEP-WFU Cambridge

GEOPOLITICS IN THE 21st CENTURY

The course explains American geopolitics in the twenty first century in light of American History. This is very much an introductory course—of eleven lectures and seminars—that emphasises themes rather than specific events. The lectures cover the evolution of American geopolitics from 1660 to the present day. The seminars provide time to discuss a combination of texts and primary sources, including official documents and public treatises.

The course is conceptually structured around ‘grand strategy’ and ‘geopolitics’ in a way that will make it of interest to those who have a background in any period of the history of modern international relations. The aim is to teach students to think strategically about America’s role in the Western Hemisphere as well as the world.

Lesson 1: Overview of Geopolitics and American History

Primary Sources

Rubens, *The Four Continents* (1610).

Secondary Sources

Dodds, Klaus, *Geopolitics: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007).

Kagan, Robert, *Dangerous Nation* (New York: Knopf, 2006).

Lesson 2: Colonisation (1660-1714)

Primary Sources

Anonymous, *Mrs Elizabeth Freake and Baby Mary* (1674)

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Elizabeth_and_Mary_Freake.jpg.

Berkley, George, ‘Verses on the Prospect of Planting Arts and Learning in America’ (1726)

<https://www.bartleby.com/270/13/15.html>.

Secondary Sources

Bancroft, George, *History of the United States of America* (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1888), part 2, chapter 19, p. 602-613.

Black, Jeremy, *Trade, Empire and British Foreign Policy, 1689-1815* (London: Routledge, 2007), chapter 5, p. 107-120.

Trevelyan, G.M., ‘The Making of England and the Making of New England’, found in *London Calling* (London: Harper & Brothers, 1942).

Lesson 3: Preparation (1740-1763)

Primary Sources

West, Benjamin, *The Death of General Wolfe* (1770).

Treaty of Paris, Article VII (1763).

Secondary Sources

Robinson, Daniel. ‘Giving Peace to Europe: European Geopolitics, Colonial Political Culture, and the Hanoverian Monarchy in British North America, ca. 1740-63’, *William and Mary Quarterly*, 73:2 (2016).

Simms, Brendan, *Three Victories and a Defeat* (London: Penguin, 2007).

Lesson 4: Revolution (1765-1783)

Primary Sources

Peale, Charles Wilson, *Washington at the Battle of Princeton* (3 January 1777).

Burke, Edmund, *Speech on Conciliation with the American Colonies* (22 March 1775).

Declaration of Independence (1776).

Secondary Sources

Simms, Brendan, *Three Victories and a Defeat* (London: Penguin, 2007).

Furstenberg, Francois, *When the United States Spoke French* (New York: Penguin, 2014).

Lesson 5: Organisation & Consolidation (1784-1829)

Primary Sources

Stuart, Gilbert, *Washington* (1796).

Hamilton, Alexander, 'Federalist Nos 24 & 25' in *The Federalist with Letters of 'Brutus'* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003).

Monroe, James, Seventh Annual Message to Congress, (1823).

Secondary Sources

Sexton, Jay, *The Monroe Doctrine* (New York: Hill & Wang, 2011).

Hendrickson, D., *Union, Nation, or Empire* (Lawrence: University of Kansas, 2009), chapters 4 & 5.

Lesson 7: Unification (1854-1867)

Primary Sources

Sumner, Charles, 'The Republican Party; its Origin, Necessity & Permanence', a speech before the Young Men's Republican Union of New York, 11 July 1860.

Motley, John Lothrop, *Causes of the American Civil War* (New York: Appleton & Co, 1861).

Stephens, Alexander, 'Cornerstone Address', delivered at the Athenaeum in Savannah, Georgia (21 March 1861) <http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/cornerstone-speech/>.

Secondary Sources

McPherson, James M., "The Whole Family of Man": Lincoln and the Last Best Hope Abroad," in Robert E. May, *The Union, the Confederacy and the Atlantic Rim* (Lafayette, Ind., 1995).

Doyle, Don, *Cause of All Nations* (New York: Basic Books, 2015).

Lesson 8: Utopias and Superpowers (1917-1947)

Primary Sources

Woodrow Wilson, Address to the U.S. Senate, Jan. 22, 1917.

'The Atlantic Charter', (http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_16912.htm).

Kennan, George F., 'The Long Telegram'

(http://www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/study_collections/coldwar/documents/pdf/6-6.pdf).

Secondary Sources

Cull, Nicholas J., 'Selling Peace: The Origins, Promotion and Fate of the Anglo-American New Order during the Second World War', in *Diplomacy and Statecraft*, 7:1 (March 1996), pp. 1-28.

Reynolds, David, *From World War to Cold War: Churchill, Roosevelt and the International History of the 1940s* (Oxford, 2006).

Thompson, John A., 'Conceptions of national security and American entry into world war II', in *Diplomacy and statecraft*, 16 (2005), 671-697.

Lesson 9: The Triumph of Democratic Geopolitics (1986-1992)

Primary Sources

'Common sense and the common danger. Policy statement of the Committee on the present danger', in Charles Tyroler II (ed.), *Alerting America: the papers of the Committee on the present danger introduced by Max M. Kampelman* (Washington D.C., 1984).

"Kissinger Memorandums", GWU National Security Archives.

Bush, George H., and Scowcroft, Brent, *A World Transformed* (New York, 1998), chapter 6.

Secondary Sources

Gaddis, John Lewis, *Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of American National Security Policy during the Cold War*, revised and expanded edition (New York, 2005) Chapters 9 and 10.

Cox, Michael, and Hurst, Steven, "'His Finest Hour?'" George Bush and the Diplomacy of German Unification', in *Diplomacy and Statecraft*, 13/4 (December 2002), pp. 123-150.

Fischer, Beth A., "US Foreign Policy under Reagan and Bush," vol. III, pp. 267-88.

Lesson 10: The New World Order and the Global War on Terror (1993-2003)

Primary Sources

Bush, George W., *State of the Union Address* (2002), <https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2002/01/print/20020129-11.html>.

Other Sources

Fukuyama, Francis, 'The end of History?' in *The National Interest*, Summer 1989.

Cooper, Robert, *The Breaking of Nations* (London, 2004) Parts 1 and 3. Kagan, Robert, *Of Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order* (New York, 2003). Zakaria, Fareed, *Post-American World* (New York, 2008).

Lesson 11: The Geopolitics of Donald Trump

Primary Sources

Trump, Donald, *Interview with Oprah* (1988).

Trump, Donald, *Interview with Playboy* (1990).

Secondary Sources

Simms, Brendan and Laderman, Charlie, *Donald Trump, the Making of a Worldview* (London: Endeavor Press, 2017).