

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA GRAND STRATEGY IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

By Associate Professor  
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Year: 3<sup>rd</sup>

Semester: 5<sup>th</sup> (Winter)

Elective Module

Language: English

**Aim:** At the end of the course the student will be able to differentiate between the sporadic course of events in the sphere of international politics regarding the US Grand Strategy and the theoretical foundations that formulate a coherent and disciplined US decision making in the field of International Relations.

**Course Contents:** The course focuses on modern and contemporary foreign policy theory, aiming to present the main schools of thought of the American Foreign Policy and analyze their influence on the US Grand Strategy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The student will be familiarized with the theoretical aspects of the decision-making process that is taking place in the White House and in the Capitol Hill, examining the political and ideological foundations of the American moves in the great chess board of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Recommended Reading:**

- Spyridon N. Litsas, *US Foreign Policy in the Eastern Mediterranean: Power Politics and Ideology Under the Sun*, New York, NY: Springer, 2020 (forthcoming)
- Laura Neack, *The New Foreign Policy: US and Comparative Foreign Policy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Lanham, ML: Rowman and Littlefields, 2003
- Karl K. Schonberg, *Constructing 21 Century U.S. Foreign Policy: Identity, Ideology and America's World Role in a New Era*, New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009
- Kenneth Christie (Ed.), *United States Foreign Policy and National Identity in the Twenty-First Century*, London: 2008
- Henry Kissinger, *Does America need a Foreign Policy? Towards a Diplomacy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2001.

**Teaching Methods:** Lectures

**Assessment Methods:** 100% written essay of 3,500 words, plus weekly essays presented in the class.

## Course Schedule

- 1<sup>st</sup> week: Introduction to the course
- 2<sup>nd</sup> week: 4+1 Schools of Thought of the US Foreign Policy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> week: American Exceptionalism in U.S. Foreign Policy
- 4<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. Grand Strategy from the First Barbary War to the Cold War
- 5<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. and the era of multipolarity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 6<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. and Russia
- 7<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. and China
- 8<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. and the concept of Transatlanticism
- 9<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. and the European Union
- 10<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. in the Eastern Mediterranean
- 11<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. and the challenge of global radicalism
- 12<sup>th</sup> week: Domestic Elements and International Structure: Isolationism, Protectionism, International Volatility and the U.S. Grand Strategy
- 13<sup>th</sup> week: The U.S. Grand Strategy in International Relations Theory: Neo-Classical Realism, Idealism and Critical Approaches.