



Wintersemester 2015/16

Hauptseminar internationale und europäische Politik V

US Foreign Policy

United States (US) foreign policy since the end of World War II features many continuities but it also oscillates between isolationism and interventionism, on the one hand, and between unilateralism and multilateralism, on the other. In this seminar we intend to expose which factors influence US foreign policy. We will do so on the basis of established foreign policy theories and in dealing with concrete empirical cases from different issue areas. We will first acquaint ourselves with the institutional foundations of US foreign policy. Next, we will review neorealist, liberal and constructivist foreign policy theories and apply the three theories to the US invasion of Iraq in 2003. In the main part of the seminar we will discuss US foreign policy behavior in selected issue areas (trade, development, environment, human rights, security), again drawing on the insights gleaned from different foreign policy theories.

Credits: 8 ECTS
Date: Wednesday, 12:00 - 14:00 a.m.
Room: F21/03.02
Language: English

Language of instruction: English; discussions and presentations will be held in English unless all participants agree to change to German. Essays may be submitted in either English or German language.

Admission conditions: This is a Master-level course open to students of the MA program in Political Science as well as other Political Science programs (Hauptstudium Diplom, Wahlpflichtfach, Magister-Nebenfach). Other students are welcome if their knowledge of international politics so warrants.

Participants are expected to

- attend the seminar regularly and participate in seminar discussions
- read the compulsory literature
- act as a discussant and provide feedback to other students' presentations

To obtain a certificate participants have also to

- give a **presentation** of about 15 minutes
 - topic, research question and outline are to be discussed with me at least one week prior to the presentation
 - the presentation may include a short handout
 - the presentation includes a powerpoint presentation
- write an **essay** ('Hausarbeit') of about twenty pages (12 point font size, 1.5 space, 2cm margin) excluding title page, abstract, literature, and possible annexes
 - The long essay examines an aspect of the seminar in a theory-/concept-based way, preferably the subject of the presentation
 - topic, research question and outline are to be discussed with me at least three weeks before submission of the long essay is due
 - due 31 March 2016

The final mark is calculated as follows:

- 30% presentation
- 70% essay