Syllabus - US Foreign Relations to 1914 (Matray)

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HISTORY 450
U. S. Foreign Relations to 1914

James I. Matray
Fall 2014
California State University, Chico

REQUIRED TEXTS:


COURSE OBJECTIVE:

History 450 will attempt to provide the student with a basic understanding of the growth and development of American foreign relations from the colonial origins to 1914. It will analyze in detail specific incidents in early American diplomacy, emphasizing especially the complexity of causal relationships in explaining these events. In addition, the course will focus attention on those issues that have emerged as major sources of historical controversy in an effort to spark creative and imaginative thought. Finally, through the use of class discussion, History 450 will encourage the individual communication of personal opinions based upon an educated analysis of the facts.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR NON-HISTORY MAJOR UNDERGRADUATES:

1. Four Book Quizzes: There will be a short quiz on each required monograph.

2. Review: Each student will prepare a book review that will be not less than three and not more
than four typewritten (Courier 12 Point), double-spaced pages in length with a one-half final grade penalty for each portion of a page not meeting these limits. Choice of a book after REQUIRED consultation with instructor is required by 18 September or loss of 20% of final grade. BOOK REVIEWS THAT ARE NOT TYPEWRITTEN WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!! **DUE 20 NOVEMBER.**

3. Three Hour Examinations. Part one will require the student to answer one out of two essay questions in about fifty minutes. Part two will present seven short answers selected from the terms on the lecture outlines (also in RED on each PowerPoint presentation). Students must discuss five of these items in approximately thirty minutes. **USE OF SMALL GREENBOOK REQUIRED!**

**ASSIGNMENTS FOR HISTORY MAJORS AND GRADUATE STUDENTS:**

1. Same as #1 and #3 above.

2. Paper: Instead of a book review, each history major and graduate student will write a research paper of not less than ten or more than twelve typewritten, double-spaced pages (courier, 12 point) in length with a one-half final grade level penalty for each portion of a page not meeting these limits. Choice of a topic with instructor required by 18 September or loss of 20% on final grade.

3. Graduate students must make use of primary sources on their paper. They also must read at least two (2) books from the Blackboard reading list and submit a one-page, typewritten summary and critique of each selection. **THESE BOOKS MAY NOT COINCIDE WITH THE RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC!**

**GRADING:**

**Value Distribution:**

- Quizzes: 20% (5% each)
- Paper or Review: 20% (forfeited if not confirmed by 9-18-2014)
- Examinations: 50% (first two 15% each and final 20%)
- Class Discussion: 10%

**Borderline Grades:**

In the event that your final overall average is on the borderline, final determination will be based on the following considerations:

1) consistent improvement over the semester

2) classroom participation
No extra credit assignments will be accepted.

Punctuality:

You are expected to complete all assignments within the time allotted and take all examinations on the dates scheduled. Extensions and make-ups will be given only in the most dire emergencies and ONLY IF ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE!

Attendance:

You will be required to attend a minimum of three-fourths of the class meetings (22). In the event that you are unable to fulfill this requirement, you will receive a zero or no credit for 10% of your final overall grade. THE PENALTY WILL BE RUTHLESSLY ENFORCED!

CLASS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC or LECTURE</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Course Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Origins of American Diplomacy</td>
<td>Jones, xiii-xiv</td>
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<td>26: Diplomacy and the Revolution</td>
<td>Jones, 1-14</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>2: Diplomacy of Independence</td>
<td>Jones, 14-23</td>
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<td>4: Confederation and Constitution</td>
<td>Jones, 23-29</td>
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<td>9: BOOK QUIZ #1: Harper, American Machiavelli</td>
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<td>11: Federalist Diplomacy</td>
<td>Jones, 31-34</td>
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<td>16: Challenge to Neutrality</td>
<td>Jones, 34-44</td>
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<td>18: Escape From Entanglement</td>
<td>Jones, 44-55</td>
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<td>23: The Louisiana Purchase</td>
<td>Jones, 55-64</td>
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REVIEW FOR EXAMINATION

25: FIRST ESSAY EXAM  
BRING A SMALL GREENBOOK!!!

30: Diplomacy of John Quincy Adams  
Jones, 66-112

October
2: Making of the Monroe Doctrine  
Jones, 112-121
7: Jacksonian Diplomacy  
Jones, 123-129
9: To the Webster-Ashburton Treaty  
Jones, 129-148
14: BOOK QUIZ #2: Hietala, Manifest Design  
Jones, 149-178
16: “Young America”  
Jones, 179-187
21: Thrust Into the Pacific  
Jones, 187-193
23: “Slave Power” Diplomacy  
Jones, 194-203

REVIEW FOR EXAMINATION

28: SECOND ESSAY EXAM  
BRING A SMALL GREENBOOK!!!

30: Civil War Diplomacy  
Jones, 205-213

November
4: King Cotton Diplomacy  
Jones, 213-237
6: “No Transfer”  
Jones, 241-245
13: Across the Atlantic  
Jones, 245-247
18: BOOK QUIZ #3: Love, Race over Empire  
Jones, 249-254
20: Pugnacious Diplomacy  
Jones, 256-265

NOTE: PAPER OR BOOK REVIEW DUE!!!

December
2: BOOK QUIZ #4: Hoganson, Fighting for American Manhood
4: Open Door Diplomacy
   Jones, 267-288
   315-319

9: Big Stick Diplomacy
   Jones, 297-313

11: Dollar Diplomacy
    Jones, 319-324

REVIEW FOR EXAMINATION

18: FINAL EXAM (10-11:15 a.m.) BRING A SMALL GREENBOOK!!!