

Department of International Relations
BILKENT UNIVERSITY

IR 333-02: Foreign Policy Analysis
Spring 2010

Lectures: MON 10.40, 11.40
THU 8.40, 9.40

Classroom: MAZ03

Instructor

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Office Hours: Monday 9.40-10.30, Tuesday 9.40-10.30

Course Description and Objectives

Foreign policy analysis (FPA) is a sub-field of international relations discipline. This course introduces you to the studies of foreign policy analysis. It will cover the basic concepts, specific actors and theories of this field. We will focus on theories of FPA as well as many case studies.

The course will begin with a brief discussion of what is FPA and how FPA studies have evolved. Then we will focus on individual level analysis which locates individual decision-makers at the center of FPA. Then we will continue with state-level and institutional analyses. Towards the end of the semester, we will discuss system-level analysis and how these levels of analysis can be combined.

By the end of the course, you should be able to use different frameworks of analysis to explain different foreign-policy decisions, i.e. you will use your skills to explain why foreign policy decision *X* is preferred over *Y* in a given specific situation.

Readings and Required Textbooks

The assigned readings for each week are listed in the course schedule below. There is a reasonable amount of readings for each week. Therefore, please do keep up with the readings each week. This class will be far more rewarding for you if you do so. Reading the material every week will enable you to be more engaged while listening to lectures and contributing to discussions. Both your exam and participation grades will be positively affected by reading the material on a regular basis and prior to class.

There are two required textbooks. We will use the second textbook for classroom presentations.

1. Laura Neack. 2008. *The New Foreign Policy*. 2nd Ed. New Millenium Books
2. Steve Smith et al. 2008. *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases*. Oxford University Press

Course Requirements

1. Mid-Term Exam:	30%
2. Final Exam:	40%
3. Presentation	15%
4. Attendance and participation	15%

Presentation

Every Thursday, we will use the last hour of this course for you to make a case study presentation. Groups of two or three students will make an introduction to basic information on the country and its foreign policy stance in the world. Then, the case study from Smith's book will follow. This makes up 15 percent of your grade. A schedule about when you will present will be made and announced.

Attendance and Participation

Your progress in this class is highly dependent on your perfect attendance and participation. Participation means listening, reading the material before class, asking questions and answering them when asked. Participation constitutes a substantial part of your grade.

Make-up Policy

No make-up examinations will be granted without a university-approved excuse to miss a scheduled exam or quiz. In cases of severe illness or deaths in the family, I require proof (e.g. a signed doctor's note and an explanation on the doctor's letterhead describing why you cannot take the exam; obituaries; e-mails from your academic adviser explaining the specific situation). Make-up exams will be possible only if you contact me *in advance* by e-mail and provide me with the appropriate document. There will be no make-up assignments or tests for unexcused absences. Also, I usually require a research paper as a replacement of a make-up exam.

Office Hours

Please visit me during the following hours for questions regarding the class:
Monday 9.40-10.30, Tuesday 9.40-10.30

Classroom Etiquette

I expect you to observe all rules of proper classroom conduct to provide an appropriate environment conducive to learning by all:

1. Please turn off your cell phones and pagers. No calls, incoming or outgoing, or text messaging are allowed.

2. Please refrain from talking, eating or other disruptive activity during class;
3. Please come to class on time and do not leave early; if you must do so, let me know beforehand and please sit near the door so your exit will be less disruptive. Unpunctuality will result in a lower participation grade.
4. Please do not read newspapers or any other publications in the classroom. Also, please do not play games or surf on the web when you use a laptop computer.

Policy on Academic Honesty

The academic work of all students must comply with all policies that appear in the Bilkent Website: <http://www.provost.bilkent.edu.tr/procedures/AcademicHonesty.htm>

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to the following: cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession of examinations, unauthorized changing of grades. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting or collaboration, consult the course instructor.

Course Schedule and Readings

Week 1 Introduction to the course

Week 2 The New FP	Neack CH1	
Week 3 Rational Actors National Interest	Neack CH2	
Week 4 Rational Actors National Interest	Neack CH2	
Week 5 Leaders and Cognitive Capabilities	Neack CH3	Smith CH12
Week 6 Decision Units	Neack CH4	Smith CH14
Week 7 National Self-Image	Neack CH5	Smith CH15
Week 8 MIDTERM EXAM		Smith CH13
Week 9 Domestic Politics and FP	Neack CH6	Smith CH17
Week 10 Spring Recess		
Week 11 Public Opinion and Media	Neack CH7	Smith CH18
Week 12 Public Opinion and Media	Neack CH7	Smith CH19

Week 13 Great Powers, Smaller Powers

Week 14 Great Powers, Smaller Powers

Week 15 Conclusion

Neack CH8-9 Smith CH16

Neack CH8-9 Smith CH20

Neack CH10