| **Georgetown University, BLS** **BLHV 3100: The Role of the U.S. in the World****Spring, 2024** |
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**Credits:** 3

**Dates:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 - Saturday, May 11, 2024

**Location**: Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies (SCS) utilizes the Coursera platform for this course. As an online course, all course content will be provided and exchanged on the Coursera platform.

**Instructor:** William Schlickenmaier ([schlickw@georgetown.edu](mailto:schlickw@georgetown.edu))

**Teaching Assistant(s):** To be announced at the beginning of the course.

**Contact Information:** [bls-support@georgetown.edu](mailto:bls-support@georgetown.edu)

*Note: This mailbox is monitored on a frequent and ongoing basis. Please use this email address for all technology and course-related questions, and your inquiry will be directed to the appropriate person.*

**Office Hours:** Please reach out to your instructor to set up an appointment.

| **Course Description** |
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Whether or not we are all Americans, we all deal every day with the consequences of how the United States has interacted with and related to the rest of the world. This course focuses on American foreign policy and how it connects to both regional dynamics and transnational challenges, from the COVID-19 pandemic to climate change. It takes seriously the argument that every citizen of the world has a responsibility to understand and engage with how the US intersects with global dynamics, and in particular that every American resident has a responsibility to participate in political discourse over foreign policy questions. These matters are too important to leave to “the experts.” And by the time you finish this course, you’ll be on your way to becoming one yourself.

*Prerequisite or Co-requisite: None*

| **Course Learning Objectives** |
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Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify and evaluate the underlying reasons for and ethical implications of how, where, and why the US has pursued the policies it has pursued in the world.
2. Analyze and deconstruct the ways in which the US has shaped international relations, different transnational challenges, the possibilities and limits of international action, and a sense of the most pressing contemporary issues facing the globe.
3. Write and present information clearly for specific audiences in both short-form policy memoranda and oral presentationsю
4. Critically analyze the major social, political and economic developments driven by how the US engages with regional groupings around the worldю
5. Evaluate the relative merits of different elements of US national power and how they are employed in foreign policyю
6. Apply ethical principles to political deliberations over the merits of foreign policy questions.

| **Required Materials for Purchase** |
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**Textbooks:** None

All materials will be available to the students on Coursera platform.

| **Overview of Course Structure** |
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This course consists of 13 modules, excluding the orientation module. You should complete the orientation module prior to beginning Module 1.

Modules 1 and 2 are open for learning. The later course modules are locked and will open on specific dates as you move through the course so that you can work on them. The modules and activities must be done sequentially and certain activities and assignments must be completed by certain dates. See the [Weekly Schedule](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aj2vzxg2I_nuig9CMkaWZ92ErAf6n8dbIVut-pzukys/edit#heading=h.h9ajlzzdjnmr) for details.

| **Assignments** |
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Your course grade will be based on your completion of the following activities and assignments. You will read full details about each of them in the Coursera course. Each assignment category will be weighted according to the percentages below.

| **Activities** | **% of Grade** |
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| **Orienation Activities**Discussion: Introduce Yourself | **1%** |
| **Quizzes (13)** Quiz activities will give you the opportunity to deepen your knowledge on the topics introduced in each module by engaging in a series of thought-provoking questions and scenarios. This activity is designed to encourage critical thinking and the practical application of concepts learned. Through this interactive assessment, you will enhance your problem-solving skills and reinforce your comprehension of the material. | **12%** |
| **Discussions (13)** Discussion forums provide you with a means to have conversations with your fellow learners and are reflective by nature. They allow you to read others’ perspectives about the concepts you are learning and carefully consider a response, thus supporting critical thinking. | **12%** |
| **Policy Memorandum Assignments (10)** These written assignments facilitate research and reflection on some key topics. Writing reflectively allows you to think more deeply and consciously about your actions or behaviors surrounding a particular experience or key event. You will also sharpen your writing skills. You will work on the following deliverables throughout the course:   * Module 3: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Thesis * Module 4: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Thesis * Module 5: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Outline * Module 6: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft * Module 7: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft * Module 8: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft * Module 9: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft * Module 10: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Final Draft * Module 11: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Final Draft * Module 12: Policy Memorandum Assignment - Final Draft | **45%** |
| **Oral Presentation**  This cumulative assignment allows you to put together everything you have learned in this class and make a compelling argument about the future of international relations. In doing so, you will synthesize concepts and data from across the course and use the analytic development framework to make a compelling, succinct argument to enhance your oral communications skills. You will work on the following deliverables throughout the course:   * Module 10: Oral Presentation Assignment - Thesis * Module 11: Oral Presentation Assignment - Outline * Module 12: Oral Presentation Assignment - Talking Points * Module 13: Final Oral Presentation | **30%** |
| **Live Sessions (5)**  Throughout this course, we will host a total of five (5) live Zoom sessions, designed to enhance your learning experience and provide interactive opportunities for engagement with the instructor and fellow students. Attendance for these sessions is optional but highly encouraged.   * Mod 1: Preview of Policy Memorandum Assignments * Mod 5: Debrief of Policy Memorandum Assignment - Thesis/Outline * Mod 8: Preview of the Policy Memorandum Final Assignment * Mod 9: Preview of Oral Assignments * Mod 12: Preview of the Final Oral Presentation |  |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** |

#### **Submission Policy**

Submit all assignments to the Coursera course site. **Assignments submitted through email are not acceptable** and will be considered missing/and or late. Please also retain a personal copy of all assignments submitted until the end of this course is complete and you’ve received your final grade.

#### **Late Work Policy**

Students are expected to submit their assignments by the time on the date indicated on Coursera and the syllabus. Please contact the instructor at least 3 business days in advance if you know that you are going to be late or miss an assignment due date. The instructor will review late submission requests and circumstances on a case-by-case basis and will make a determination if an extension is warranted. Prior notice will provide time for discussing and identifying an alternative due date (if the extension is warranted). If the extension is granted, the instructor can deduct up to 10% of the grade of the assignments submitted late and limit the extension to a maximum of 7 days. If an assignment that has been given an extension is not handed in by the time the allotted extension time has elapsed, it will receive a zero.

**Statement on AI Use**

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material. Failure to do so constitutes a violation of academic integrity. Instances of suspected plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will be dealt with under the Georgetown Honor Code.

Additionally, students should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise unreliable. Students should be aware that the misuse of AI may also stifle independent thinking and creativity, as well as limit their capacity to learn independently in this course. Please engage with these resources responsibly, and with integrity.

#### **Instructor Feedback/Turnaround**

If you have a concern and send me a message, you can expect a response to your email within 3 business days. Please allow 4-7 business days for assessment submission feedback.

| **Grading** |
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Each type of assignment has a detailed grading rubric that you will reference as you complete your assignments. I will grade all of your work using these rubrics.

A: 92.5% to 100%

A-: 89.5% to 92.4%

B+: 86.5% to 89.4%

B: 82.5% to 86.4%

B-: 79.5% to 82.4%

C+: 76.5% to 79.4%

C: 72.5% to 76.4%

C-: 69.5% to 72.4%

D+: 66.5% to 69.4%

D: 62.5% to 66.4%

F: 62.4% and below

| **Time Commitment** |
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Online courses meet the same academic standards as on-campus courses. Each week is equal to the same level of participation, commitment, and academic rigor as a face-to-face class. For a 15-week, 3-credit course, you should allocate *7-10 hours per week*.

| Weekly Schedule |
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All assignments are due by the Sunday of the week of the module at 11:59 PM US Eastern Time, unless otherwise stated. **Initial postings for all discussions are due by Thursday 11:59 PM US Eastern Time.**

| Date | Module | Assignments Due |
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| **Week 1**  **01/10-01/14**  **Live Session #1**  **Thu, January 11**  **3:00-3:45 PM ET** | **Module 1: Course Overview**  **Live Session #1:** Preview of Policy Memorandum Assignments | 1. Introduction Discussion - Get to Know Your Fellow Learners 2. Read the Syllabus 3. Read and watch about Analytic Development Process |
| **Week 2**  **01/15-01/21** | **Module 1: The National Interest** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - The National Interest 3. Discussion - The National Interest |
| **Week 3**  **01/22-01/28** | **Module 2: Statecraft and Capabilities** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - Statecraft 3. Discussion - Statecraft and Capabilities |
| **Week 4**  **01/29-02/04** | **Module 3: The Politics of the US in the World** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - The Politics of the US in the World 3. Discussion - Politics of the US in the World 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Thesis |
| **Week 5**  **02/05-02/11** | **Module 4: The US in the Western Hemisphere** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - The US in the Western Hemisphere 3. Discussion - Western Hemisphere 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Thesis |
| **Week 6**  **02/12-02/18**  **Live Session #2**  **Thu, February 15**  **3:00-3:45 PM ET** | **Module 5: The Transatlantic Relationship**  **Live Session #2:** Debrief of Policy Memorandum Assignment - Thesis/Outline | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - The Transatlantic Relationship 3. Discussion - Europe and Eurasia 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Outline |
| **Week 7**  **02/19-02/25** | **Module 6: The US and Africa** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - The US and Africa 3. Discussion - Africa 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft |
| **Week 8**  **02/26-03/01** | **Module 7: The Middle East** | Assignments due **Monday, March 11.**   1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - The Middle East 3. Discussion - Middle East 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft |
| **Spring Break**  **Saturday, March 2 – Sunday, March 10** | | |
| **Week 9**  **03/11-03/17**  **Live Session #3:**  **Thu, March 14**  **3:00-3:45 PM ET** | **Module 8: South and Central Asia**  **Live Session #3:** Preview of the Policy Memorandum Final Assignment | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - South and Central Asia 3. Discussion - South and Central Asia 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft |
| **Week 10**  **03/18-03/24**  **Live Session #4:**  **Thu, March 21**  **3:00-3:45 PM** | **Module 9: Asia and the Rise of China**  **Live Session #4:** Preview of Oral Assignments | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - Asia and the Rise of China 3. Discussion - The Rise of China 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Initial Draft |
| **Week 11**  **03/25-03/27** | **Module 10: COVID and Global Health Policy** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz -Global Health 3. Discussion - Global Health |
| **Easter Break**  **Thursday, March 28 - Monday, April 1** | | |
| **Week 12**  **04/02-04/07** | **Module 10: COVID and Global Health Policy (continued)** | 1. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Final Draft 2. Oral Presentation Assignment - Thesis |
| **Week 13**  **04/08-04/14** | **Module 11: Climate Change Policy** | 1. Reading and Watching 2. Quiz - Climate Change 3. Discussion - Climate Change 4. Policy Memorandum Assignment - Final Draft 5. Oral Presentation Assignment - Outline |
| **Week 14**  **04/15-04/21**  **Live Session #5:**  **Thu, April 18 3:00-3:45 PM ET** | **Module 12: (Dis)Information and Cyber Policy**  **Live Session #5:**  Preview of the Final Oral Presentation | * Reading and Watching * Quiz - Disinformation * Discussion - Disinformation * Policy Memorandum Assignment - Final Draft * Oral Presentation Assignment - Talking Points |
| **Week 15**  **04/22-04/28** | **Module 13: Populism and the Trump Experience in Foreign Policy** | * Reading and Watching * Quiz - The Trump Experience * Discussion - The Trump Experience |
| **Week 16**  **04/29-05/05** | **Module 13: Populism and the Trump Experience in Foreign Policy (continued)** | * Final Oral Presentation 🎬 |

| **Course Policies** |
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The course will follow SCS Course Policies in the following areas:

Attendance Policy

Citation Policy

Communication Policies

The Honor Pledge

Netiquette And Classroom Guidelines

Incomplete and Withdrawal Policies

Accommodation Policy

Technical Requirements

Student Support and Help

You can review these policies and other student resources in the Orientation Course.