

US Power and International Security

Module Code:	PES6005-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area:	Peace Studies
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 6
Module Leader:	Professor Robert Cooper

Additional Tutors:

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	11
Tutorials	11
Directed Study	178

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)

Module Aims

To introduce you to competing frameworks for understanding and explaining US national security strategy and the exercise of US power in the contemporary international security environment. To provide you with an understanding of the core strategic security issues at the heart of the US national security discourse, in particular the post-9/11 nexus of 'rogue' states, international terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

Outline Syllabus

The module will begin by introducing the concepts of power, security and hegemony in the context of US national security since the end of the Cold War. It will explore competing frameworks for analysing and understanding policy under the three post-Cold War presidencies of George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. This will examine the 'grand strategies' of political realism, liberal internationalism and primacy/neo-conservatism and the relationship between US values and national interests. The second half of the module will explore the application of these frameworks to a range of strategic security challenges, including the post-9/11 nexus of 'rogue' states, international terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and US relations with major powers and critiques of the exercise of US power in the contemporary international security environment. The module will end with a look at the Obama administration's national security strategy and explore themes of continuity and change with its post-Cold War predecessors.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1
 - a) critically evaluate and compare national security strategies of the Bush Snr, Clinton, Bush Jnr and Obama administrations;
 - b) identify the core concepts underpinning US national security strategies, explain contested concepts of hegemony and security, and critically apply them to national security strategies through examples;
 - c) identify post-Cold War trends in US national security relations with Russia and China and critically assess those trends through examples;
 - d) outline the emergence of a 'rogue' state-WMD-terrorism nexus in US post-Cold War national security threat perceptions.
- 2
 - a) evaluate the debates, issues and concepts described by international security studies, foreign policy analysis, international regimes;
 - b) carry out independent library-based and internet-based research, assess an appropriate range and balance of literature for assessment purposes and be able to clearly and concisely communicate policy challenges and competing viewpoints.
- 3
 - a) conduct advanced library research;
 - b) work independently using advanced academic analysis skills;
 - c) demonstrate experience in self-managed and organised individual and collaborative academic enquiry and communication of research.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Teaching will be delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars and group or class discussion, combined with directed reading and study. This will support and guide learning through participation, discussion, reading and research and preparation of an individual essay, to achieve the module's intended learning outcomes. Feedback will be provided during the course of the module, including essay outlines and written feedback on the assessed essay. Summative assessment is through an individual essay, which enables assessment of the learning outcomes in relation to research, analysis and written essay preparation on a specific question directly related to the key aims and themes of the module. More specifically, the written essay will be used to assess learning outcomes, specifically LO1 and LO2, relating to development of advanced knowledge, understanding and subject specific skills. The research, preparation and analysis in this essay is used to

assess LO3a and LO3b.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Coursework	One essay of 3000 words	0 hours	100%	Yes

Legacy Code (if applicable)

SP-6008D

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).