

POLI 3004 AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY SINCE 1945

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 100985

Coordinator James Trapani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James Trapani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James%20Trapani/))

Description This subject will analyse both the major international issues and crises which America confronted after 1945 and how successive American presidents and their policy makers responded to these problems

School Humanities & Comm Arts

Discipline Political Science

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 3 subject

Equivalent Subjects LGYB 4964 - American Foreign Policy LGYA 0954 - American Foreign Policy Since 1945

Restrictions

Successful completion of 60 credit points of study in currently enrolled program.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate skills in oral expression developed by discussing and debating key issues, episodes and themes related to American foreign policy since 1945
2. Develop and expound an argument in written form
3. Conduct research and demonstrate a depth of knowledge and analysis of particular themes, issues or aspects of American foreign policy from 1945
4. Discuss and critically analyse primary texts and other literature related to the subject
5. Explain and evaluate the themes and issues examined in American foreign policy since 1945
6. Demonstrate a familiarity with a range of theoretical approaches to explorations of American foreign policy
7. Understand and interpret the crucial importance of the Presidency in making US foreign policy

Subject Content

The Presidency and American Foreign Policy
 The Truman Doctrine
 The Marshall Plan
 NATO
 The Occupation of Japan
 The Korean War
 Eisenhower, Dulles and American hegemony
 Kennedy's New Frontier
 The Cuban Missile Crisis
 Nixon and the end of the Vietnam War
 Sino-US rapprochement
 Israel, Oil and Real Politik

Reagan and the Evil Empire
 Bush and the New World Order
 Clinton, Human Rights, Democracy, World Markets and Dirty Little Wars

The US and the United Nations
 George W. Bush - new departures and new problems

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Essay	2,000 words	40	N	Individual	N
Essay	1000 words	20	N	Individual	N
Short Answer	72 hour period to submit short essay responses to Turnitin	40	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

- Jerald A. Combs, The History of American Foreign Policy from 1895, Routledge, 5th edition, 2024 etext ISBN : 1-003-86243-8

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Bankstown City

On-site

Subject Contact James Trapani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James Trapani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James%20Trapani/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=POLI3004_25-AUT_BK_1#subjects)

Penrith (Kingswood)

On-site

Subject Contact James Trapani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James Trapani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James%20Trapani/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=POLI3004_25-AUT_KW_1#subjects)

Online

Online

Subject Contact James Trapani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James Trapani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James%20Trapani/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=POLI3004_25-AUT_ON_2#subjects)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

Subject Contact James Trapani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James Trapani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/James%20Trapani/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=POLI3004_25-AUT_PS_1#subjects)