

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTFC.

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: International Relations

FHEQ Level: 5

Module Title: US Grand Strategy

Module Code: INR 5400

Module Leader: Dr Michael F. Keating

Student Engagement Hours: **120**

Lectures: 22.5

Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5

Independent / Guided Learning : 75

Semester: FALL and/or SPRING and/or SUMMER

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Module/Course Description:

This course examines the major issues that underlie the development of United States' foreign policy. The course considers the theoretical and actual implementation of foreign policy, firstly by examining the constitutionally mandated practitioners of such policy and secondly by exploring the execution of policy in a series of case studies covering the latter half of the Twentieth Century and early Twenty-First Century. Individuals, structures and theories are examined and explained in a course designed to convey the complexities that contribute to the formulation of U.S. Grand Strategy.

Pre-requisites: INR 4100

Aims and Objectives:

- To provide an understanding of U.S. Grand Strategy and foreign policy principles in a theoretically and historically informed way.
- To explain the social, cultural, economic and political pressures that drives the implementation and execution of U.S. Grand Strategy.
- To address the pillars of post-1940 US policy
- To explain the importance of structures and government departments in the formulation of policy.

- To examine the role played by key individuals in the history of U.S. foreign policy and the development of Grand Strategy.
- To apply the theoretical understanding to a series of case studies to explain how theory does or does not drive policy.

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this module, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

5A(i); 5B(i); 5B(ii); 5C(i); 5C(ii); 5C(iii); 5D(i); 5D(ii); 5D(iii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.

- Demonstrates a detailed understanding of theoretical conceptions of the power and influence of the USA in the international system
- Demonstrates a detailed understanding of the formal and informal institutions through which the US exercises power and influence in the international system
- Demonstrates a critical and theoretical engagement with core problems and issues in the study of US Grand Strategy
- Completes assigned work with a degree of autonomy, clarity, technical competence, capacity for self-evaluation and critical thinking appropriate for a 5000-level course
- Demonstrates the necessary IT skills, and the ability to adapt writing and presentation skills to different contexts, audiences and degrees of complexity, to produce well-developed work that will translate into the workplace

Indicative Content:

- The History of U.S. Grand Strategy
- A structural analysis of US foreign policy
- The role of individuals in the development of US Grand Strategy
- The developing role of the US on the world stage
- Key junctures in US foreign policy

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms, approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar-type activities, including group work, sub-group activities, classroom discussion, and the showing of documentaries. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of an interactive and participatory learning program. Audio-visual aids, study materials and electronic learning resources will be used as appropriate.

Lectures provide a framework for the course, and are designed to ensure students have an overview of main issues and concerns on a particular topic, receive clarification on the major

