

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **GOVT 425**

#### **AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A course on U.S. foreign policy since 1945. Emphasis is not on a detailed examination of events but rather on the practical use of history for public policy-making and management.

#### **RATIONALE**

As the world's leading superpower, America bears the responsibility for leadership in the modern world. The first listed aim of Liberty University's mission speaks of the importance of giving students an understanding of international events. This course seeks to explain how America has exercised its international political role in recent decades and the challenges it faces in doing so in the future.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office
- E. Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Current ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.  
<https://www.liberty.edu/academics/casas/academicsuccess/index.cfm?PID=11954>

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Evaluate the nature and purpose of international politics as impacted by the history of American foreign relations.
- B. Distinguish among significant persons, ideas, events, issues, and trends in American foreign relations.

- C. Compare international politics and American foreign relations.
- D. Defend biblical Christian principles with respect to biblical reformation of international politics and American foreign relations.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–500 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge with at least 3 citations. In addition to the thread, the student will reply to the threads of at least 2 classmates. Each reply must be 200–250 words. Current Turabian format must be used. All threads will also be submitted through a SafeAssign link in Blackboard.

- D. Essays (3)

For each essay, the student will write a 3–5-page research-based paper in current Turabian format that focuses on topics that are relevant to the course content. Each essay must include 5–7 citations in addition to the course textbook and the Bible. Each essay will be submitted through a SafeAssign link in Blackboard.

- E. Midterm Essays

The student will write 2 essays on separate topics, submitted as 1 assignment. For each essay, the student will write a 2–3-page research-based paper in current Turabian format. Each essay must include 5–7 references in addition to the course textbook and the Bible. This assignment will be submitted through a SafeAssign link in Blackboard.

- F. Research Paper

The student will write a 5–7-page paper in current Turabian format that focuses on a topic related to current events in American foreign policy. The topic must be pre-approved by the instructor via email. The paper must include 7–10 references in addition to the course textbook and the Bible. This assignment will be submitted through a SafeAssign link in Blackboard.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 50 pts ea)	150
Essays (3 at 150 pts ea)	450
Midterm Essays	200
Research Paper	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

**B. Scale**

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

**D. Plagiarism and other Academic Misconduct**

All academic misconduct, including but not limited to all forms of plagiarism, is strictly prohibited. See the [Graduate Catalog](#) for specific definitions, penalties, and processes for reporting.

**E. Disability Assistance**

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

***COURSE SCHEDULE***

**GOVT 425**

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	13 articles 5 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 50
<b>2</b>	4 articles 4 presentations	Essay 1	150
<b>3</b>	3 articles 4 presentations	DB Forum 2	50
<b>4</b>	4 articles 3 presentations	Midterm Essays	200
<b>5</b>	3 articles 2 presentations 3 websites	Essay 2	150
<b>6</b>	7 articles 4 presentations	DB Forum 3	50
<b>7</b>	4 articles 3 presentations	Essay 3	150
<b>8</b>	5 articles 1 presentation	Research Paper	200
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.