History 333M (39570)
US Foreign Relations, 1914 - Present
Spring 2011. W 3-6. WCH 1.120
H. W. Brands: GAR 3.306;
hwbrands@mail.utexas.edu; W 2-3
Teaching assistants ***

Topic and themes: The course will cover
the history of American foreign relations,
with an emphasis on the twentieth
century. It will focus on two questions:
How have Americans defined, and
redefined, their national interests? Why
has a nation that professes to love peace
gone so often to war?

Prerequisites: None

Required books
0805069550
Melvyn P. Leffler. The Specter of
Communism. 0809015749
Mark Atwood Lawrence. The Vietnam War.
0199753938
Bob Woodward. The Commanders.
0743234758
Andrew J. Bacevich. The Limits of Power.
0805088156

Required documents: On Blackboard

Supplementary book (not required)
Robert D. Schulzinger, U.S. Diplomacy
since 1900

Papers: Two 1000-word essays
answering the two basic questions of the
course. Students will be expected to
integrate lectures, discussions, and
readings. A draft of either paper will be
due on November 3. The final versions of
both papers will be due on December 5.
Late papers will incur a penalty of 10
points per paper per day. 40 points each

Document summaries: Four 250-word
summaries of four documents for the
course. Students will identify the main
points and set in context. 5 points each

Attendance: Regular attendance is
expected. Attendance per se will not be
part of the semester grade, but students
who perform well in class will receive the
benefit of grading doubt.

Academic accommodations: The
University of Texas at Austin provides
upon request appropriate academic
accommodations for qualified students
with disabilities. For more information
contact the Office of the Dean of Students
at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

Schedule
J 19. Roosevelt Corollary
J 26. Wilson’s Fourteen Points (also
Brands book)
F 2. Kellogg-Briand Treaty
F 9. Atlantic Charter
F 16. Yalta communiqué (and Leffler)
F 23. Kennan’s X article
M 2. Doolittle report
M 9. Gulf of Tonkin resolution (and
Lawrence)
M 23. Principles of détente. 1 draft paper
and 2 document summaries due
M 30. Iran-Contra report
order” (and Woodward)
A 13. Huntington, “Clash of Civilizations?”
A 20. George W. Bush’s National Security
Strategy (and Bacevich)
A 27. Obama on Afghanistan
M. 4. 2 final papers and 2 more
document summaries due