History 333M (39305)
US Foreign Relations, 1914 - Present
Spring 2012. M 3-6. GAR 0.102
H. W. Brands: GAR 3.306
hwbrands@mail.utexas.edu
Off hrs: M 2-3 and by appt
TAs: James Hudson, John Vurpillat

Topic and theme: The course will cover the history of American foreign relations from the early twentieth century to the present. It will focus on a single question: Why has America gone to war?

Prerequisites: None

Required books
Woodrow Wilson, by H. W. Brands
The Specter of Communism, by Melvyn P. Leffler
The Vietnam War, by Mark Atwood Lawrence
The Commanders, by Bob Woodward
The Limits of Power, by Andrew J. Bacevich

Required documents: On Blackboard

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

Quizzes: Five short quizzes on the books. 5 points each

Document summaries: Five 250-word summaries of five documents, identifying the main points and setting in historical context. 5 points each

Paper: A 1000-word essay answering the question "Why has America gone to war?" 50 points

Schedule
Jan 23. Roosevelt Corollary
Jan 30. Wilson’s Fourteen Points (Woodrow Wilson)
Feb 6. Kellogg-Briand Treaty
Feb 13. Atlantic Charter. First document summary due
Feb 20. Yalta communiqué (The Specter of Communism)
Feb 27. Kennan’s X article
Mar 5. Doolittle report
Mar 19. Gulf of Tonkin resolution (The Vietnam War)
Apr 2. Iran-Contra report
Apr 9. George H. W. Bush’s “new world order” (The Commanders)
Apr 16. Huntington, “Clash of Civilizations?”
Apr 30. Obama on Afghanistan. Paper due

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.