Course Number: T C 358
Title: Perspectives on U.S. Foreign Policy

Instructor: Admiral Bobby Inman, Professor, LBJ School of Public Affairs

Description:
This course examines U.S. foreign policy, its formulation and execution, from the early days of the republic to the present. We will concentrate on how the different instruments of national power were considered in formulating foreign policy, and how they were leveraged in its execution.

In the beginning of the course, we will examine the historical underpinnings of US foreign policy as it evolved through history, from the colonial period and the early desire to avoid foreign entanglements, to a position of primacy after World War II.

We will then examine the post-World War II era in detail with emphasis on the “pillars” of foreign policy; national security, economic interests, the application of diplomacy and intelligence in pursuit of national interests, and how they became the basis for foreign policy under successive administrations.

We will pay particular attention to the contemporary foreign policy environment through consideration of contemporary case studies, and address the question “what is the appropriate role of the US in the world going forward?” This course will place emphasis on individual and group research of policy interests, choices, and decision-making.

Texts/Readings:
Stevenson, Charles A. (2013) America’s Foreign Policy Toolkit
- Additional readings from sources such as Foreign Affairs, The Atlantic, The Washington Quarterly, The US Council on Foreign Relations, Department of Defense reports, The Brookings Institution, etc…to be determined and made available on Canvas

Assignments:
Group Research Project: 30%
Individual Research Paper: 20%
Short papers/memoranda: 10%
Attendance and meaningful participation: 20%
Mid term exam: 20%

Biography: Adm. Bobby R. Inman became an adjunct professor at The University of Texas at Austin in 1987. He was appointed a tenured professor holding the Lyndon B. Johnson Centennial Chair in National Policy in August 2001. He served as interim dean of the LBJ School of Public Affairs in 2005 and again from January 2009 to March 2010. Inman served in the U.S. Navy from November 1951 to July 1982, retiring with the permanent rank of admiral. On active duty he served as director of the National Security Agency and as deputy director of Central Intelligence. After retirement from the Navy, he was chairman and CEO of the Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corporation (MCC) in Austin, Texas, for four years and chairman, president and chief executive officer of Westmark Systems Inc., a privately owned electronics industry holding company, for three years. Inman also served as chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas from 1987 through 1990. Adm. Inman’s primary business activity since 1990 has been investing in startup technology companies, serving as managing director.
of Gefinor Ventures and Limestone Capital Advisors. He serves as a trustee of the American Assembly and the California Institute of Technology. He is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.