Code: DE5019

Title: The U.S.A Grand Strategy in the 21st Century

Type: Optional

Year of Study: 3rd

Semester: Winter

ECTS Credits: 5

Professor Spyridon N. Litsas, litsas@uom.edu.gr, office 423, Building KZ

Learning outcomes: The student will be familiarized with all the four schools of thought of the U.S Foreign Policy, will study the institutional operation of the U.S. Foreign Policy through the cooperation between the State Department and the Capitol Hill, the rights and liberties of the White House in implementing a foreign policy decision – making, while the contemporary commitments of the U.S. around the globe will also be thoroughly discussed. With the conclusion of the course, the student will be able to comprehend the fundamentals of the American Foreign Policy in the 21st century.

Mode of delivery: Face to Face / during the COVID-19 pandemic through e-lectures

Prerequisites & co-requisites: A coherent knowledge of International Relations Theory will be an asset.

Course Content:

* 1st week: Introduction to the course
* 2nd week: 4+1 Schools of Thought of the US Foreign Policy
* 3rd week: American Exceptionalism in U.S. Foreign Policy
* 4th week: The U.S. Grand Strategy from the First Barbary War to the Cold War
* 5th week: The U.S. and the era of multipolarity in the 21st century
* 6th week: The U.S. and Russia
* 7th week: The U.S. and China
* 8th week: The U.S. and the concept of Trans-Atlanticism
* 9th week: The U.S. and the European Union
* 10th week: The U.S. in the Eastern Mediterranean
* 11th week: The U.S. and the challenge of global radicalism
* 12th week: Domestic Elements and International Structure: Isolationism, Protectionism, International Volatility and the U.S. Grand Strategy
* 13th week: The U.S. Grand Strategy in International Relations Theory: Neo-Classical Realism, Idealism and Critical Approaches.

Recommended Reading:

* Spyridon N. Litsas, US Foreign Policy in the Eastern Mediterranean: Power Politics and Ideology Under the Sun, New York, NY: Springer, 2020.
* Laura Neack, The New Foreign Policy: US and Comparative Foreign Policy in the 21st Century, Lanham, ML: Rowman and Littlefields, 2003
* Karl K. Schonberg, Constructing 21 Century U.S. Foreign Policy: Identity, Ideology and America’s World Role in a New Era, New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009
* Kenneth Christie (Ed.), United States Foreign Policy and National Identity in the Twenty-First Century, London: 2008
* Henry Kissinger, Does America need a Foreign Policy? Towards a Diplomacy for the 21st Century, New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2001.

Planned Learning Activities and Teaching Methods: Guest Speakers, Watching Films, general discussions, liberal arts teaching methodology (i.e. Students present their seminar topics in front of the group, debate discussion topics during the lecture etc).

Assessment methods and criteria: 10% to their final grade their overall participation and performance during the classes; 25% to their final grade their performance during the presentation of their seminar topic; 65% final essay.

Language of Instruction: English