Political Science 142M: US Foreign Policy and Regional Security Fall 2008

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Office Hours: Mondays 9 to 10 pm, Café Roma

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*Course Description*: This course combines concepts in comparative politics and international relations to examine security dynamics in four regions of the world: Europe, East Asia, Latin America, and the broader Middle East. The course combines lectures, guest lectures, movie clips, two books, and lots of articles. Students are responsible for any adjustments to the syllabus announced in class.

*Grades*: Grades are based on two exams and a final paper. The first exam will be in class on October 20 covering the first quarter of the course (25 percent of the grade), the second bluebook exam will be in class on November 24 covering the second and third quarters of the course (50 per cent of the grade), and the paper will be assigned in class on December 1 and will be due at 700 pm at the normally scheduled final exam room; papers should run five pages, typed, double spaced, standard margins and font (25 per cent of the grade.) Please bring two bluebooks to the in class exams. Make up exams will be scheduled for the final exam slot and are only offered in the event of a documented emergency.

**Readings:** These books should be purchased for the course: Therese Delpech, Savage Century, and Olivier Roy, Politics of Chaos in the Middle East. The balance of the readings should be available on Library Reserve. We read around four selections per week.

## Subject and Reading Schedule

Week One (September 29): Introduction

Davis, Finan, and Peck, "1870 to 1900," Chapter 6, Latin American Diplomatic History.

Delpech, Section on 1905, Chapters 5 through 8, Savage Century.

Ashley Tellis et al, "China's Military Space Strategy...," Survival (F/M 2008.)

Roy, Chapter 4, "Al Qaeda Flourishing," Politics of Chaos in the Middle East.

## A. Europe

Week Two (October 6): United Kingdom

Kramer, "Letter from Europe," New Yorker (January 14, 1991.)

Gordon and Shapiro, Allies at War, Chapter 5.

Giegerich and Wallace, "Not Such a Soft Power," Survival (Summer 2004.)

Delpech, Chapter 13, Savage Century.

Recommended Movie: The Lives of Others

#### Week Three (October 13): France

Delpech, Section on the Telescope.

Northcutt, Chapter on Cohabitation, Mitterand.

Shapiro and Suzan, "The French Experience of Counterterrorism," Survival (Spring 2003.)

Recommended Movie: Pan's Labyrinth

#### B. East and Southeast Asia

Week Four (October 20): First Exam (one hour on Section A) and Korea

Chalmers Johnson, Chapter 4, Blowback.

Delpech, Savage Century, Chapter 15.

Chestnut, "Illicit Activity and Proliferation: North Korean Smuggling," IS (Summ 2007.)

Recommended Movie: Shiri.

Week Five (October 27): China

Whiting, "China's Use of Force," International Security (Fall 2001.)

Ashley Tellis et al, "China's Military Space Strategy," Survival (F/M 2008.)

Delpech, Chapter 14, Savage Century.

Susan Shirk, China: Fragile Superpower, Chapter 5, The Responsible Power.

Recommended Movie: Fearless

### C. Latin America

Week Six (November 3): Mexico

Barbara Tuchman, The Zimmerman Telegram, Chapter 6.

Luis Astorga, Chapter 3, in Bailey and Godson, Orgzed Crime and DemoGovernability.

George Grayson, "Mexico's Southern Flank," Orbis (Winter 2006.)

Recommended Movie: El Violin

Week Seven (November 10): Colombia

Dunkerley, "US and Latin America in the Long Run," in The US and Latin America.

Mark Bowden, Chapter 1, "The Rise of El Doctor," Killing Pablo.

Marcella, Army War College.

Recommended Movie: The Dancer Upstairs.

### D. Southwest Asia and Middle East

Week Eight (November 17): Middle East Part I

McCoy, Chapter on "CIA Covert Wars," The Politics of Heroin.

Steve Coll, "Time Bomb," New Yorker (January 8, 2008.)

Johnson and Mason, "The Pakistan Afghanistan Frontier," Intl Security (Sp 2008.)

Olivier Roy, Politics of Chaos in the Middle East, Chapter 3, Iran.

Movie: Kandahar.

Week Nine (November 24): Second Exam (two hours covering Sections B and C) and Middle East Part II

Roy, Politics of Chaos in the Middle East, Chapter 2, "The Middle East."

Shlomo Ben-Ami, "A War to Start All Wars," Foreign Affairs (S/O 2008.)

Ottoway, ed., Façade of Reform, Chapter on Algeria.

Movie: Lawrence of Arabia

# Week Ten (December 1): Conclusion

Olivier Roy, Politics of Chaos, Chapter 1.

Elhefnawy et al, "The Impending Oil Shock," Survival (A/S 2008.)

Therese Delpech, Savage Century, Part III, "The World in 2025."

Recommended Movie: Minority Report

Week Eleven: Paper on Section D and Conclusion due at beginning of Final Exam Time and Location