Course Description
This course examines U.S. foreign policy through several competing theoretical lenses. Following the historical narrative, it also introduces a wide variety of concepts and theories used in comparative foreign policy, demonstrating how specific problems and situations have fuelled the development of scholarly work in the field.

Course Requirements
The grade for this course consists of a midterm exam (worth 25% of the total grade) which is scheduled for October 22, a short paper due November 21 (6 page limit – worth 25%), a formal final exam (40%), and participation in discussion conferences led by a TA (10%). The midterm consists of short answers and one essay; the final consists of short answers and two essays. Exams cover material from lectures and readings.

Course Materials
Readings consist of assigned articles available on MyCourses and a textbook. The textbook is on reserve at the library and has been ordered at the bookstore. Additional material may be posted on MyCourses during the term.

Steven Hook and John Spanier, American Foreign Policy Since World War II, Sage/CQ Press, 2017/2018

Policy on Academic Honesty
McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offenses under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

Note: In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.
Course Schedule

Lecture 1 (Sept. 5): Introduction and Goals -- Hook & Spanier, Ch. 1


CONFERENCES BEGIN WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24


Lecture 8 (Oct. 3): The U.S. as a Superpower; Postwar Global Governance – Forrest C. Pogue, “George C. Marshall: Global Commander”; Hook & Spanier, Ch. 2


MIDTERM - Oct. 22


Lecture 16 (Nov. 7): Turning to China — Richard Nixon, “Announcing Acceptance of Invitation to Visit PRC”; “Henry Kissinger”

Lecture 17 (Nov. 12): The 1970s: Challenges to American Economic Leadership – Hook and Spanier, Ch. 5

Lecture 18 (Nov. 14): Reagan and the Revival of the Cold War – Hook and Spanier, Ch. 6; Ronald Reagan, “Remarks at the Annual Convention of the National Association of Evangelicals” (Video); Council on Foreign Relations, “Macfarlane on Reagan’s Foreign Policy”

Lecture 19 (Nov. 19): The End of the Cold War – Hook and Spanier, Ch. 7; Ronald Reagan, “Remarks at the Brandenburg Gate”(Video); William Wohlforth, “A Certain Idea of Science”


Lecture 22 (Nov. 28): Unilateralism, Multilateralism, and Coalitions of the Willing – Hook and Spanier, Ch. 12; Chicago Council on Foreign Relations “Troubled by Loss
of Standing in the World”; David Skidmore, “Understanding the Unilateralist Turn in U.S. Foreign Policy,” *Foreign Policy Analysis* 2, 2005, 207–228


**Lecture 24 (Dec. 4): Current Dilemmas / Assessing Theories** -- Hook and Spanier, Ch. 13, 14; Joseph Nye, “The Future of American Power”