COURSE DESCRIPTION

The conduct of United States Foreign Policy abroad is through the U.S. Embassy headed, in most circumstances, by an ambassador. The U.S. Embassy or Mission is the U.S. Government’s “business office” in a given country or international organization. There are, therefore, officials posted abroad in embassies that represent a variety of U.S. Government departments and agencies. These officials collectively implement the policies and manage the programs of the U.S. Government. They interface with host government officials, as well as a broad range of organizations and individuals in the private sector.

This course is designed to familiarize students with the structure of the embassy, its authorities both formal and informal, and its activities in support of U.S. interests. Ambassadors manage their embassies through a Country Team, a team that includes the heads of sections and the heads of other U.S. Government agencies represented in the embassy. The Country Team serves as the corporate management of the mission. During the course, each student will assume the role of one member of the country team. The professor will act as ambassador. In this role-playing model students will deal with hypothetical issues (based on real events) thereby developing an appreciation and understanding of how an embassy operates.

Students will be asked to make oral presentations during the country team “meetings,” as well as draft brief action or informational memoranda, as requested. A course project will entail the country team (working in several task forces) addressing several crises. Each task force will present, in written and oral presentations to the full country team, on a crisis being faced by the mission. The clusters will then present their action plan to respond to the crisis (again written and oral) to the full country team on November 23. A final report is also due on November 23rd (see below).
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class Participation
Students are expected to complete reading assignments on time and to participate in class discussions, which will be conducted through discussion and role playing. Given that this class has only five sessions and you are playing a role in the class, it is important that you attend all sessions.

Current Events
Students will be asked to follow closely developments in the country serving as a basis for the role playing.

Course Project
A course project will entail the country team (working in several task forces) addressing several crises. On November 9, each task force will present an oral presentation to the full country team of how they view the crisis from the perspective of their task force. The clusters will then present their final action plan to respond to the crisis (both written and oral) to the full country team on November 23.

Final Paper
Students shall write a four page paper describing the role and responsibilities of their position on the country team. Paper will be due no later than class on November 24.

COURSE GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Project</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
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COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, October 19</td>
<td>First Day of Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues, October 26</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues, November 2</td>
<td>First Country Team Meeting</td>
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<td>Tues, November 9</td>
<td>Second Country Team Meeting</td>
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<td>Tues, November 16</td>
<td>Third Country Team Meeting; Crisis Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues, November 23</td>
<td>Fourth Country Team Meeting; Action Plan Presentation</td>
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COURSE READINGS


Additional readings that provide background on the country being used as the setting for the class role playing will be posted to blackboard.

WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE

Session 1 Tuesday, October 19
The U.S. Embassy: General Description
---Ambassadorial Authorities
---The Country Team Concept

Readings:
First Line of Defense (See above)
Presidential Letter of Instruction to Chiefs of Mission (posted on Blackboard)

Tuesday, October 26 – (no class)

Session 2 Tuesday, November 2
The Department of State: Organization & Structure
First Country Team Meeting
---Presentation of Crisis
---Formation of Task Forces

U.S.-Kuwaiti Relations (U.S. Perspective)
Guest: Julie Sawyer, Kuwait Desk Officer, Department of State

Readings:
Kuwait Background Note

Session 3 Tuesday, November 9
The Washington Interagency Setting
Second Country Team Meeting: First Briefings and Reports
U.S.-Kuwaiti Relations (Kuwaiti Perspective)

Guest: Jasem al-Budaiwi, Counsellor, Embassy of the State of Kuwait, Washington, D.C.
Readings:


Session 4  Tuesday, November 16
Third Country Team Meeting: Task Force Briefings (Oral) on Impending Crisis

Session 5  Tuesday, November 23
Fourth Country Team Meeting: Task Force Briefings on Action Plan to Deal with Crisis (Written Reports)