



KAUTILYA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

GITAM (Deemed to be University)

Rudraram, Patancheru Mandal

Hyderabad, Telangana 502329

Course Code: PPOL2001	Course Title: An Introduction to Foreign Policy	
Semester: 5	Course Type: Minor	Credits: 3
Home Program(s): MPP	Batch/Academic Year: 2026-2027	
Course Lead: Dr. Kanica Rakhra	Assigned AA:	

Course Description

In an era where domestic and international policy are strongly interlinked, the course aims to provide students with a basic understanding of Foreign Policy and its implications in domestic public policy. It gives an introduction to the actors and agents of Foreign Policy and what are the factors that impact decision making. The course would also explain the different case studies where international developments such as the discovery of oil have impacted Foreign Policy and as a result, domestic public policy around the world.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the basic concepts of Foreign Policy today and they have come into use
- Describe relevant ideas that assist in effective foreign policy
- Discuss the interconnectedness of global events on domestic policy along with the interconnectedness of local events with global affairs
- Understand the differing factors that influence foreign policy with respect to national interest
- Develop appropriate response strategies to engage with the foreign policy goals of different states, especially India

Learning Outcomes

- Analyze and evaluate complex policy and organizational challenges in implementing foreign policy
- Understand core concepts and basic principles of foreign policy design
- Appreciate international interdependencies and their implication through global cooperation

- Explore further areas of global cooperation that is multi vector and multiplex yet in line with national interest

Assessment Rubric

- Presentation (in 2 classes) after the end of Unit 2 (40 marks)
- Class participation (15 marks): Students must engage in class and listen attentively.
- Attendance (15 marks)
- Term paper (30 marks)

Classroom Etiquette

The consumption of food and the use of laptops, tablets, smartphones, and other addictive electronic devices are not allowed. If you are unable to take notes by hand, please discuss an alternative arrangement with the teaching team. Phones must be turned off at the start of class.

Course Schedule

Unit I	Sessions: 5	Oversight of Foreign Policy making
Determinants of foreign policy Actors and agents involved (internal and external) in decision making Factors influencing foreign policy Differences between the study of International Relations and Foreign Policy		
Unit II	Sessions : 3	Values, Norms and Ethics: Beyond Realpolitik?
The foreign policy of aid Liberal international order? Asian Ethics?		
Unit III	Sessions: 4	International Organizations and Foreign Policy
Making of the UN and its implications on foreign policy International organizations and national interest Multilateral, plurilateral and minilateral organizations		
Unit IV	Sessions: 4	Soft, Hard and Smart Power in Foreign Policy

Soft Power: Cultural underpinnings of foreign policy
 The making of smart power
 Engaging with the non-state actor: smart or hard power?

Unit V	Sessions : 12	Case Studies
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1. The Discovery of Oil: National, Regional, and International Implications
 The Gulf Cooperation Council
 Shell UK and the Persian Oil Company
 Oil Pricing and domestic markets
 Fracking and the future of Oil
2. Food Security
 The Ukraine war and implications on food security
3. US-China trade wars
 Semiconductors and Technology
 The race for rare earth minerals

Reading List

Books:

1. Hill, C. (2016) *Foreign policy in the twenty-first century*. Second edition. London; New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.
2. Alden, C. and A. Aran, *Foreign Policy Analysis – New Approaches* (London: Routledge 2017) 2nd edition. [ISBN 978-1138934290]
3. Smith, S., A. Hadfield and T. Dunne, *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases* (Oxford: OUP 2012) 2nd edition [ISBN 978-0198708902]
4. S. Smith, A. Hadfield and T. Dunne, eds., *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases*

Articles:

- Anderson, C.J. (1998) 'When in Doubt, Use Proxies: Attitudes toward Domestic Politics and Support for European Integration', *Comparative Political Studies*, 31(5), pp. 569–601. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0010414098031005002>.
- Blarel, N. and Sarkar, J. (2019) 'Substate Organizations as Foreign Policy Agents: New Evidence and Theory from India, Israel, and France', *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 15(3), pp. 413–431. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1093/fpa/ory009>.
- Cantir, C. and Kaarbo, J. (2012) 'Contested Roles and Domestic Politics: Reflections on Role Theory in Foreign Policy Analysis and IR Theory1: Contested Roles and Domestic Politics', *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 8(1), pp. 5–24. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1743-8594.2011.00156.x>.

- Chapman, T.L. (2007) 'International Security Institutions, Domestic Politics, and Institutional Legitimacy', *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 51(1), pp. 134–166. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022002706296177>.
- Darwich, M. (2021) 'Foreign Policy Analysis and Armed Non-State Actors in World Politics: Lessons from the Middle East', *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 17(4), p. orab030. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1093/fpa/orab030>.
- Davis, D.R. and Moore, W.H. (1997) 'Ethnicity Matters: Transnational Ethnic Alliances and Foreign Policy Behavior', *International Studies Quarterly*, 41(1), pp. 171–184. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/0020-8833.00037>.
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- Holsti, K.J. (1970) 'National Role Conceptions in the Study of Foreign Policy', *International Studies Quarterly*, 14(3), p. 233. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.2307/3013584>.
- Homan, P. and Lantis, J.S. (2022) 'Foreign policy free agents: how lawmakers and coalitions on the political margins help set boundaries for US foreign policy', *International Politics*, 59(5), pp. 851–872. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41311-021-00371-8>.
- Hudson, V.M. (2002) 'Foreign Policy Decision-Making', in Snyder, R. C., Bruck, H. W., and Sapin, B., *Foreign Policy Decision-Making (Revisited)*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan US, pp. 1–20. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1057/9780230107526_1.
- Hudson, V.M. (2005) 'Foreign Policy Analysis: Actor-Specific Theory and the Ground of International Relations: Foreign Policy Analysis', *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 1(1), pp. 1–30. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1743-8594.2005.00001.x>.
- Hurwitz, J. and Peffley, M. (1987) 'How are Foreign Policy Attitudes Structured? A Hierarchical Model', *American Political Science Review*, 81(4), pp. 1099–1120. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.2307/1962580>.
- Hägel, P. and Peretz, P. (2005) 'States and Transnational Actors: Who's Influencing Whom? A Case Study in Jewish Diaspora Politics during the Cold War', *European Journal of International Relations*, 11(4), pp. 467–493. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354066105057893>.
- Kaarbo, J. (2015) 'A Foreign Policy Analysis Perspective on the Domestic Politics Turn in IR Theory', *International Studies Review*, 17(2), pp. 189–216. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/misr.12213>.
- Kertzer, J.D. et al. (2014) 'Moral Support: How Moral Values Shape Foreign Policy Attitudes', *The Journal of Politics*, 76(3), pp. 825–840. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022381614000073>.
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- Libman, A. and Obydenkova, A.V. (2018) 'Regional international organizations as a strategy of autocracy: the Eurasian Economic Union and Russian foreign policy', *International Affairs*, 94(5), pp. 1037–1058. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iyy147>.
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- Nye, J.S. (2004) 'Soft Power and American Foreign Policy', *Political Science Quarterly*, 119(2), pp. 255–270. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.2307/20202345>.
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- Risse, T. (2007) 'Transnational Actors and World Politics', in W.C. Zimmerli, M. Holzinger, and K. Richter (eds) *Corporate Ethics and Corporate Governance*. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, pp. 251–286. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-70818-6_19.
- Risse-Kappen, T. (1991) 'Public Opinion, Domestic Structure, and Foreign Policy in Liberal Democracies', *World Politics*, 43(4), pp. 479–512. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.2307/2010534>.
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- Soroka, S.N. (2003) 'Media, Public Opinion, and Foreign Policy', *Harvard International Journal of Press/Politics*, 8(1), pp. 27–48. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1081180X02238783>.
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