**Review Sheet, First Midterm Exam, GOV 312L: U.S. Foreign Policy**

***Module 1: The US Foreign Policy Apparatus and the National Interest***

1. What is foreign policy? What are the differences among the beliefs, capabilities, interests, and actions (behavior) of political actors?

2. What are the main components of the foreign policy bureaucracy in the United States and what are their main responsibilities?

3. What is the national interest?

4. What was President George W. Bush’s 2002 national security strategy? What are its central components/foundational arguments? What are the major threats to American interests that it identifies? How did 9/11 change the national security threats facing the US?

5. How does President Trump see the nature of the security threat presented by terrorism? How does Trump’s counter-terrorism strategy differ from President Bush?

***Module 2: Grand Strategy I and Isolationism:***

1. What is grand strategy? Does it have any relationship with domestic partisanship?

2. What are the components of grand strategy? How can they be used to differentiate among varieties of grand strategy?

3. What are some of the central policy claims and arguments contained in Obama’s West Point Speech? In what ways, is this a statement of Obama’s grand strategy?

4. What is isolationism? What are some historical examples of isolationism?

5. What is liberal hegemony? How what are some of the risks or shortcomings of such a grand strategy that Posen identifies?

6. What are the components of Posen’s alternative grand strategy?

***Module 3: Grand Strategy II: Selective Engagement, Liberal Internationalism and Primacy:***

1. What is selective engagement? What are some historical examples of selective engagement?

2. What is liberal internationalism? What are some historical examples of liberal internationalism?

3. What is primacy? How is primacy related to neoconservatism? What are some historical examples of neoconservatism?

4. What is offshore balancing (interests, means, threats, theoretical foundations)? How is different from selective engagement? What are some of the similarities between the Mearsheimer/Walt and Posen readings?

5. What are the components (interests, means, threats, theoretical foundations) of the grand strategy of primacy in the Thornberry and Krepinevich article?

***Module 4: The President in Foreign Policy:***

1. What are the constitutional foundations of presidential leadership in foreign policy making?

2. How does interagency political competition shape US foreign policy?

3. What is the Presidential daily brief? What role does the CIA play in US foreign policy?

4. Does war expand presidential authority? How?

5. What is an Authorization to Use Military Force (AUMF)? What are some of the legal and political challenges (identified in the Golan-Vilella reading) created by the AUMF of 2001 against Al Qaeda? And the AUMF against Iraq?

6. What are some of the controversies associated with using executive orders in the implementation of foreign policy, particularly over immigration? What political challenges encourage the President to pursue such a policy strategy? How does the battle over immigration policy illustrate tensions between the executive and legislative branches?

***Module 5: Congress in Foreign Policy:***

1. What role does the Constitution designate for Congress in foreign policy?

2. What is the War Powers Act?

3. How does Congress shape foreign policy?

4. What is divided government? How does it influence foreign policy?

5. How does Congress shape public opinion over foreign policy?

6. According to your Kaye reading, what is “stealth multilateralism”? Why might a President employ such a strategy? How does it influence the capacity of the President to reach international agreements with other states? What are the long term risks associated with presidential reliance on Stealth Multilateralism? What examples illustrate these risks?

7. Identify the principal components of the Weissman argument about the role of Congress in shaping the use of military force. What examples does he cite as illustrating Congressional failure to uphold its constitutional responsibility with respect to the use of military force? In what ways do the claims made by Weismann reinforce those of Golan-Vilella in the post 9/11 period?

***Module 6: The American Public and US Foreign Policy:***

1. What are the four primary ways that societal interests affect U.S. foreign policy?

2. What is the “rally around the flag” effect? What is “war fatigue”? What does Mueller mean when he says that the American public is “casualty-phobic?

3. What is a public good? What is the free rider problem and how does it relate to the provision of public goods?

4. Why are consumers relatively poor political advocates for free trade? How is the collective action/free rider problem shape their political impact?

5. How does the free rider problem relate to foreign policy and the provision of something like national defense? How do special interest lobbying groups solve the free rider problem?

6. How have powerful economic interests captured state power and fashioned economic trade policy to further their interests through the Open Door policies of the 19th century?

***Module 7: Historical Overview of US Foreign Policy – Independence to Monroe Doctrine:***

1. **How did a global conflict originating in Europe help bring about the American state**? -> **What challenges did Great Britain face in managing its colonies in North America in light of the Seven Years/French & Indian War**? Paying for the war, protecting western frontier

2. **How did France help to secure independence for the American colonies from Great Britain**? Loans and military support **What role did the Declaration of Independence play in signaling to France that the American colonies were worth supporting in its drive for independence**? Burned bridge between british

3. **How did the Articles of Confederation and its concentration of power in the states shape American foreign policy**? Congress dealt with diplomacy, we were weak because states can go against each other and bring Europe in it, neutrality pacts, no tariffs (brits and French did though)

4. **How did war and the anticipation of war in Europe lead to constructing a constitution with a stronger national government capable of reining in state powers**?

5. **How did Washington’s Farewell Address set a precedent of isolationism for the United States**? warns of dangers getting into euro wars (how will we survive when both parties are supporting others) **What was Washington’s fear regarding international cleavages and American domestic politics**?

6. How did the threat posed by Napoleon influence the development of the United States (both through the Louisiana Purchase and the War of 1812)? Napolean needed money so we get more land, carry trade->british taking people, ghent treaty- nothing changed, consolidated American state and national unity, end of federalists

7. **What were the main principles of the Monroe Doctrine**? Assertiveness and carefulness, west is closed to Europe (new not old), sphere of influence of Latin America **Why did the U.S. assert such an ambitious foreign policy statement at this time**? Latin American independence (unsure of stability or inviting of europe), devs in Europe, fear of return to monarchies (Hungary, Russia, Prussia), shift in balance of power because of wars **What was Great Britain’s role in enforcing the Monroe Doctrine**? Navy did all the work

***Module 8: Historical Overview of US Foreign Policy - Manifest Destiny to World War I:***

1. **How did Western expansion in the mid-1800s contribute to the emergence of the United States as a global power?** Land, natural resources, basis for dynamic economic growth
2. **What forces promoted American expansionism in the middle of the 19th century?** Pop growth, tech (railroad), manifest destiny, domestic politics (slavery)
3. **What made the American Civil War an international event**? American experiment (model of + and -), social progress by a democracy, liberalism
4. **What differentiated Union diplomacy from Confederate diplomacy**? Union: industry (stronger and populated) and antislavery (emancipation proclamation) Confed: king cotton

3. **According to Fareed Zakaria (covered in lecture), why was America slow in expanding from a continental power to a global power**? Civil war fatigue (consolidation), congress had control of FP

4. **According to Walter LaFeber and the Wisconsin School (covered in lecture), how did crucial business interests and the need for foreign markets contribute to the timing of American expansion in the 1890s**? industrialization – needed more markets, deflation, overproduction Tariffs->military spending

5. **How did the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Bosnian nationalist named Gavrilo Princip lead to the outbreak of World War I**? entangled alliances, Austria-Hungary ->Serbia->Russia->Russia, france->Belgium, Britain **What role did the threat of nationalist uprisings in the Austro-Hungarian empire play**? If Bosnians could sucede, so would Romanians, in their empire

6. **Why did the United States enter World War I and what impact did its entrance have**? German submarine warfare and Wilson wanted league of nations, more loans, troops (fresh), endless troops (change in balance of power), us has a critical role in postwar international political order (self determination)

***Weekly Update 1 (Tuesday, 9/12/17): North Korea nuclear program, DACA***

1. Why does North Korea want a nuclear weapons capability? In what ways is this a rational response to North Korea’s perceived security threats? What does North Korea hope to accomplish by attaining a nuclear weapons arsenal?

2. How has the experience of other countries that have pursued a nuclear weapons program such as Iraq and Libya affected North Korea’s perceptions regarding American threats to its security and the role of nuclear weapons in protecting against those threats?

3. How has the rhetoric from the United States during the current crisis affected North Korean perceptions regarding its security?

4. What are the main options open to the U.S. in response to North Korea’s ongoing nuclear weapons program? What are the problems associated with each of these options?

5. What is the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)? Why are so-called “Dreamers” seen as a distinct type of undocumented immigrant that, according to some, deserve protection from deportation?

6. Why did the DACA program, which originally enjoyed bipartisan support when it was enacted in 2012, lose Republican support over time? What role did a related Obama executive order announced in 2014, the Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) program, play in strengthening opposition to DACA among immigration hard-liners?

7. Why did President Trump end DACA when he did? What role did immigration hard-liners (specifically a group of 27 state attorneys general) play in the decision? Why did Trump delay the enforcement of his executive order ending DACA for six months?

***Weekly Update 2 (Tuesday, 9/19/17): Update on DACA, Trump speech at UN***

1. Describe the politics surrounding the recent failed attempt by Senator Rand Paul to repeal the 2001 and 2002 Authorization on the Use of Force (AUMF). How does this episode reinforce the critiques in your reading by Golan-Vilella on the failure of Congress to fulfill its constitutional role in US foreign policy?

2. Describe the potential deal between President Trump and Democratic leaders, Senator Chuck Schumer and Representative Nancy Pelosi. Why is the Republican leadership upset about this negotiation?

3. Describe the problems that both the Republican and Democratic parties face with their political base in completing a compromise that would involve protection from deportation for Dreamers AND increased border security. How do these problems make it hard for each side to come to a compromise even though such a compromise seems to be supported by a majority of the American public?

4. In his speech to the UN General Assembly, President Trump repeatedly mentioned state sovereignty. How does this emphasis on state sovereignty relate to his “America First” foreign policy? What does his emphasis on state sovereignty mean for the likelihood that the United States will engage in democracy promotion?

5. President Trump said in his UN speech, “The United States has great strength and patience, but if it is forced to defend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea.” What was President Trump signaling to North Korea and the rest of the world when he made this statement?

6. How did President Trump describe the threat from Iran in his speech to the UN? What actions by Iran did he highlight as justifying this description? How did he describe the Iran nuclear deal? How might other countries that were party to the Iran nuclear deal react to these statements and Trump’s suggestion that the U.S. may withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal?