

MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
ACADEMIC SEMESTER: SPRING 2006-07  
COURSE LEADER: DIMITRIS TSAROUHAS

## **IR 228**

### **Transatlantic Relations**

#### **Course Description**

This course is intended to provide a historical and policy-based perspective on the relationship between the US and Europe. It adopts a historical perspective, beginning from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards, so as to introduce students to the complexity of the US-Europe relationship and highlight the continuity and changes manifested in this relationship through successive stages in the field of international politics. To do so, the course will touch upon vital aspects of the US-Europe relationship by looking at the political, economic and cultural dimensions of the transatlantic partnership. There is a strong comparative element running through all week's topics.

#### **Course Objectives**

The objective of this module is to introduce students to relations between the US and Europe. It seeks to demonstrate the complexity of this relationship and treats Europe in its entirety, encompassing eastern European states and making a clear distinction between Europe and the European Union. In addition, the module seeks to enhance the students' understanding of: a) the foreign policy priorities and decisions of key European countries and b) reveal the intrinsic link between domestic power constellations and foreign policy decision-making.

#### **Course Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a mid-term unseen exam and an end of term exam. Unjustified absence from more than 3 lectures will incur a penalty of 20% of the overall grade. Both exams will have equal (i.e. 50%) value.

#### **Course Schedule**

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: "A city on the hill": European perceptions of the US in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

Week 3: The first transatlantic coalition and WWI

Week 4: The interwar decades

Week 5: WWII and the new world order

Week 6: Transatlantic partnership and the Cold War: the formation of NATO

Week 7: Early détente and its effect on transatlantic relations

Week 8: Midterm exam

Week 9: Détente II and European assertiveness

Week 10: The 1980s: beginning of the end

Week 11: The Transatlantic Declaration and the end of the Cold war

Week 12: The New Transatlantic Agenda

Week 13: 9/11, Iraq and the war on terror

Week 14: Concluding lecture, Q+A session

### Recommended Reading

1) Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* New York: Council on Foreign Relations Press 1996

2) Kennedy, P. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000* New York: Random House 1987

### Reading List

- Week 2: “A city on the hill”: European perceptions of the US in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 1)
  - Kennedy, P. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*\_(ch.4)
  - Haas, M.L. (2005) *The ideological origins of great power politics, 1789-1989* Ithaca: Cornell University Press
  
- Week 3: The first transatlantic coalition and WWI
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 2)
  - Kennedy, P. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*\_(ch.5)
  - Kennedy, R.A. (2001) Woodrow Wilson, World War I and an American Conception of National Security, *Diplomatic History* 25(1): 1-31
  -
  
- Week 4: The interwar decades
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (chs. 4-5)
  - Kennedy, P. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*\_(ch.6)
  
- Week 5: WWII and the new world order
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 7)
  - Kennedy, P. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*\_(ch.7)
  - Boehling, R. (1999) The Role of Culture in American Relations with Europe, *Diplomatic History*, 23(1): 57-69
  
- Week 6: Transatlantic partnership and the Cold War: the formation of NATO
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 8)

- Dockrill, M.L. and Hopkins, M.F. (eds) *The Cold War, 1945-1991* New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2006
- Brogi, A. (2006) 'Competing Missions': France, Italy, and the Rise of American Hegemony in the Mediterranean', *Diplomatic History* 30(4): 741-770
  
- Week 7: Early détente and its effect on transatlantic relations
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 9)
  - Johnson, R.D. (2006) *Congress and the Cold War* New York: Cambridge University Press
  - Young, J.W. (1991) *Cold War Europe: A Political History* London, New York: Routledge
  
- Week 8: Midterm exam
  
- Week 9: Détente II and European assertiveness
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 10)
  - Dockrill, M.L. and Hopkins, M.F. (eds) *The Cold War, 1945-1991* New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2006
  - Young, J.W. and Kent, J. (2004) *International Relations Since 1945: a global history* Oxford: Oxford University Press
  
- Week 10: The 1980s: beginning of the end
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 10)
  - Hebel, U.J. *Transatlantic encounters* WVT: Trier 1995
  - Stephan, A. (ed) *Americanization and anti-Americanism: the German encounter with American culture after 1945* New York: Berghahn Books 2005
  
- Week 11: The Transatlantic Declaration and the end of the Cold war
  - Kahler, W. and Link, W. (eds) *Europe and America: A return to History* (ch. 11)
  - Kennedy, P. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000* (ch.8)
  - Latter, R. *The future of transatlantic relations* HMSO: London 1993
  - Fröhlich, Stefan, 'The EU After the Big Bang', in Esther Brimmer & Stefan Fröhlich (eds), *The Strategic Implications of European Union Enlargement*. Washington, DC: Center for Transatlantic Relations 2005, pp.3-25
  - Haas, R.N. *Transatlantic Tensions* Washington: Brookings Institution 1999
  
- Week 12: The New Transatlantic Agenda
  - Gardner, H. and Stefanova, R. (eds) *The New Transatlantic Agenda Facing the Challenges of Global Governance* Aldershot: Ashgate 2001
  - Wiener, J. (ed.) *The Transatlantic Relationship* London: McMillan 1996
  - Brimmer, E. "EU Enlargement and Transatlantic Relations" in Esther Brimmer & Stefan Fröhlich (eds), *The Strategic Implications of European Union Enlargement*. Washington, DC: Center for Transatlantic Relations 2005, pp. 225-39
  - Mettler, A. *From Junior Partner to Global Player? The New Transatlantic Agenda and Joint Action Plan* ZEI Discussion Paper, Bonn 2001
  
- Week 13: 9/11, Iraq and the war on terror

- Balis, C. and Serfaty, S. (eds) *Visions of America and Europe: September 11, Iraq and Transatlantic Relations* Washington DC: CSIS Press 2004
- Colas, A. and Saull, R. (eds.) (2006) *The War on Terror and the American 'empire' after the Cold War* London, New York: Routledge
- Wenger, A. and Zimmermann, D. (2003) *International relations: from the Cold War to the globalized world* Boulder: Lynne Rienner
- Smith, M.A. (2006) *Russia and NATO since 1991: from Cold War through cold peace to partnership?* London, New York: Routledge