## Class code
POL-UA9598001

## Instructor Details
Josef Zieleniec  
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Office hours – Tuesday and Thursday after classes, Malé nám.11

## Class Details
European-American Relations in the 21st century – SPRING 2015  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-11:50  
Location to be confirmed

## Prerequisites

## Class Description
This course explores the history and the current state of political, economic and cultural relations between the United States and Europe. Ever since the end of the World War II, the cooperative relationship between these two parts of the world, often described as „the West”, has been a bedrock of international stability, security and prosperity. After the end of the Cold War, this relationship has undergone changes, along with the whole system of international relations. Recently, on both sides of the Atlantic, the talk has been about a crisis of the Euro-American relationship. We will examine the validity of these claims, the causes of the current problems and possible ways of overcoming them. Throughout, we will emphasize the overwhelming nature of common values and interests on both sides of the ocean as well as the risks stemming from a potential rift for both Europe and America. We will examine the compatibility of current European and U.S. policies with respect to third countries or regions, such as Russia, China and the Middle East. We will also analyze the specific role played in this relationship by countries of Central and Eastern Europe as relative newcomers to democracy, to the Atlantic Alliance and to European Union.

### Lectures

### Desired Outcomes
Students
- will understand how history and common roots shaped the relationship between Europe and the U.S.;
- will be able to interpret current events in the political relations between the U.S. and Europe in terms of long-term trends in mutual relations;
- will be able to write a simple analytical text about a selected issue of the current political agenda between the EU and the U.S. with a recommendation for further action.

### Assessment Components
Active class participation/attendance 20%, Presentation 20%, Mid-term paper 25%, Final paper 35%

- Power Point presentation: 15-20 min
- Mid-term paper: short structured memo 2-3 pages
- Final paper: 8-10 pages

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

### Assessment Expectations

#### Grade A:
Exceptional level of accurate, clear and analytical writing, an excellent ability to express thoughts

#### Grade B:
Very good work

#### Grade C:
Satisfactory work

#### Grade D:
Passable work

#### Grade F:
Failure to achieve a passable standard
Absences only for medical reasons and for religious observance will be excused. To obtain an excused absence, you are obliged to supply either a doctor’s note or corroboration of your illness by a member of the housing staff (either an RA or a Building Manager). To be excused for religious observance, you must contact the instructor and the Associate Director via e-mail one week in advance of the holiday. Your absence is excused for the holiday only and does not include days of travel associated with the holiday. Unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from your final course grade for every week of classes missed.

According to the Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook, plagiarism is defined as follows:

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as though it were one’s own. More specifically, plagiarism is to present as one’s own a sequence of words quoted without quotation marks from another writer, a paraphrased passage from another writer’s work; facts or ideas gathered, organized and reported by someone else, orally and/or in writing. Since plagiarism is a matter of fact, not of the student’s intention, it is crucial that acknowledgment of the sources be accurate and complete. Even where there is no conscious intention to deceive, the failure to make appropriate acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism.

The College of Arts and Science’s Academic Handbook defines plagiarism similarly and also specifies the following:

“Presenting an oral report drawn without attribution from other sources (oral or written), writing a paragraph which, despite being in different words, expresses someone else’s idea without a reference to the source of the idea, or submitting essentially the same paper in two different courses (unless both teachers have given their permission in advance).

Receiving help on a take-home examination or quiz is also cheating – and so is giving that help – unless expressly permitted by the teacher (as in collaborative projects). While all this looks like a lot to remember, all you need to do is give credit where it is due, take credit only for original ideas, and ask your teacher or advisor when in doubt.”

“Penalties for plagiarism range from failure for a paper, failure for the course or dismissal from the university.” (Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook)

The Course Reader for European-American Relations, 3 parts

**Topic I – The Old World: Origins of the European and Western Civilization**

Mythical beginnings: Antiquity and the barbarians. The roots: Greece, Rome and Jerusalem.

The beginnings of modernity: Renaissance and Reformation. The Peace of Westphalia, the emergence of the nation state and the balance of power system. Heaven on Earth: The origins of a secular faith.

The totalitarian century: Lenin, Stalin, Hitler


45 pages

**Topic II – The New World and Beyond: Challenges of a New World Order**


Wilson in Europe: The Versailles Treaty, the League of Nations and the failure of collective security.

Jefferson, Hamilton, Jackson, Wilson and the American foreign policy
Tocqueville, Alexis de: Democracy in America. New York: Knopf, 1994, pp. 3-16

65 pages

**Session 3**
**Tuesday, Feb 10**

**Topic III - Allies in War: The Origins of the Atlantic Alliance**


20 pages

**Session 4**
**Thursday, Feb 12**

**Topic IV - Partners in Deterrence: Victory in the Cold War**


The North Atlantic Treaty. Washington D.C., 4 April 1949, 3p


80 pages

**Session 5**
**Tuesday, Feb 17**

**Topic V - The Emergence of the Other Europe**


25 pages

**Session 6**
**Thursday, Feb 19**

**Topic VI - The New World Order and What’s Left of It**
The end of history that never was. A new world order: Gulf War and the comeback of the UN. The pitfalls of humanitarian intervention: Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Rwanda. The clash of civilizations? Coming anarchy? Shall we miss the Cold War?


Huntington, Samuel P.: The Clash of Civilizations? Foreign Affairs, Summer 1993, pp. 22-49

Mearsheimer, John J.: Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War. The Atlantic Monthly, August 1990, pp. 35-50

57 pages
Seminar: Discussion focused on similarities and differences between the Soviet type communism and the current Chinese political and economic system.

**Session 8**
Thursday, Feb 26

**Topic VII - Doctrine of Enlargement**


**46 pages**

**Topic VIII - Fighting with Allies: The Balkan Wars**
Yugoslavia: Communists as nationalists. Europe: The haste to recognition. USA: No dog in the fight. UN: Reaching the limits (Vance – Owen Plan). The road to Dayton. Rambouillet, Kosovo and the question of legitimacy of intervention


Habermas, Juergen: *Bestiality and Humanity. A War on the Border Between Law and Humanity*. Die Zeit, April 29, 1999 (www.theglobalsite.ac.uk/library), 5p


Ignatieff, Michael: *The Virtual Commander*. The New Yorker, August 2, 1999, pp. 30-36

**30 pages**

**Session 10**
Thursday, March 5

**Topic IX - The Essential Country: American Visions of the post-Cold War World**
Imperial overstretch or bound to lead? Pax Americana: The unipolar moment. The indispensable: Making the world safe for democracy. The soft power: Can interdependence work? Neo-cons and their benevolent empire. Lonely superpower and pivotal states


Keohane, Robert: *International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?*. Foreign Policy, Summer 1998, 7p


Rieff, David: *A New Age of Liberal Imperialism?*. World Policy Journal, No.2, Summer 1999, 10p

Huntington, Samuel P: *The Lonely Superpower*. Foreign Affairs, March/April 1999, 7p


**75 pages**

**Session 11**
Tuesday, March 10

**Topic X - Toward a Multipolar World: European Visions of the post-Cold War World**
Atlantic Europe: Keep America in, Russia out and Germany down. Multilateralism and moral superiority: Europe as a lighthouse. Multipolarity and the new balance of power: Europe as a counterweight. Focused on the U.S.: Liberal imperialism or the end of empire? Habermas and Derrida: A peace through conversation? Power gap: Economic elephant versus military pygmy

Calleo, David: *Rethinking Europe’s future*, 2001, pp. 337-353
Session 12
Thursday, March 12

Seminar: Discussion focused on the topic of the mid-term paper

Session 13
Tuesday, March 17

Topic XI – What Kind of Europe?

Schuman, Robert: Declaration of 9 May 1950. (www.robert-schumann.org), 2p
Fischer, Joschka: From Confederacy to Federation. Speech at the Humbolt University, Berlin, May 12, 2000, 9p

Session 14
Thursday, March 19

Session 15
Tuesday, March 24

Topic XII – How Americans are thinking about Europe

Bergsten, Fred C.: America and Europe: Clash of the Titans? Foreign Affairs, March/April 1999, pp. 20-34

Session 16
Thursday, March 26

Topic XIII – Challenges of Globalization

“Dueling Globalizations. A Debate Between Thomas Friedman and Ignatius Ramonet.” Foreign Policy, Fall 1999, pp. 110-126
Fonte, John: Democracy’s Trojan Horse. The National Interest. Summer 2004, 4p

Session 17
Tuesday, March 31

Topic XIV – New Threats, New Enemies
Rogue and failed states: An axis of evil? Weapons of mass destruction and their proliferation. Asymmetric threats and striking terror. Occidentalism and the new ideology of hate. Deterrence,
prevention and pre-emption. Terrorism and Europe: Root causes and engagement?

Caldwell, Christopher: The Crescent and the Tricolor. The Atlantic Monthly, November 2000, 8p


33 pages

**Session 18**
Thursday, April 2

**Topic XV – Power in the Post-Modern World**

The case of Iraqi War. Of Paradise and Power – Venus and Mars. EU as a post-modern entity

Anti-Americanism in Europe. Anti-Europeanism in America. Clash of the titans or the new division of labor?


Dahrendorf, Ralf, Garton Ash, Timothy: The Europe and the America We Want (Le Monde, July 9, 2003), 2p

Michnik, Adam: A View from the Left: We, the Traitors (Gazeta Wyborcza, May 29, 2003), 3p


Joffe, Josef: Who’s Afraid of Mr. Big? The National Interest, Summer 2001, 7p


108 pages

**Spring Break**
April 6-10

**Session 19**
Tuesday, April 14

**Topic XVI – Multilateralism – Train Wrecks in the Making?**


Bolton, John R.: Courting Danger: What’s Wrong With the International Criminal Court, National Interest”, No. 54, 1999, 9p


Deutch, John, Kanter, Arnold and Scowcroft, Brent: Saving NATO’s Foundation, Foreign Affairs, November/December 1999, 6p

19 pages

**Session 20**
Thursday, April 16

**Topic XVII – The Recent Challenges: Black Sea and the Greater Middle East**

Turkey: Can a country be Islamic and European at the same time? Ukraine and Georgia: Europe or left behind? The Future of Iraq: Loosing the peace? Whither Iran? The Ultimate Sponsors: Saudi Arabia. Middle East: Modernization or Democratization?

Session 21
Tuesday, April 21

Topic XVIII - The Future Challenges: Euro-Asia


Wolfowitz, Paul: Remembering the Future, National Interest, No. 59, Spring 2000, 8p

16 pages

Session 22
Thursday, April 23

Seminar: Discussion focused on the topic of the final paper

Session 23
Tuesday, April 28

Topic XIX – The Cooperative Scenario: Working Together for a Global Society

What we have in common: core values and threats. Bridging the transatlantic power gap


Moisi, Dominique: Reinventing the West, Foreign Affairs, November/December 2003, 4p

Wallace, William: Europe, the Necessary Partner, Foreign Affairs, May/June 2001, 9p

Cimbillo, Jeffrey: Saving NATO From Europe, Foreign Affairs, November/December, 2004, 9p


29 pages

Session 24
Thursday, April 30

Seminar focused on the current agenda in US-EU economic cooperation

Session 25
Tuesday, May 5

Topic XX – The Nightmare Scenario: Fighting by Proxy for a Global Chaos


Riotta, Gianni (2000): The Coming Identity War, Foreign Policy. September/October, 2p

Vondra, Alexandr; Painter, Sally: No Time to Go It Alone. The Washington Post, Nov. 18, 2002, 2p


21 pages

Session 26
Thursday, May 7

Seminar: Discussion focused on the current agenda in the European-American relations

Session 27
Tuesday, May 12

Session 28
Thursday, May 14 (last day of classes)

Session 29
Tuesday, May 19

Final exam

Session 30
Thursday,
May 21
Final exam

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