



Seminar

American Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in the Obama Administration

Prof. Paul Rundquist, Ph.D.

Paul S. Rundquist is a former congressional operations specialist with the Congressional Research Service (CRS) of the Library of Congress. With CRS for over thirty years, he organized and conducted training seminars for newly elected Members of Congress and for their staffs. At various times, he served on temporary assignment to the staffs of several congressional committees. There and at CRS, he worked on a variety of policy issues including reform of the rules and procedures of Congress, democracy assistance programs for emerging democratic parliaments, the impeachment and trial of President Clinton and, in the post-9-11 environment, on the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and emergency planning for government continuity after catastrophic events. He was a Fulbright professor from 1996-98 at the American Studies Center of Warsaw University, and from 2006-08, he was a Fulbright professor at the Institute for Politics at Halle-Wittenberg and at the School of International Studies at TU Dresden. Paul Rundquist has served as an adjunct professor at the George Washington University, the Catholic University of America and the American University, Washington. He has traveled and worked extensively for both the American State Department and for international organizations on developing constitutions and new legislative rules in new democracies in central and eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Angeboten für: Studierende des Bachelor-Studiengangs "Internationale Beziehungen" ab 3. Fachsemester (anrechenbar für die Module IP1/IP2/EF) und im Master-Studiengang "Internationale Beziehungen" im 3. Fachsemester (anrechenbar für das Modul S-IP) sowie Studierende der Politik-, Geschichts- bzw. Kommunikationswissenschaften und ggfs. anderer Fakultäten

Das Seminar findet in englischer Sprache statt.

Uhrzeit/Ort: Mittwoch, 5.+6. DS, POT/161
ab 20. Oktober 2009, 14tägig

Einschreibung: **5. bis 11. Oktober 2009 online** unter:
<https://www.zis.tu-dresden.de/einschreibung/>

Course description:

This seminar focuses on the theme enunciated by Barack Obama in his campaign slogan "Change We Can Believe In." Foreign policy is an attempt to balance long-term national and international goals with the requirements imposed by short-term considerations and unexpected international events. The seminar will focus on the principal elements in American foreign policy, and the degree to which change in foreign policy goals and objectives have been begun under the Obama administration.

The seminar will begin with several sessions of lectures by the professor, acquainting students with key actors in the American foreign policy process and key topics which have dominated American foreign policy over the past decade. Students will register to present an oral presentation during the latter stages of the semester. The presentations will focus on specific actors in the American foreign policy process, on American foreign policy with respect toward specific regions or nations, and on American involvement in multinational foreign policy programs. The run-up and activities at the Copenhagen summit in December 2009 will also be a featured element of the seminar.

The course will feature introductory lectures by the professor during the first several class sessions. The lectures will survey patterns of change in American foreign policy during the past generation, and introduce students to key scholarly writings on the topic. Students will sign up for class presentations on specific topics. Student grades will be based on regular attendance, class participation, delivery of an oral presentation, and completion of a semester paper.

Recommended books:

Among the books for this course are: Rosati & Scott, The Politics of US Foreign Policy; Brzezinski, Scowcroft & Ignatius, America and the World; and Gelb, Power Rules. These and other books will be assembled on the Semesterapparat, and electronic journal articles will also be available on the class website (to which registered students can apply for admission by sending an email to:dresden-policy-change@googlegroups.com).