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## TOPICS: THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY in Fall 2018 (PO2091)

<b>Course Code</b>	PO2091	<b>Professor(s)</b>	Hall Gardner
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None	<b>Office Number</b>	Grenelle basement
<b>Class Schedule</b>	MR: 10:35-11:55 in PL-1	<b>Office Hours</b>	M/Th 12 to 13:30 and by appointment
<b>Credits</b>	4	<b>Email</b>	hgardner@aup.edu
<b>Semester</b>	Fall 2018	<b>Office Tel. Ext.</b>	691

## Course Description

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The course critically analyses many of President Trump's foreign and domestic policy flip-flops since he unexpectedly became the US president. The course seeks to explain what the Trump administration has been doing in terms of US relations with Russia, China, Europe, Japan, the two Koreas, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the wider Middle East, as well as with respect to "America First" protectionism and domestic US politics.

Students will give weekly presentations on Trump's latest policies as reported in the press. They will write a 10-15 page term paper based on books and articles discussed in class.

Students will learn how to critically analyze Trump policies from differing perspectives. Who supports Trump and Why?. Who opposes Trump and why? Will Trump be impeached? Why or why not? Will his "America Fist" economic policies succeed in strengthening the US economy? Will his "Peace through Strength" policies bring peace or a new US-Russia-China arms race and a further exacerbation of regional and global tensions?

Prime emphasis will be given to developing research skills and writing a term paper based on expert analysis from pro-Trump, anti-Trump and "neutral" analysis and from differing ideological perspectives on the "left," the "right," and the "center" The goal is to help students recognize political analysis of the highest quality

## Course Learning Outcomes

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# General Education

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## Course Outline

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### Course Outline

Week 1 Introduction and General Discussion

Gardner, World War Trump, Introduction

Week 2: Why did Trump Win?

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 1

Nelson, Trump's First Year, Chapter 1

Week 3: [Trump's domestic social, immigration and economic policies](#)

Nelson, Trump's First Year, Chapters 2-4

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 2

[Selected readings](#)

Week 4: Trump's policies toward the military industrial congressional complex

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 3

Nelson, Trump's First Year, Chapters 5-6-7

Selected readings

Week 5: Trump's policies toward Europe

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 4

[Nelson, Trump's First Year, Chapter 8](#)

Selected readings

**Mid term to be announced**

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Week 6: Trump's policies toward Eastern Europe and Russia

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 5

Selected readings

Week 7 Trump's policies toward Eastern Europe and Russia

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 5

Selected readings

Week 8 Trump's policies toward China and Asia

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 6

Selected readings

Week 9 Trump's policies toward North Korea

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 7

Selected readings

Week 10 Trump's policies in the Wider Middle East

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 8

Selected readings

Week 11 Peace Through Strength? Alternative Perspectives

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 9

Selected readings

Week 12 Peace Through Strength? Alternative Perspectives

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 9

Selected readings

Week 13 Defusing the Global Geopolitical and Environmental Crises

Gardner, World War Trump, Chapter 10

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## Selected readings

Week 14 The Future with or without Trump?

Gardner, World War Trump, Postscript

Nelson, Trump's First Year, Chapters 9, Conclusion, Epilogue

Term Paper Due

## Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
Trumpocracy: The Corruption of the American Republic	David Frum	Harper Collins	9780062796738	Yes
Trump's First Year	Michael Nelson	University of Virginia Press 1 edition (January 22, 2018)	9780813941448	Yes
World War Trump	Gardner, Hall	Prometheus Books	9781633883956	Yes

## Attendance Policy

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Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

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Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

## **Grading Policy**

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Midterm Exam 30%

10-15 page Term Paper with notes and research attached 50%

Class Presentations and Discussions 20%

## **Other**

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### **Field Trips**

**October 26-28 Belgrade International Youth Forum**

**November 8-10 Geneva Peace Week**

**November 15-18 Istanbul**