Political Science 416  
Seminar on Liberalism and American Foreign Policy  
Spring 2019  
Instructor: John Mearsheimer

**Course Description**: This course examines how America’s liberal tradition affects its foreign policy.

**Course Requirements**: Every student is expected to do all the reading, attend every session, and participate in the discussion. The grade will be based on classroom participation (33%), and two 7-page papers (33% each).

I will provide students with a list of paper topics from which they can choose two.

Both papers will be due in my office (Pick 416) no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday of exam week – June 11. Papers received after that time will be dropped one letter grade for each day past the due date.

For graduating seniors, papers will be due no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 5.

The papers must be no longer than 7 pages of text, double-spaced, have at least 1-inch margins on all four sides, and have a standard-sized font (12).

Please make sure to identify the question you are answering at the start of your paper.

**Readings and Books**: All of the following books are in paperback, and have been ordered through the Seminary Coop Bookstore:

- Louis Hartz, *The Liberal Tradition in America* (Harvest)  
- Samuel Moyn, *The Last Utopia* (Belknap)  
- Samuel Huntington, *Who Are We?* (Simon & Schuster)  
- John Mearsheimer, *Great Delusion* (Yale)  
- Steven Pinker, *The Better Angels of Our Nature.* (Penguin)  
- Yael Tamir, *Liberal Nationalism* (Princeton)  
- Michael Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars* (Basic)

All pieces with ** are on Canvas.

**Course Outline**:

1. April 1 (Mon): Organizational Meeting
2. April 8 (Mon): What is Liberalism?


3. April 15 (Mon): Liberal Optimism – I


4. April 22 (Mon): Liberal Optimism – II


5. April 29 (Mon): Liberalism and Nationalism


6. May 6 (Mon): Liberalism, Nationalism, and Realism


7. May 13 (Mon): American Liberalism


8. May 20 (Mon): American Nationalism

Huntington, *Who Are We*, read entire book.

9. May 27 (Mon): Universal Human Rights


10. June 3 (Mon): Just War Theory