THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Department of Political Science

Political Science 416
Seminar on Liberalism and American Foreign Policy
Spring 2011
Instructor: John Mearsheimer

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

Course Requirements: Every student is expected to do all the reading, attend all the seminars, and participate in the discussion. The grade will be based on classroom participation (25%) and one 15-page paper (75%).

A list of paper topics will be provided, from which students choose one. Papers are due in my office (Pick 416A) no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 8. Late papers will be dropped one letter grade for each day past the due date. The paper must be: no longer than 15 pages of text, double-spaced, have at least 1-inch margins on all four sides, and have a standard-sized font.

Readings and Books: The following books have been ordered through the Seminary Coop Bookstore:

--Francis Fukuyama, *America at the Crossroads* (Yale)
--Louis Hartz, *The Liberal Tradition in America* (Harvest)
--Anatol Lieven, *America Right or Wrong* (Oxford)
--Uday Mehta, *Liberalism and Empire* (Chicago)
--Tony Smith, *America’s Mission* (Princeton)
--Yael Tamir, *Liberalism and Nationalism* (Princeton)

All articles and book chapters are on Chalk.

Course Outline:

1. March 28, 2011 (Mon): Organizational Meeting

2. April 4 (Mon): Kinds of Liberalism

   --Gray, *Two Faces of Liberalism*, read all.

3. April 11 (Mon): American Exceptionalism

   -- Hartz, *Liberal Tradition in America*, read all.
4. April 18 (Mon): **Liberalism and nationalism**

--Tamir, *Liberal Nationalism*, read all.

5. April 25 (Mon): **American Nationalism**

--Lieven, *America Right or Wrong*, read all.

6. May 2 (Mon): **Liberalism and the Balance of Power**


7. May 9 (Mon): **The Bush Doctrine**

--Fukuyama, *America at the Crossroads*, read all.
--Ikenberry et al., *Crisis of American Foreign Policy*, read all.

8. May 16 (Mon): **Liberal Imperialism**

--Mehta, *Liberalism and Empire*, read all.

9. May 23 (Mon): **Liberal Peace**


10. June 1 (Wed): **Exporting Democracy**

--Smith, *America’s Mission*, read all.