**MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**

**Graduate School of Social Sciences**

**Department of Latin and North American Studies**

**Current Issues & Future Prospects in American Foreign Policy**

**8430511**

Dr. Akın Alptuna, retired Ambassador

This course is designed to examine the current issues and the future prospects in American foreign policy. The present financial crisis in the US has brought about serious constraints in defense and foreign policy areas. The era since the end of WWII is coming to an end. What the US will and will not do in the period ahead calls for careful studies.

This course aims to examine American Foreign Policy mainly in four stages. It will begin with the review of the policies during the Cold War and will be followed by post-Cold War period. The third and fourth stages will respectively focus on the present financial crisis and its implications on foreign policy. In this connection the priority issues for the US such as security in Europe and East Asia, the spread of weapons of mass destruction and the access to oil and other markets will be studied. Furthermore, prospective relations with China, Russia and the Middle East Region will be examined.

**Course Outline:**

Week 1: American foreign policy during the Cold War

Week 2: American foreign policy during the Cold War

Week 3: American foreign policy during the Cold War

Week 4: Post Cold War

Week 5: Post Cold War

Week 6: Financial Crisis and its constraints on foreign policy

Week 7: Financial Crisis and its constraints on foreign policy

Week 8: Security in Europe

Week 9: Security in East Asia

Week 10:.Spread of WMD

Week 11: Oil Issues

Week 12:.Relations with China

Week 13: Relations with Russia

Week 14: Relations with the Middle East Region

**Reference Material:**

The Frugal Superpower –Michael Mandelbaum

Liberal Leviathan - G. John Ikenberry

The Tragedy of Great Power Politics—John J. Mearsheimer

Free Fall—Joseph E. Stiglitz

Beyond the Crash – Gordon Brown

Uberpower – Josef Joffe

The Irony of Manifest Destiny—William Pfaff

The Future of Power – Joseph s. NYE, Jr.

The End of the Free Market – Ian Bremmer

The Cold War –John Lewis Gaddis

Why the West Rules for Now—Ian Morris

Monsoon – Robert D. Kaplan

Periodicals Foreign Affairs, The American Interest