What explains American foreign policy decisions and actions on war and peace? How does the United States deal with national security and economic concerns in an increasingly globalized, anarchic international or world society that poses a wide array of both opportunities and threats? This conceptualization of anarchic international (now global) society provides the external context within which American foreign policy decision makers operate. Using a constructivist approach, the seminar engages in applied theory, identifying in the cases we examine understandings by policy makers of the material and ideational factors (internal and external) that facilitate or contrain the making and implementation of US foreign policy.

The require textbook is: Paul R. Viotti, American Foreign Policy (Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2010). Supplemental reading is: Paul R. Viotti, US National Security Policy (Cambria Press, 2016). In order to gain 2 credits for this seminar, students are required to submit a 10-12 page paper 2 weeks by the end of the seminar on an issue approved by the professor. The seminar is taught entirely in ENGLISH. An effort will be made to mix traditional lectures with class discussions.

On-line registration is open until 13 October 2016 http://www.sociologia.unitn.it/100/seminari-di-credito
(maximum number of participants: 40)