

**POLT 797/897: Selected Topics in U.S. Foreign Policy**

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**CONCEPTS AND WAR GOALS TASKERS**

Each task is worth 10% of your final course grade.

Over the course of the semester, we will study thirteen concepts and the goals of eight U.S. wars.

**Concepts.** From 20 September through 1 November, working in pairs, each of you will study two concepts, provide a critique of my concept, and lead a discussion of these concepts in class. (5% each)

**Goals.** From 27 September through 25 October, working in pairs, each of you will study the U.S. goals in two wars, provide a critique of those goals, and lead a discussion of these in class.) (5% each)

On 30 August, we will distribute student assignments these tasks.

In the syllabus is the material for the concepts. These are primarily what I use to teach the concepts. What I need from you and your partner are a critique of the concept and the material in a two-page paper and then a class discussion of the concept led by you and your partner. Included in the critique should be suggestions how to present the concept to students with an eye toward improved understanding and ability to use the concept.

The material for the U.S. goals during these wars is to be determined. However, in the syllabus on 13 and 20 September is material on goals, victory, and cost/benefits that should provide the conceptual basis for your work. What I need from you and your partner is an analysis of the U.S. war goals of your wars, using the conceptual material of 13 and 20 September and then a class discussion of those goals led by you and your partner. Included in your analysis should be suggestions how to present the concepts of goals and victory and the relationship of cost/benefits to goals and victory to students with an eye toward improved understanding and ability to use the concept.