

# Groups dynamics and the US foreign policy process

Niveau d'étude  
**Bac +5**

Composante  
**Lettres et langues**

## Présentation

### Description

Given the ethnic diversity of the U.S., the Anglo-Saxon Protestant elite had from the birth of the new republic put in place the ideological tools to make “out of the many, one.” Each new generation of non-Anglo-Saxon immigrants had to go through a period of suspicion and a process of assimilation by which the new immigrant is required to embrace the values of his new country, display his patriotism and reject or forget the ones of the old one. More than any other nation in the world, the U.S. has always had a need to regularly activate or reactivate the feeling of patriotism and nationalism. The immigrant had to feel that acquiring American citizenship allows him or her to belong to an “exceptional nation” that has a mission to civilize other countries, to spread democracy, freedom and human rights to the rest of the world. The state of quasi-perpetual war or conflict (including ideological ones) coupled with the “paranoid style of American politics” have helped the American elite to tap into the feeling of nationalism and patriotism to impose a minimum degree of national cohesion, necessary for the survival of the country as a nation. The mobilization of groups on ethnic bases to influence U.S. foreign is therefore governed by strict rules and regulations prescribed by law.

Ethnic lobbying involves parameters with highly symbolic and affective dimensions, such as “national interest,” “patriotism,” “citizenship,” and “allegiance,” in other words, notions and values which are sanctified by mainstream society and by the dominant culture and which do not tolerate any element of suspicion.

### Heures d'enseignement

Groups dynamics and the US foreign policy process- CM	CM	12h
Groups dynamics and the US foreign policy process - TD	TD	6h

### Objectifs