

**Honors Term 3 Outside Reading:**Stephen Kinzer's *Overthrow*

As the subtitle says, this compelling book documents “America’s century of regime change from Hawaii to Iraq.” This work takes a macro-view of global communities and America’s role in the world, analyzing American intervention in other countries, from the imperialist era (Hawaii, Cuba, Puerto Rico) to the Cold War (Iran, Guatemala, Chile, Vietnam) to recent events (Grenada, Panama, Afghanistan, Iraq). This book – not your typical dry history book – will ultimately help you to think about America’s evolving role in the world, and help put the foreign affairs events of the past century in better perspective. It does have a strong bias; you can decide whether or not you agree with it.

It is your choice whether you buy or borrow the book -- however, be sure to get it as soon as possible, as your first analysis is due in a month.

You are responsible for **TWO different reflections** on the book. Each reflection should be approximately 1000-1200 words, or 4 typed pages, and each one will cover approximately 1/2 of the book.

For each of your responses, choose one of the prompts below to focus on. You do NOT have to use the same prompt for each response, though you may choose to do so. We’d suggest that you start by reading the section, then decide which prompt you have the most to say about for the particular section, and proceed from there. \* For your final prompt, you must include a clear conclusion for the entire book reading, which does not simply restate the thesis statement.

1. **Do the ideas in the book reinforce the ideas of American exceptionalism? Why did the United States government, or Americans overall, feel justified in their actions in other countries?**
2. **What insight does the author give into American foreign policy motivations and effects? How did the business interests of America affect its foreign affairs?**
3. **What ideas does the work give about America’s impact on other communities?**
4. **How and why did America’s view of itself, or its goals abroad, evolve with time?**
5. **What lessons might the book offer about future American actions, or its sense of itself?**

**DUE DATES:**

- **Monday, March 14:** Chapters 1-6 (about 150 pages)
- **Friday, April 1:** Chapters 7 - 14 (about 175 pages) *Term III ends on Wednesday, April 6*

Each response will be worth 50 points. Please turn over for grading rubric - each response will be assessed according to your thesis, use and contextualization of evidence from the book, and any relevant outside information, structure, and writing quality.