

**Sailing the Water’s Edge:**
The Domestic Politics of American Foreign Policy  
Authors: Helen V. Milner and Dustin Tingley  
Publisher: Princeton University Press, 2015

When engaging with other countries, the U.S. government has a number of different policy instruments at its disposal, including foreign aid, international trade and the use of military force. But what determines which policies are chosen? Does the United States rely too much on the use of military power and coercion in its foreign policies? *Sailing the Water's Edge* focuses on how domestic U.S. politics — in particular the interactions between the president, Congress, interest groups, bureaucratic institutions and the public — have influenced foreign policy choices since World War II and shows why presidents have more control over some policy instruments than others.

Helen Milner, Princeton’s B.C. Forbes Professor of Public Affairs and professor of politics and international affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School, and Dustin Tingley, professor of government at Harvard University, explore whether American foreign policy will remain guided by a grand strategy of liberal internationalism, what affects American foreign policy successes and failures, and the role of U.S. intelligence collection in shaping foreign policy.

*Sailing the Water’s Edge* examines the importance of domestic political coalitions and institutions on the formation of American foreign policy.

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**Poetic Trespass:**
Writing Between Hebrew and Arabic in Israel/Palestine  
Author: Lital Levy  
Publisher: Princeton University Press, 2014

A Palestinian-Israeli poet declares a new state whose language, “Homelandic,” is a combination of Arabic and Hebrew. A Jewish-Israeli author imagines a “language plague” that infects young Hebrew speakers with old-world accents, and sends the narrator in search of his Arabic heritage. In *Poetic Trespass*, Lital Levy, associate professor of comparative literature, brings together such startling visions to offer the first in-depth study of the relationship between Hebrew and Arabic in the literature and culture of Israel/Palestine. More than that, she presents a captivating portrait of the literary imagination’s power to transgress political boundaries and transform ideas about language and belonging.

Blending history and literature, *Poetic Trespass* traces the interwoven life of Arabic and Hebrew in Israel/Palestine from the turn of the 20th century to the present, exposing the two languages’ intimate entanglements in contemporary works of prose, poetry, film and visual art by both Palestinian and Jewish citizens of Israel.

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**Equal Recognition:**
The Moral Foundations of Minority Rights  
Author: Alan Patten  
Publisher: Princeton University Press, 2015

Conflicting claims about culture are a familiar refrain of political life in the contemporary world. On one side, majorities seek to fashion the state in their own image, while on the other, cultural minorities press for greater recognition and accommodation. Theories of liberal democracy are at odds about the merits of these competing claims. Multicultural liberals hold that particular minority rights are a requirement of justice conceived of in a broadly liberal fashion. Critics, in turn, have questioned the motivations, coherence and normative validity of such defenses of multiculturalism.

In *Equal Recognition*, Alan Patten, the Howard Harrison and Gabrielle Snyder Beck Professor of Politics, reasserts the case in favor of liberal multiculturalism by developing a new ethical defense of minority rights. He describes a new, nonessentialist account of culture, and he re-habilitates and reconceptualizes the idea of liberal neutrality and uses this idea to develop a distinctive normative argument for minority rights.