

ACTIVITY: KEYWORD RESPONSE

Keywords Response

In order to develop an understanding of core concepts it is important to focus on a series of keywords, examining what they have been used to mean in different times and places, and what they mean to you. Each of these concepts is well known in foreign policy, but also has lesser-known domestic uses in policy, criminology, and other areas. By making new connections between foreign and domestic, within and beyond national borders, you will explore the ways that foreign policy “comes home,” or perhaps was already here.

You will choose one keyword to focus on and in this activity you will have to write a 2-3 page response connecting that keyword to the research you conduct on your own.

Keywords:

- Sovereignty
- Pre-emption
- Deterrence
- Surveillance
- Containment
- Torture
- Counterinsurgency
- Indefinite detention
- Riot
- Law and order
- Terror
- Security

Secondary Sources:

You may find it helpful to look at how some scholars have used and written about keywords. For examples of keywords from different disciplines see for example:

- Raymond Williams' [*Keywords: a Vocabulary of Culture and Society*](#)
- Daniel Rodgers' [*Contested Truths: Keywords in American Politics since Independence*](#)
- Erica R. Edwards, et. al., eds., [*Keywords for African American Studies*](#)
- NYU Press' Series, [*Keywords for American Cultural Studies*, etc.](#)

Keyword Projects:

- Columbia University: <https://www.soc.difference.columbia.edu/projects-/keywords>
- University of Pittsburgh: <https://keywords.pitt.edu>

Online Resources

You will want to research your chosen keyword in a number of online databases. You will want to search the term along with related terms -- like foreign policy, criminology, police, prison, etc., -- to get a range of material from both government documents, newspapers, organization materials, memoirs, and so forth.

Databases: America's Historical Newspapers; American Indian Newspapers; Asian American Drama; Archives of Human Sexuality, Identity, LGBTQ History; HeinOnline; HathiTrust; Hispanic American Newspapers; Internet Archive; Latin American Newspapers; LGBT Life; Middle-East Online; Military and Government Collection; NAACP Papers; Nixon Years; ProQuest Congressional; ProQuest Historical Newspapers; Slavery, Abolition, Social Justice; Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy; US Intelligence on the Middle East; United Nations Digital Library; US Newsstream; Women and Social Movements in the US; Women Writers Online; Women, War and Society; World Newspaper Archive.