Explore the ascendant ideas that have informed U.S. statecraft—from the Spanish-American War to the present. Instead of presenting a familiar story of “Realism vs. Idealism,” the approach will be whether “Art vs. Science” is a more useful binary to explore when considering the ideational foundations of U.S. foreign policy.

David Milne is senior lecturer in modern history at the University of East Anglia in Norwich England. Milne is the author of Worldmaking: The Art and Science of American Diplomacy (2015), America’s Rasputin: Walt Rostow and the Vietnam War (2008), and was senior editor of the two-volume Oxford Encyclopedia of American Military and Diplomatic History (2013). In addition to academic journals, Milne has written for the Wall Street Journal, the Nation, Foreign Policy, and the Los Angeles Times. His lecture will be derived from his book Worldmaking.