America in the World, Second Edition

This volume includes historiographical surveys of American foreign relations since 1941 by some of the country’s leading historians. Several of the essays offer sweeping overviews of the major trends in the field of foreign/international relations history while others survey the literature on U.S. relations with particular regions of the world or on the foreign policies of presidential administrations. The result is a comprehensive assessment of the historical literature on U.S. foreign policy that highlights recent developments in the field.

Frank Costigliola is Professor of History at the University of Connecticut. He is the editor of *The Kennan Diaries* (2014) and the author of *Roosevelt’s Lost Alliances: How Personal Politics Helped Start the Cold War* (2012); *France and the United States: The Cold War Alliance since World War II* (1992); and *Awkward Dominion: American Political, Economic, and Cultural Relations with Europe, 1919–1933* (1984). Professor Costigliola is a former president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

America in the World

The Historiography of American Foreign Relations since 1941

Second Edition

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To Our Graduate Students
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Preface

This volume is intended to complement Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations, another book of essays. While the second edition of Explaining was edited by Michael J. Hogan and Thomas G. Paterson and was published in 2004, the third edition is, like this volume, edited by Frank Costigliola and Michael J. Hogan, and it will appear in 2015. The essays in Explaining discuss the various conceptual and methodological approaches to the study of foreign and international relations history. The chapters in this volume provide an overview of the recent literature in that field.

Each of the authors in the second edition of America in the World was asked to address the literature on a particular topic that has appeared since 1995, when the first edition was published. The essays do not present a unified theme or approach, but the combined result is a generally comprehensive survey of the best recent literature in what has become an ever-widening and more diverse field. We are indebted to the many friends and colleagues, particularly the contributors, who helped in the preparation of this volume. We are also grateful to our editor, Debbie Gershenowitz, and the staff at Cambridge University Press for their enthusiasm and work on behalf of the project.

Given the inevitable constraints of a publication schedule and the ongoing appearance of new literature, the authors of the chapters did the best they could to revise and update their contributions. Historiographical essays are very difficult to write. For the authors the reward is surely to be found in the great utility of such essays to graduate students and established scholars who rely on them to stay abreast of the newest works. We are especially grateful to the contributors for waiving their claim to any royalties.
Preface

Those funds will be donated to the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) to help support the Lawrence Gelfand–Armin Rappaport–Walter LaFeber Dissertation Fellowship. Lawrence Gelfand was mentor to Michael J. Hogan while he was a graduate student at the University of Iowa; Armin Rappaport was Thomas G. Paterson’s major adviser at the University of California at Berkeley; and Walter LaFeber advised Frank Costigliola when he was a graduate student at Cornell University.

Grateful to these truly gifted and inspiring teachers and scholars, we have tried to repay some of the debt we owe them by guiding our own graduate students. This book is dedicated to the many talented graduate students with whom we have worked over the years. They have been the best of students, and they have also taught us. We are proud to know them and are forever in their debt.

For both Costigliola and Hogan, part of the pleasure in working on this volume has been the opportunity to renew the friendship we forged back in the early 1970s when we, along with Mel Leffler and Michael Hunt, were graduate students researching what was then the hot topic of international engagement during the supposedly isolationist decade of the 1920s. As several of the essays in this volume illustrate, a cutting-edge topic of today is the history of the 1970s. So it goes.