Ideas
- Ideologies
- Traditions
- Discourses
- Grand Strategy

Actors
- Politicians
- Public Opinion
- Parties

Interests
- National Interests
- Domestic
- Local

Structures
- Institutions
- Global Economy
- International System
Ideology and US Policy: A 3-Tiered Approach

MACRO LEVEL
(Ideas drawn from American Political Culture, e.g. American Exceptionalism, Manifest Destiny etc.)
LARGELY FIXED

MESO LEVEL
(belief systems – e.g. liberalism, conservatism, neo-conservatism)
CONTESTED, CONSTANTLY EVOLVING

MICRO LEVEL
(Individual actors, doctrines, discourse and personal beliefs)
SITE OF MOST RAPID CHANGES