

# SIPA at Books & Books

School of International and Public Affairs



## The Great Anglo-Celtic Divide in the History of American Foreign Relations Book Presentation by Thomas Breslin

July 31, 2012 | 8:00 PM | Books & Books, 265 Aragon Avenue, Coral Gables

Positing that presidents shape America's foreign policy according to their ethnic heritage, this intriguing volume examines two groups that have dominated the presidency and the distinctly different agendas that have resulted. Anglo-American presidents have been willing to undertake risky wars to build a national system and global trading network. Celtic-American presidents have been more cautious about going to war, yet less willing to cut American losses and make peace. Are these generalizations true? Does presidential ethnicity really shape American foreign policy? To make its point, this book examines the key foreign policies of American presidents from George Washington to George W. Bush and shows how their most important foreign policy decisions have tended to follow an ethnic pattern. The book analyzes seven alternating periods of political domination by Anglo-Americans and Celtic-Americans, demonstrating how the cycle of change affected the shape and distinguishing characteristics of U.S. foreign policy in matters of war and peace and in relations with other countries.

**Thomas A. Breslin** is Professor of Politics and International relations in the Department of Politics and International Relations, School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 305-348-7266.