

The World in the Twentieth Century, 1945-Present

HIS 218-06

Fall 2016, MW 3:30-4:45, MHRA 1215

(3:3) GHP/GN/GMO/IGS

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Course Description

This course will examine global issues in the contemporary world, focusing mainly on the post-World War II period, from the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945, to the complex, high-tech, evolving world of today. We will examine some of the important political, economic, social, and cultural changes of the second half of the twentieth century and how these changes have shaped the world we live in today. World History, however, is such a broad subject that one could attempt to teach everything, but teach nothing at all. Therefore, the instructor has chosen the Cold War as a theme for the course. This course will examine world history since 1945 through the prism of the Cold War.

Student Learning Objectives

General Education Student Learning Objectives

Categories: Historical Perspectives (GHP)

1. Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
2. Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

Global Perspectives Non Western (GN)

1. Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse cultures.
2. Describe interconnections among regions of the world. (Must include substantial focus on cultures, nations or sub-nationalists in the Caribbean, Latin America, Middle East/North Africa, Asia, Africa, Pacific Islands, or indigenous peoples around the world).
3. Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

Course Student Learning Objectives

1. Students will be able to evaluate the origins, policy decisions, conclusion, and aftermath of the Cold War.
2. Students will be able to analyze primary source documents.
3. Students will be able to support a thesis statement in a short essay.

Course Readings

- Edward H. Judge and John W. Langdon, eds., *The Cold War: A Global History with Documents* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2011).

Grades

- Exams (3): 60%. The course is divided into three units. Therefore, there will be three equally weighted exams. The exams will consist of objective questions to quiz your grasp of key concepts and actors, and subjective questions to test your critical analysis. The objective questions will derive from class notes and the subjective questions from class discussions.

- Paper (1): 20%. Answer one of the following prompts below using the primary source documents in *The Cold War: A Global History with Documents* (p. 277-464) by the date assigned.

Your answer must include an introductory paragraph with a clear thesis statement, body paragraphs that support your thesis, and a conclusion. You must answer the question using evidence from the primary source documents. The papers must be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, and with standard one inch margins. The paper should be no less than three pages, but no more than five pages. A grading rubric will be posted on Canvas. In addition, you must follow the university's Academic Integrity Policy or face disciplinary measures.

Late papers will receive a ten-point deduction for every calendar day that it is late. If you were assigned option #1 or #2 and fail to submit a paper, you cannot write on a later option to receive credit; a zero will be recorded.

There are three writing options and three due dates spaced out across the semester. One-third of the class will write on option #1, another third on option #2, and the final third on option #3. If an insufficient number of students volunteer to write on option #1 or #2, students will be randomly selected and assigned to write the paper to meet the quota.

- Paper #1: Was the Cold War inevitable? If so, why? If not, who was most responsible for touching off the conflict?

- Paper #2: How did conflict within the eastern and western blocs, nuclear proliferation, and internal politics contribute to the global confrontation between 1950 and 1972?

- Paper #3: What circumstances led to end of the Cold War? Why did the Cold War end at that point and not an earlier moment?

- Quizzes: (several) 20%. Students will be given quizzes on the course readings throughout the semester. Students can prepare for this assessment by reading the unit study guide that is posted on Canvas, which provides the student learning objectives and identifications. The quizzes will be given promptly at the start of class and CANNOT be made up. To earn full credit it is recommended that assignments are read prior to class and to attend all classes.

- Class Participation: Although this class is in a lecture setting and you will have dozens of classmates, you are expected to participate in class discussions. To ensure that you are best engaged and not a distraction to others, there will be a NO TECHNOLOGY policy, meaning laptops, cell phones, and other non-life sustaining electronic devices will be prohibited. Violation of this policy will result in a recorded absence and a request for you to leave the classroom.

- Attendance: All students are expected to attend all class meetings and be to class on time. A sign in sheet will be distributed at the beginning of class to record attendance. Students that arrive late will be marked absent. It is reasonable to expect that illness or other unexpected events will cause you to miss a class on occasion. A student may miss three (3) classes without penalty. However, each additional absence will result in a drop of 1/3 of a letter grade from your overall course grade.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic/Reading Assignment
1	8/22	Seeds of Conflict Judge & Langdon, p. 1-12.
	8/24	Adversaries and Allies, 1939-1945 Judge & Langdon, p. 13-31. Documents: Yalta Conference, 277-279; The Potsdam Conference, p. 279-281; The Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima, p. 281-282.
2	8/29	The Formation of the Communist Bloc, 1944-1948 Judge & Langdon, p. 32-43. Documents: Stalin's Election Speech, p. 283-284.
	8/31	The Cold War Begins, 1945-1948 Judge & Langdon, p. 44-55. Documents: Churchill's Iron Curtain Speech, p. 284-288; Truman Doctrine, p. 291-292; The Sources of Soviet Conduct, p. 294-302.
3	9/5	Labor Day – Class Dismissed
	9/7	The Cold War Begins, 1945-1948 Judge & Langdon, p. 55-57. Documents: The Marshall Plan, 293-294; Founding of the Cominform, p. 302-304; The Communist Coup in Czechoslovakia, p. 304-306.
4	9/12	The Battle for Germany, 1948-1952 Judge & Langdon, p. 60-66. Documents: The Treaty of Brussels, p 306-307; The Expulsion of Tito from the Communist Bloc, p. 307-309; Berlin Blockade, p. 309-311; NATO Alliance, p. 311-313.
	9/14	The Battle for Germany, 1948-1952 Judge & Langdon, p. 66-73.
5	9/19	The Communist Revolution in China, 1946-1950

Judge & Landon, p. 74-85.

Documents: Acheson on the Communist Triumph in China, 313-315; Mao Proclaims the People's Republic of China, p. 316-317; The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Treaty, p. 317-319; McCarthy on "Communists" in the U.S. Government, p. 319-320.

9/21 **Exam #1**

6 9/26 **The Conflict Over Korea, 1950-1953**

Judge & Landon, p. 86-99.

Documents: Acheson on the American Defense Perimeter in Asia, p. 321-322; NSC-68, p. 322-325; The Korean War, p. 325-328.

9/28 **New Leaders and New Realities, 1953-1957**

Judge & Langdon, p. 100-116

Documents: Dulles on Massive Retaliation, p. 328-329; Geneva Conference, p. 329-331; The SEATO Alliance, p. 331-333; Bandung Conference and the Nonaligned Movement, p. 333-336; Warsaw Pact, p. 336-338; Khrushchev on Peaceful Coexistence, p. 338-339; Khrushchev's Secret Speech on Stalin and His Crimes, p. 339-342; The Hungarian Rebellion, p. 342-344; The Suez Crisis, p. 344-347; The Eisenhower Doctrine, p. 347-348.

Paper #1 Due

7 10/3 **The Perpetuation of the Cold War, 1957-1961**

Judge & Landon, p. 117-128.

Documents: The U-2 Affair, p. 350-354.

10/5 **The Perpetuation of the Cold War, 1957-1961**

Judge & Langdon, p. 128-135.

Documents: The Congo Crisis, p. 354-358; Castro on the Revolution, p. 358-359; Khrushchev on "Wars of National Liberation," p. 359-361; Eisenhower's Farewell Address, p. 361-362.

8 10/10 **Crisis and Coexistence, 1961-1964**

Judge & Langdon, p. 136-156.

Documents: Kennedy's Inaugural Address, p. 363-364; Berlin Crisis, p. 364-367; The Cuban Missile Crisis, p. 367-371.

10/12 **Crisis and Coexistence, 1961-1964**

Judge & Langdon, p. 146-156.

Documents: Kennedy's Peace Speech at American University, p. 371-373; Kennedy's Berlin Speech, p. 373-374; The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, p. 375-375.

9 10/17 **Fall Break – Class Dismissed**

- 10/19 **Southeast Asia and the Cold War, 1945-1970**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 157-166.
 Documents: The Sino-Soviet Split, p. 376-379.
- 10 10/24 **Southeast Asia and the Cold War, 1945-1970**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 166-175.
 Documents: The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, p. 379-380; Lin Biao, p. 380-382;
 Lyndon Johnson and the Vietnam War, p. 383-385.
- 10/26 **China, SALT, and the Superpowers, 1967-1972**
 Judge & Landon, p. 176-191.
 Documents: China's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, p. 385-386;
 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, p. 386-387; Soviet Invasion of
 Czechoslovakia, p. 387-388; Brezhnev Doctrine, p. 388-389; Soviet-Chinese
 Border Conflict, p. 390-391; Nixon Doctrine, p. 391-393; Berlin Accords, p.
 394-395; Nixon's China Visit, p. 395-396.
- 11 10/31 **Exam #2**
- 11/2 **The Heyday of Détente, 1972-1975**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 192-196.
 Documents: ABM Treaty and SALT I, p. 396-399; The U.S. Withdrawal from
 Vietnam, p. 399-401.
- 12 11/7 **The Heyday of Détente, 1972-1975**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 196-206.
 Documents: Yom Kippur War, p. 401-403; Deng Xiaoping, p. 403-404;
 Vladivostok Summit, p. 405-406; Helsinki Final Act, p. 406-409.

Paper #2 Due

- 11/9 **The Decline of Détente, 1975-1979**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 207-222.
 Documents: Carter on Human Rights, p. 409-411; Peace Between Egypt and
 Israel, p. 411-414; The Normalization of U.S.-Chinese Relations, p. 414-416;
 The SALT II Agreement, p. 417-418; The Euromissile Controversy, p. 418-
 422; The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan, p. 422-424; The Carter Doctrine, p.
 424-426.
- 13 11/14 **The Return of the Cold War, 1980-1985**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 223-232.
 Documents: Reagan's Anti-Soviet Rhetoric, p. 426-427; Reagan's Arms
 Control Proposals, p. 427-429; Polish Imposition of Martial Law, p. 429-431;
 Andropov's Peace Offensive, p. 432-433.

- 11/16 **The Return of the Cold War, 1980-1985**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 232-237.
 Documents: Reagan's "Star Wars" Speech, p. 433-434; The KAL 007 Incident, p. 435-436.
- 14 11/21 **The Thaw in the Cold War, 1985-1988**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 238-245.
 Documents: The Geneva Summit, p. 436-439.
- 11/23 **Thanksgiving Break – Class Dismissed**
- 15 11/28 **The Thaw in the Cold War, 1985-1988**
 Judge & Langdon. p. 245-251.
 Documents: Reykjavik Summit, p. 439-441; Reagan's 1987 Berlin Speech, p. 441-443.
- 11/30 **The End of the Cold War, 1988-1991**
 Judge & Langdon, p. 252-270.
 Documents: Gorbachev's New Thinking on International Relations, p. 443-445; INF Treaty, p. 445-447; The Soviet Withdrawal of Afghanistan, p. 447-448; Gorbachev's UN Address, p. 448-451; Tiananmen Square Massacre, p. 451-453; The Opening of the Berlin Wall, p. 453-454; NATO's London Declaration of the End of the Cold War, p. 454-456; The Kohl-Gorbachev Agreement, p. 456-457; The START Treaty, p. 458-459; The Attempted Coup in the USSR, p. 459-462; Gorbachev's Resignation Speech, p. 462-464.
- 16 12/5 **The Post-Cold War Era**
 Walter LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, p. 371-409 (available on Canvas).

Paper #3 Due

12/9 **Exam #3 (3:30-6:30)**