

Fall 2009 HIST 4092 The United States in the Era of the Cold War

Call #: 21-331 Room: 101 LeConte Hall 12:20-1:10 MWF

Instructor: Mao Lin Office: 133 LeConte Hall Email: maomao@uga.edu

Office Hours: M 9:00AM-NOON and by appointment

Course Description:

This course examines the major events, structures, and problems of America history during the Cold War era. The course has three broad objectives: 1) to enhance student understanding of the political, diplomatic, cultural, and social history of the United States during the era of the Cold War; 2) to enhance student understanding of U.S. interactions with the world, and 3) to promote critical thinking--how to arrive at conclusions through gathering and weighting of evidence, logical argument, and analyzing the hidden assumptions and agendas of evidence.

Required Books:

Michael Hunt (ed.) The World Transformed 1945 to the Present: A Documentary Reader (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004)

Mary L. Dudziak, Cold War Civil Rights (Princeton University Press, 2000)

Daniel Horowitz, Jimmy Carter and the Energy Crisis of the 1970s: A Brief History with Documents (Bedford/St. Martin's 2005)

Ernest R. May, American Cold War Strategy: Interpreting NSC 68 (Bedford/St. Martin's 1993)

Ronald Story & Bruce Laurie, The Rise of Conservatism in America, 1945-2000: A Brief History with Documents (Bedford/St. Martin's 2008)

Robert K. Brigham, Is Iraq Another Vietnam? (Public Affairs, 2006)

Reserved Online Readings at UGA Library Website

Recommended Textbook:

Fraser J. Harbutt, The Cold War Era (Blackwell Publishers, 2002)

Grading:

Test 1: 15%

Test 2: 15%

Final Exam: 20%

Two response essays 10%

One Essay: 30%

Pop Quizzes and discussion: 10%

We will have two tests and a final exam during this semester. They will be essay and short answer in nature and based on lectures, readings, and discussions. Essay questions will be passed out in advance of the tests and final exam, but must be done in class without notes or books.

You will write two short response essays for Cold War Civil Rights and Is Iraq Another Vietnam? The essay should not merely summarize the book, however. You must offer your own opinions and critiques of the books. The essay should at least be two-page long. **Late essay will not be accepted.**

Another 30% of your grade will be determined by your grade on a 3000-to-5000 word paper done outside of class based on **ONE** of the following three books: Jimmy Carter and the Energy Crisis of the 1970s, American Cold War Strategy: Interpreting NSC 68, and The Rise of Conservatism in America, 1945-2000. Each book has a part of primary documents, and your paper should be based upon those documents. Each book has a narrative part that tells you the basic historical outline of the book's topic. You should use the narrative part as your guideline, but your paper can not merely summarize the narrative. You are also encouraged to consult the further reading section of the book. The paper topics are:

- 1) Jimmy Carter and the Energy Crisis of the 1970s: Describe and evaluate the making of the Crisis of Confidence Speech and its significances.
- 2) American Cold War Strategy: Interpreting NSC 68: Describe and evaluate the making of NSC 68 and the different interpretations of it.
- 3) The Rise of Conservatism in America, 1945-2000: Describe and evaluate the relations between the Cold War and the rise of American conservatism.

You have considerable leeway in developing a specific approach within one of those frameworks; you can also write a paper related to but not exclusively based on the book you choose, but it would be a good idea to consult the instructor before writing the paper. Your paper must include a bibliography of sources consulted as well as citations when using information and/or ideas that are not your own. **Late paper will lose credit by 1/3 letter grade every 24-hour.**

The remaining 10% of your grade will be determined by your grade on pop quizzes and discussions. The quizzes are based on the readings that you should read before the classes when the quizzes are given. A policy of bonus question will be announced in class.

Makeup Tests:

Students may make up (**not retake!**) one of the two tests. No excuse is necessary to do so.

Students may make up the final exam after the official exam date only if they have a legitimate excuse (oversleeping or forgetting or not knowing the time of the exam is

NOT a legitimate excuse!). With few exceptions, a legitimate excuse is limited to the following categories: (1) death in the immediate family; (2) student illness (verified by a doctor's letter or dated prescription with the student's name on it); (3) participation in a university-sponsored activity (intercollegiate athletic even, required field trip, etc.). In each case, it is the student's responsibility to provide verification of the excuse acceptable to the instructor.

If you have a conflict at the regularly scheduled final exam time, you should contact the instructor as soon as possible. However, it is the student's responsibility to follow the policies regarding final exam schedule conflicts.

For such policies, see www.bulletin.uga.edu and www.curriculumsystems.uga.edu

Attendance:

Attendance in class is mandatory. A student with more than five absences cannot pass the course. **There is no such thing as an excused absence**, unless a student misses the final exam. Missing a test does NOT count as an absence. Students who miss a class are responsible for knowing anything said by the instructor in that class, including announcements regarding changes in this syllabus.

Dropping the Class:

Students with 50 or more points on the first test may drop the course with a W anytime until mid-semester add/drop deadline. **A missed exam is considered a 0 until it is made up.** Once a student has decided to drop the class, he/she should go through the drop procedure immediately, as more than five absences or a missed test may result in a WF or F. The instructor may drop any student from the class for excessive absences, or for failing to abide by the rules or protocol of the class (see "Additional Protocol" below) as outlined herein or announced by the instructor in class.

Additional Protocol:

- (1) Students who enter the classroom after the instructor has begun his lecture or discussion must stay at the side of the classroom. Any student arriving 15 minutes after the class begins will be marked absent and not be admitted to the class. Any student leaving before the class is dismissed will be marked absent.
- (2) Students are not permitted to record the lectures or discussions.
- (3) Students may contest grades on their exams only 24 hours after they receive their grades. **A student contesting a grade will face the possibility of having her/his grade lowered as well as raised or left unchanged, as the instructor may re-grade the whole exam.**
- (4) Students are not permitted to talk in class unless called upon to do so by the instructor.
- (5) Students are not permitted to sleep in class or to read or to use the internet while the instructor is conducting class.
- (6) Students are expected to avoid any activity that will distract other students or the instructor, including bringing a phone to class that is not turned off.

(7) Additional rules may be added during the course of the semester as the instructor sees fit.

Cheating:

The instructor has “zero tolerance” for cheating. Any work in infringement of the university academic honesty code (<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academichonesty.htm>) will at a minimum receive a 0 grade in the assignment involved, which will be given extra weight in calculating the final grade. The consequences for what the instructor considers significant plagiarism on a paper or major cheating on an exam in this course can be (and has been) suspension or expulsion from the university.

Class Schedule

August 17 Monday Class Begin

Week 1: World War II and Its Legacy

Read: Online documents: D01-D16

Week 2 Origins of the Cold War

Read: Online documents: D17-D21

Hunt: 1.1-1.9, 2.1-2.9

Week 3 The Korean War Period

Read: May: 1-107

Hunt: 3.1-3.3

Online documents: D22-25

Week 4 Red Scare

Read: Hunt: 1.10-1.11

Story & Laurie: 1-12, 35-52

Online documents: D26-32

Sept. 7 Labor Day

Week 5 The 1950s: Mass Consumption and Massive Retaliation

Read: Hunt: 4.1-4.6, 5.1-5.6

Online documents: D33-45

Week 6 JFK and the Cold War

Read: Hunt: 6.9-6.11

Online documents: D46-50

Week 7 Cold War Culture and the Third World

Read: Hunt: 6.1-6.8

Online documents: D51-54

Oct. 2 First Exam

Week 8 The Great Society and the Politics of Liberal Reform

Read: Story & Laurie: 52-74

Online documents: D55-59

You are suggested to read: Dudziak: Chapter 1-4

Week 9 Race, Gender, and New Radicalism

Read: Dudziak

Hunt: 4.11-4.13 5.8-5.13

Online documents: D60-63

Oct. 16 first response essay due

Week 10 Vietnam

Read: Hunt: 3.4-3.6 4.7-4.10 6.12-6.14

May: 108-198

Week 11 Nixon-Kissinger-Ford and Détente

Read: Story & Laurie 75-122

Hunt: 7.1-7.2

Online documents: D64-65

Oct. 30 Fall Break

Week 12 Carter and the fall of Détente

Read: Horowitz

Hunt: 9.1-9.11

Nov. 6 Second Exam

Week 13 Reagan and the New Cold War

Read: Hunt: 7.3-7.10

Week 14 The End of the Cold War

Read: Story & Laurie 122-165

Hunt: 8.1-8.13

Nov. 20 Research Paper due

Thanksgiving

Week 15 The Post-Cold War Challenges

Read: Brigham, [Is Iraq Another Vietnam?](#)

Hunt: 10.1-10.6

Dec. 4 second response essay due

Week 16

December 8 Friday Class Schedule in Effect/Class End

Exam: Mon., Dec. 14 12:00 - 3:00 pm