

# History 50:512:381

## The Cold War

Fall 2017  
Wednesdays, 5:15 – 7:55 PM  
Location: Rutgers, Camden County College  
Blackwood / Madison 205

Instructor: Dr. Martin G. Clemis  
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 4:10-5:10 &  
8:00-9:00 PM, Madison 122  
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**Course Description:** This course examines the causes, conduct, and legacies of the global Cold War. It explores the half-century of struggle between communism and the West, including its social, cultural, political, economic, military, diplomatic, ideological, and environmental dimensions. Topics and perspectives include the origins of the Cold War; Soviet and American foreign policy and military strategy; the atomic arms race, brinkmanship and detente; spheres of influence and strategic alliances; postcolonialism; modernization theory and practice; insurgency and counterinsurgency; proxy wars in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East; superpower interventions in the developing world; and the conflict's impact on society and politics in the United States and abroad.

**Assignments:** In order to receive a satisfactory grade in this course, students must complete the following assignments:

- 1. Attendance /Course Engagement:** Do the reading and participate in class discussions. Each unit will consist of both lectures and discussions. Participation in these discussions of the reading and lecture material and completion of any homework assignments are essential to helping you understand the themes of the course. They are therefore an important part of your grade. Of course, good attendance is also part of this assignment as well, since you can't participate if you aren't there. Attendance is required in this class, and will be regularly taken. I am well aware that missing a class may happen occasionally, but **excessive absences will be noted and affect your class participation grade.**
- 2. Précis (3) – Students are required to select, read, review, and discuss three outside historical texts** from a list provided by the instructor. Reviews must be 1-2 single-spaced pages. The instructor will provide a rubric that details exactly how précis are to be constructed. Students will select their books on the first day of class. The instructor will then create a schedule for class presentations. Students will be required to submit to the instructor hard copies of their review on the day that they present their findings to the class.

**3. Historiographical Essay** – Students are required to submit a 10 to 12-page historiographical paper that synthesizes five historical works on a topic germane to this course. A paper prospectus (includes paper theme and sources) must be submitted by **Wednesday, October 18**. The final paper is due on **Wednesday, December 20**. No late papers will be accepted.

**Grading** – Grades will be based on the following percentages:

- Course Engagement: 30%
- Writing Assignments: 30%
- Historiographical Essay: 40%

**Required Texts:**

- John Lewis Gaddis, *The Cold War: A New History*. New York: Penguin Books, 2005.
- Odd Arne Westad, *The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.
- All additional readings will be supplied by the instructor.

**Sakai** – Additional materials for this course, including a complete syllabus, course policies, additional required readings, grades, and assignments will be posted on Sakai. Students must be able to access Sakai on a regular basis. You will not pass the class without Sakai.

**Course Schedule:** The dates listed below are tentative and may change as the semester progress.

Date	Theme	Reading	Itinerary
Sep 5	Introduction / Course Overview	----	Syllabus
Sep 12	Empires in Conflict: Competing and Incompatible Visions of the US & USSR	Westad, Chs. 1-2	Class Discussion
Sep 19	World War II and Its Impact / The Early Cold War and the Dawn of the Atomic Age	Gaddis, Ch. 1-2	Class Discussion Film: Dr. Strangelove

<b>Sep 26</b>	The Early Cold War and the Dawn of the Atomic Age	Gaddis, Ch. 3	Class Discussion Film: The War Game
<b>Oct 4</b>	America & American Culture in the Cold War	TBD	Class Discussion Film: The Atomic Café
<b>Oct 11</b>	The Soviet Union & Soviet Culture in the Cold War	TBD	Class Discussion Film: Red Army
<b>Oct 18</b>	Postcolonialism and Revolution in the Developing World	Gaddis Ch. 4	Class Discussion Precis Presentations <b>Paper Prospectus Due</b>
<b>Oct 25</b>	Postcolonialism and Revolution in the Developing World	Westad, Ch. 3	Class Discussion Precis Presentations
<b>Nov 1</b>	American Response to Revolution	Westad, Ch. 4	Class Discussion Precis Presentations
<b>Nov 8</b>	Cuba & Vietnam	Westad, Ch. 5	Film: The Fog of War
<b>Nov 15</b>	Détente and the 1970s	Gaddis, Ch. 5	Class Discussion Precis Presentations
<b>Nov 22</b>	<b>No Class: Thanksgiving Week (Follow Friday Schedule)</b>		
<b>Nov 29</b>	The 1980s	Gaddis, Ch. 6	Class Discussion Film: Red Dawn
<b>Dec 6</b>	The End of the Cold War	Gaddis, Ch. 7 & Epilogue	Class Discussion Precis Presentations
<b>Dec 13</b>	A Multipolar World A New Cold War?	TBD	Class Discussion Precis Presentations
<b>Dec 20</b>	<b>Final Papers Due Wednesday, December 20</b>		

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

All written assignments must be type-written, double-spaced, with one inch margins in Times New Roman 12-point font.

All assignments submitted in paper form must be stapled, clipped, or otherwise bound.

Effective communication of your idea(s) is a part of every assignment. Therefore, grammar and spelling count. Use those spell-checkers and proofread your assignments assiduously.

Requirements regarding the length of assignments are STRICT. Papers not within 10% of the stated limit will lose points for failing to satisfy the terms of the assignment.

Computer mishaps are no excuse. Finish your papers early so that dry ink cartridges, crashing computers, and long lines for printing at the computer labs don't cause you to miss a deadline.

Keep the graded copy of your assignment until final grades are posted at the end of the semester.

### **CITATION**

The reflective essays require properly footnoted citations. For citations use the "Note" format described in the Chicago-Style Citation Quick Guide at:

<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>

### **SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS**

Assignments must be submitted both in hard and digital copy on the due date. Digital copies can be emailed directly to your instructor or placed in Sakai's "Dropbox"

All assignments must be in Microsoft Word (doc), plain text (txt), or rich text format (rtf).

Filenames MUST include your last name and unit title (ie. **clemis.Antietam.doc**).

You must retain both a copy of the paper and that email confirmation or your Sakai log to prove that you submitted an assignment in case there is a problem later.

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

All due dates are strict. Under most circumstances, I will accept late assignments, but they will lose one or more letter grades, depending on how late they are submitted. Any late assignments MUST be submitted before I return the rest of the assignments to the class (normally one week after the regular due date).

No makeups for in-class assignments are allowed except for compelling reasons and ONLY with sufficient prior notice.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory at all class meetings. Attendance will be taken regularly. I do take into account that everyone misses class once in a while, so I require no excuses for

absences. Sports, family emergencies, car trouble, etc. affect everyone, but I must calculate grades based solely on class performance.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

During in-class quizzes, exams, and discussions, the use of electronic devices (including laptops, cell or smartphones) to access notes, the internet, or other resources is prohibited unless specifically allowed by the terms of the exercise. Many in-class exercises are designed to test your comprehension of course materials, so access to such materials would constitute academic dishonesty (see below).

As a courtesy to me and your fellow students, please set your phones on silent mode and refrain from extraneous activities such as surfing the internet, texting, or reading the newspaper during class time. Students engaging in disruptive behavior of this sort will be asked to leave and be marked absent for the day.

### **WHAT IS "COURSE ENGAGEMENT?"**

"Class participation" is not used as a grading category because "engagement" better describes what instructors are looking for in successful students. Students often confuse "participation" with "talking." A student who is "engaged" attends all class meetings, is consistently prepared to discuss the readings, and turns in all assignments complete and on time. An "engaged" student responds appropriately and intelligently to questions asked during class, provides leadership in small group activities, and takes the initiative during class discussions to provide insightful comments that spark further discussion. "Engaged" students draw connections among classes they have taken or ideas they have encountered outside of the classroom in books, newspapers, movies, or elsewhere. Though it is not a requirement to attend office hours, "engaged" students usually seek out the professor to clarify the terms of assignments, to refine paper topics, to go over study questions, and even to discuss grades.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:** Academic integrity is essential to the success of the educational enterprise and breaches of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the academic community. Violations of academic integrity include but are not limited to cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating others' violations of academic integrity. The instructor assumes students will familiarize themselves with the policies and information posted by Rutgers at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/> at the earliest opportunity.

**DISABILITY SERVICES STATEMENT:** Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 508 of the Disabilities Act of 1998, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008. These mandate that reasonable accommodations be provided for

qualified students with disabilities and accessibility of online information. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodation, please contact the instructor early in the semester so that he can provide or facilitate in providing accommodations you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Office of Disability Services, the designated office on campus to provide services and administer exams with accommodations for students with disabilities. The Rutgers-Camden Office of Disability Services can be contacted by phone at 856-225-6442 or on the web at <http://learn.camden.rutgers.edu/disability-services> .The instructor looks forward to talking with you soon to learn how he may be helpful in enhancing your academic success in this course.