

Professor Marjorie Murphy
Trotter 210
X8091

Spring Semester '12
M: 11-1 pm; W 10-12
Swarthmore College

HISTORY 1J: FIRST YEAR SEMINAR

A HISTORY OF THE COLD WAR

A review of the Cold War from 1945 to 1991, largely from the US perspective arranged topically from the early historiography to the end of the Cold War. We read mostly secondary sources, the interpretative histories of various aspects of the Cold war, but we also look at primary sources, the first hand documents from which Historians weave their interpretations. Each week we investigate various themes in Cold War history from the Nuclear Age, to Civil Rights, Propaganda, the Space Race, the Post Colonial vision, the Vietnam War, the Middle East and the end of the Cold War.

Seminars provide an excellent opportunity to explore a subject in depth. The reading in this course may therefore be heavier than you expected. Be sure to explore the assigned readings and understand your assignment before you begin reading. Because we are looking at the debates on various topics you have two basic assignments: one, to read the primary documents and two, to read the historiographic essays. These essays provide an interpretive view of what happened. In each case you should be prepared to summarize the author's argument and explain how it fits into your overall view of the cold war.

Seminar papers: In addition to the weekly reading you will be asked to read at least 6 other monographs and two articles for your seminar paper which is due in draft form during separate weeks of the semester. This paper should be 7-10 pages in length and should thoroughly explore the monographs and articles you have read as well as integrate this material into the common readings of the class. You will provide copies of your essay to members of the class in advance Sunday evening at 5 pm. A printed copy of the draft is due in my office at that time. You will revise your paper at the end of the semester. This second draft will include at least three new sources and further focus you paper. During the discussion of the first paper you will need to take notes to help you with your revisions. Also, you will be responsible for helping a colleague revise their paper. (60%= 30 % original draft, 5% for your revision suggestions and 25% for your revised paper) Finally, because this is a reading seminar, you are responsible for the common readings of the class; some of you will be designated as discussion leaders for classes. (10%)

Also at the beginning of the semester you will write a short 5 page paper on the origins of the Cold War based on original documents. If you fail to have done the reading you will lose credit, I will not know if you have done the reading or not if you do not participate in class discussions. It is up to you to participate and make it known to me that you are doing the reading. You will also lose credit if your comments stray from the material under examination. If you do not keep up with the reading your performance in seminar may erode your graded paper work. (5%). It goes without saying that if you miss one session of the seminar, you have missed a weeks worth of work and your grade will deteriorate accordingly.

Bibliographies: Your papers should include an annotated bibliography. For reference you should see: Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations* or the Chicago Manual of Style. Two rules apply to the idea of a bibliography: make it simple and be sure that references are easy to check by other scholars. After each entry summarize your source, explain who, what, when, where, how and why in concise sentences (not more than three). Describe any special circumstances surrounding your source and comment on its application (i.e., this is an excellent summary for theses writing). Your bibliography will be no more than one page per class. You should revise this bibliography and hand it in at the end of the semester so keep all your entries in one file. (20% part graded on weekly basis and part on final product). To obtain book reviews you should use the *Journal of American History, Diplomatic History* and *Reviews in American History*; use J-Stor through the library.

A word on the use of a computer in the classroom: of course you can open a file and take notes, but you may not wander into blogs, email and other sources unless specifically asked. If you are caught using your computer or iphone for other purposes your privileges will be forfeit. More than three absences (or one class) constitute a drop in your grade.

Readings:

The following texts are required reading for the course:

Thomas Borstleman, *The Cold War and the Color Line*

Walter LaFeber, *America, Russia and the Cold War*.

Ellen Schrecker, *Many Are the Crimes*.

Paul Dickson, *Sputnik: The Shock of the Century*

Christopher Lee, *Making a World After Empire: The Bandung Revolt*

Jeffrey Kimball, *To Reason Why: Causes of Vietnam*

Judge and Langdon, *The Cold War: A History Through Documents*

Graham Greene, *Our Man in Havana*

Walter Hixson, *Parting the Curtain, Propaganda, Culture and the Cold War*

Lloyd Gardner, *Three Kings: The rise of An American Empire in the Middleeast*.

Don Oberdorfer, *From the Cold War to a New Era: The United States and the Soviet Union, 1983-1991*

Calendar of Classes

Week 1

The Legacy of the Cold War

January 16, 2012

For next week, read the documents in part 1 of Judge and Landon, also read the introduction and chapter 1 of Walter LaFeber. Prepare to discuss the author's view of history and historians; Prepare to discuss your seminar session, using the bibliography in the readings and your schedule. Assignment, write a five page history on the origins of the cold war (1945-1950) based on the primary documents you have read in Part I of Judge and Landon. Be sure to footnote your sources, using the Title of the Document and the page number.

Read LaFeber: Introduction and chapter 1.

Week 2 The Transition from WWII to the Cold War January 23, 2012

“Only slowly did it dawn upon us that that the whole world structure and order that we had inherited from the nineteenth century was gone and that the struggle to replace it would be directed from two bitterly opposed and ideologically irreconcilable power centers.” Dean Acheson

Discussion: Judge and Langdon, papers schedule.
Next Week: Read LaFeber, ch. 2-5

Week 3 The Historiography of the Cold War January 30, 2012

Discussion: What was the Cold War?.

Seminar paper: Reading: Arthur Schlesinger, *The Cycles of American History* Walter LaFeber, *America, Russia and the Cold War*. ; John Lewis Gaddis, *Strategies of Containment; The View From Inside; We Now Know* William A. Williams, *The Tragedy of American Diplomacy; Empire as a Way of Life*; book reviews; Ernest May, *Strategies of the Cold War*, Walter LaFeber, *The New Empire*; Bradford Perkins, “ The Tragedy of American Diplomacy, Twenty-five Years After,” *Reviews in American History* 12 (March, 1984); Michael H. Hunt, *Ideology and US Foreign Policy*, and footnotes for additional sources. 2. George F. Kennan, *American Diplomacy; Around the Cragged Hill, Sketches From a Life*.

Next Week Reading: Walter Hixson, *Parting the Curtain, Propaganda, Culture and the Cold War*; Read LaFeber: Introduction and chapter 1.

Week 4 The Culture of the Cold War February 6, 2012

“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children...This is not a way of life at all in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.” Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Discussion: Seminar Paper, Hixson and Eisenhower

Seminar Paper: Kenneth D. Rose, *One Nation*; Elaine May, *Homeward Bound*, Barbara Ehrenreich, *The Hearts of Men*. Paul Boyer, *By the Bombs Early Light*, Gar Alpernowitz, *The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb* Gregg Herken, *The Winning Weapon*, Allan Winkler, *Life Under a Cloud*, Paul Fusel, *Thank God for the Atom Bomb*, Alice Kimbell Smith, *A Peril and A Hope: The Scientists Movement in America, 1945-47*, “The Enola Gay Controversy”, *Journal of American History*, 1995, Paul Loeb, *Nuclear Culture: Living and Working in the World’s Largest Atomic Complex*; Joseph Boskin and Fred Krinsky, *The Oppenheimer Affair*; Helen Caldicott, *Missile Envy*, Lawrence Wittner, *One World or None: A History of the World Nuclear Disarmament Movement through 1953*; See also readings and the bibliography in Shane J. Maddock, *The Nuclear Age*. And Paterson.

Next Week: Read Schrecker; Judge and Langdon, Part 2.

Some time before he became involved in the Dreyfus Affair, Emile Zola wrote an article called "The Toad." It purported to be his advice to a young writer who could not stomach the aggressive mendacity of a press which in 1890 was determined to plunge the citizens of the French Republic into disaster.

Zola explained to the young man his own method of inuring himself against newspaper columns. Each morning, over a period of time, he bought a toad in the market place, and devoured it alive and whole. The toad cost only three sous each, and after such a steady matutinal diet one could face almost any newspaper with a tranquil stomach, recognize and swallow the toad contained therein, and actually relish that which to healthy men not similarly immunized would be a lethal poison.

All nations in the course of their histories have passed through periods which, to extend Zola's figure of speech, might be called the Time of the Toad: an epoch long or short as the temper of the people may permit, fatal or merely debilitating as the vitality of the people may determine, in which the nation turns upon itself in a kind of compulsive madness to deny all in its tradition that is clean, to exalt all that is vile and to destroy any heretical minority which asserts toad-meat not to be the delicacy which governmental edict declares it. Triple heralds of the Time of the Toad are the loyalty oath, the compulsory revelation of faith and the secret police.

Dalton Trumbo, *The Time of the Toad*, 1948

Reading: Ellen Schrecker *Many are the Crimes*

Seminar paper: Richard Fried, *Nightmare in Red*; George Lipsitz, *Class and Culture in Cold War America.*; David M. Oshinsky, *A Conspiracy so Immense; The World of Joseph McCarthy*; Fred MacDonald, *Television and the Red Menace*; Robert F. Newman, *Owen Lattimore and the "Loss" of China*; (see review by Michael Schaller, "An Ordeal by Slander" *Reviews in American History* 21(1993)); Larry Seplar and Steven Englund, *The Inquisition in Hollywood Politics in the Film Community*, Victor Navasky, *Naming Names*; Anthony Summers, *Official and Confidential*; Elizabeth Fones Wolf, *Selling Free Enterprise: The Business Assault on Labor and Liberalism, 1945-1960*; E.J. Kahn, *The China Hands: American Foreign Service Officers and What Befell Then.* See Also, Ellen Schrecker, *The Age of McCarthyism*, the bibliography in the readings, devise the bibliography for your seminar paper.

Next Week Read: Graham Greene, *Our Man in Havana*

Seminar Paper: James Chapman, *License to Thrill*, Anne S. Boyd, *The Devil with James Bond*; Edward P. Commentale, *Ian Fleming and 007*; Oreste DiBuono and Umberto Eco, *The Bond Affair*; Bruce Merry, *The Anatomy of a Spy Thriller*; Kenneth Morgan, *The People's Peace*; Steven Jay Rubin, *The James Bond Movies*; Colin Watson, *Snobbery with Violence*; see also the bibliography in Chapman. Or see the literature on CIA covert operations in Iran and Guatemala.

Next Week Read: Mary Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights*

Week 7 Civil Rights and the Cold War February 27, 2012

Reading: Mary Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights*

Seminar Paper: Thomas Borstelmann, *Cold War Civil Rights*; C. Van Woodward, *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*; Richard Wright, *The Color Curtain: A Report on the Bandung Conference*; John W. Dower, *War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War*; Paul Gordon Lauren, *Power and Prejudice: The Politics and Diplomacy of Racial Discrimination*. Penny von Eschen, *Race Against Empire: Black Americans and Anti-Colonialism*; Robert R. Burk, *The Eisenhower Administration and Black Civil Rights*; Prosser Gifford, ed., *The Transfer of Power in Africa, 1940-1960*; Neil McMillan, ed. *Remaking Dixie: The Impact of World War II on the American South*; Philip McGuire, *Taps for a Jim Crow Army*; Richard M. Dalfiume, *Desegregation of the United States Armed Forces*; Madelein Kalb, *The Congo Cables: The Cold War in Africa*; Kinlock Massie, *Losing the Bonds: The US and South Africa in the Apartheid Years*. See Paterson for Bibliography. See also Dudziak, footnotes for more bibliography.

Spring Break: March 2-11"

Next Week Read: Paul Dickson, *Sputnik: The Shock of the Century*;

Week 9 Sputnik, Science and the Baby Boom March 12, 2012

Reading: Paul Dickson, *Sputnik: The Shock of the Century*

Seminar paper; Rip Bulkeley, *Star Wars; The Sputnik Crisis and Early Space Policy*; Robert A. Divine, *The Sputnik Challenge*; ; Michael J. Neufeld, *The Rocket and the Reich Asif Siddiqi, Imagining the Cosmos; Challenge to Apollo: The Soviet Union and the Space Race, 1945-1974*; Michael Beschloss, *Mayday: The U-2 Affair*; John M. Logsdon, *The Decision to go to the Moon*; Stuhlberger, Ernst, *Wernher Von Braun: The Man Who Sold the Moon*; James Harford, *Korolev: How One Man Masterminded the Soviet Drive to Beat America to the Moon*; Medharis and Gordon, *Countdown for Decision*; Arthur C. Clarke, ed., *Voices from the Sky; Preview of The Coming of the Space Age*

Next Week Read: Christopher Lee, *Making a World After Empire*; Judge and Langdon, Part III; LaFeber, *America, Russia and the Cold War*, ch. 6-10.

Week 10 Proxy Wars: Global March 19, 2012

Reading: Christopher Lee, *Making a World After Empire: The Bandung Revolt*

Seminar paper: See the Lee Bibliography. Odd Arne Westad, *The Global Cold War*; David Halberstam, *The Best and the Brightest*; Marilyn Young, *The Vietnam Wars*; Susan Jeffords, *Remasculinization of America*; James William Gibson, *The Perfect War*; Melvin Smalls, *Anti-Warriors: The Battle for the Hearts and Minds of the American People*

Next Week Read:; Judge and Landon, IV; LaFeber, *America, Russia and the Cold War*, ch. 10-12..

Week 11 The Détente Departure

March 26, 2012

Reading; Jeffrey Kimball: Jeffrey Kimball, *To Reason Why: Causes of Vietnam*; ; Judge and Landon, IV

Seminar Paper: Jeffrey Kimball: *Nixon's Vietnam War* Walter Isaacson, *Kissinger; A Biography*

Next Week Read: Lloyd Gardner, *Three Kings: The rise of An American Empire in the Middleeast* Victor Israelyan, *Inside the Kremlin During the Yom Kippur War*

Week. 12 The Middle East and a New Crisis

April 2, 2012

Reading: Lloyd Gardner, *Three Kings: The rise of An American Empire in the Middleeast*

Seminar Paper: Victor Israelyan, *Inside the Kremlin During the Yom Kippur War* Walter Isaacson, *Kissinger; A Biography (use only section on Yom Kippur War)*; William B. Quandt, *Decade of Decision*; Daniel Yergin, *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil Money and Power*; (Begin with OPEC 1961 to the 73 Crisis) Mohamed Heikel, *The Road to Ramadan*; Michael Oren, *Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East*; Diane B. Kunz, *The Economic Policy of the Suez Crisis*; Edward Said, *The Question of Palestine*; Nicholas Vatikiotis, *Naser and His Generation*. See Oren for more bibliography.

Next Week Read: Don Oberdorfer, *From the Cold War to a New Era: The United States and the Soviet Union, 1983-1991*; Judge and Landon, Part V & VI; LaFeber, ch. 13-end.

Week 13 The End of the Cold War

April 9, 2012

Reading: : Don Oberdorfer, *From the Cold War to a New Era: The United States and the Soviet Union, 1983-1991*

Seminar Paper: Michael J. Hogan, *The End of the Cold War: Its Meaning and Implications*

Week 14 Paper Revision Session

April 16, 2012

Weeks 3-7 papers due, revised and ready for 10 minute presentation.

Week 15 Paper Revision Session

April 23, 2012

Weeks 9-13 papers due, revised and ready for 10 minute presentation

Final Revised Papers and Bibliographies Due May 14th.

Several Topics may be used if there are more students: The Cuban Missile Crisis, The Korean War, Covert Operations: Guatemala, Iran, Chile; Gulf War I.

