

HIS 3931: THE COLD WAR

Spring 2004
(Section 5566)

M/W/F, 3rd Period
Turlington 2306

Instructor: Robert J. McMahon
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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Required Readings: (note: all books are available at Goering's Bookstore)

Alan M. Winkler, The Cold War: A History in Documents
William Hitchcock, The Struggle for Europe: The Turbulent History of a Divided Continent, 1945-2002
Chen Jian, Mao's China and the Cold War
Stephen J. Whitfield, The Culture of the Cold War
Timothy Naftali and Alexandr Furchenko, "One Hell of a Gamble": Kennedy, Castro, and Khrushchev, 1958-1964
Stephen Kotkin, Armageddon Averted: The Soviet Collapse, 1970-2000

Course Requirements:

Regular attendance in class is required, and careful preparation for and participation in class discussions is expected.

There will be a mid-term exam (scheduled for Friday, Feb. 20) and a final exam (on April 29, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.). The exams, which will be primarily essay in character, will draw equally from lectures and readings.

In addition, two written assignments (4-5 pages each) will be required. Information on the written assignments will be given in class.

Grading:

The mid-term will count approximately 25% toward the final grade; the two papers 20% each; and the final 35%. Regular, effective participation in class discussion will also factor positively in a student's final course grade.

Schedule of Readings:

1. Week of Jan. 7 – none scheduled
2. Week of Jan. 12 – Hitchcock, ch. 1
3. Week of Jan. 19 – Hitchcock, chs. 2-4; Winkler, introduction and ch. 1
4. Week of Jan. 26 – Chen Jian, introduction and chs. 1-4
5. Week of Feb. 2 – Chen Jian, chs. 5-6
6. Week of Feb. 9 – Whitfield, Culture of the Cold War; Winkler, ch. 2
7. Week of Feb. 16 – Hitchcock, ch. 5-7; Winkler, ch. 3
8. Week of Feb. 23 – begin Naftali and Furchenko; Chen Jian, ch. 7
9. Week of March 1 – complete Naftali and Furchenko; Hitchcock, ch. 8
10. Week of March 15– Hitchcock, ch. 9; Chen Jian, ch. 8; Winkler, ch. 5
11. Week of March 22– Hitchcock, ch. 10; Chen Jian, ch. 9 and epilogue
12. Week of March 29– Hitchcock, ch. 11
13. Week of April 5 – Hitchcock, ch. 12; Winkler, ch. 6
14. Week of April 12 – Hitchcock, ch. 13; Kotkin, Armageddon Averted
15. Week of April 19 – Hitchcock, chs. 14-16