

# HTST 383 – MILITARY HISTORY: THE COLD WAR ERA AND BEYOND

Summer 2016 – University of Calgary

Lecture Hours: TR 12:00-2:45 | Room: ST 128

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Office Hours: TR 1050-1150 or by mutually agreeable appointment

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on diplomatic and military history before, during and after the Cold War. While a wide variety of conflicts will be dealt with (including the Korean, Vietnam, Falklands, and Arab-Israeli wars, along with the Soviet Incursion, and the African Civil Wars/"Bush" Wars) so too will important issues related to such conflicts. Consideration and discussion will also be given to moral and theoretical questions (Is a limited nuclear war possible? Does/Did deterrence work? What was the role/position of civilians in the Cold War?), as well as more fundamental questions (Why was Israel's fighting force able to succeed where Egyptian-Syrian-Jordanian-etc. forces failed? How did the United States and coalition so thoroughly defeat Iraq during the First Gulf War only to be stuck in a quagmire during the Second Gulf War?). Issues such as ideology, genocide, imperialism/anti-imperialism, and more will also be dealt with. The driving question of this course is, how do states fight a "cold war"?

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

The core objective of this course is the developing of a broad understanding of the diplomatic and military history of "the world" from just before, during, and after the Cold War. This course is also intended to enable students to both appreciate and engage the skills important in the study of History. These skills include (but are not limited to) written and oral communication, critical analysis, creative thinking, persuasive argumentation, and working socially.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<b>Participation</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Essay</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Final Take-Home Exam</b>	<b>30%</b>

### 1. Participation

Each class (except the first class and Mid-term class) students will be expected to engage in discussion on the topic of the day, the broader themes of the course, etc. Depending on the size of the class on a given day, this may mean splitting up in to groups. These discussions may take the form of informal debates, group "think tanking," etc. This grade is the result of the entire

term, and the instructor is very aware that it takes time for many students to become comfortable enough to speak their minds. That being the case, a great deal of skills integral to a good historian can be established, and improved upon in such environments.

## **2. Mid-term Exam (in class on: Thursday, July 21)**

The midterm exam will consist of three sections. The first section will be ten Fill-in-the-Blank style questions. The second section will be two short answer questions (three/3 questions will be provided, students choose two/2). The third section will be long answer/essay questions (again, three/3 questions will be provided, students answer one/1). The mid-term will test all material covered in class (lectures and discussions), as well as the required readings (optional readings will not be tested on but obviously strengthen answers) from July 5 through July 19.

## **3. Essay (Due Thursday, August 4)**

Students will be provided with a choice of research questions/topics as well as some sources related to each. Students will be expected to find, and appropriately make use of, academically acceptable articles or monographs (This very challenge will be discussed on the first day of class). Details for the assignment will be distributed and discussed in class.

If a student would like to write on a topic not covered in those provided, they are welcome to write on a topic of their choosing provided they get the instructor's permission. In order to get permission, a student should provide the instructor with the topic, the sources they intend to use, and their tentative thesis **NO LATER** than July 19. If the instructor is not convinced the topic, sources, or working understanding is satisfactory, permission can be denied.

All essays will be uploaded/submitted on D2L, no later than 4 p.m. Any papers uploaded or submitted after 4 p.m. will be considered one day late. The rationale here is that if a student puts a paper copy in the Red Box after 4 p.m. their paper would be graded as late, thus, 4 p.m. is the universal deadline. If D2L is down or students are having trouble accessing it, they may email a copy to the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to ensure the integrity/non-corrupt status of their files.

If a student wishes to receive written feedback on their paper, they must **ALSO** hand in a paper copy to the instructor. Late papers receive no comments/feedback beyond the grade.

Essays must conform with The History Student's Handbook (available on the History Department website: <https://hist.ucalgary.ca>).

Essays should be **12pt, double-spaced, Times New Roman font** and a **minimum of 6 full pages and no more than 10 full pages** in length not including bibliography.

Extensions may be granted if students discuss it with the instructor *well in advance* of the deadline, but **late essays without an extension will be penalized 5% per day (including weekends)**.

Keep in mind that due to the compressed nature of the course, extensions and late papers may result in the student's essay not being graded by the last day of class.

#### **4. Final Exam (Take home exam due: August 22 at 4:00pm)**

The Final Exam will be a single question (students will choose one of three questions supplied) provided to the students on the last day of class. The Final will be essay-style, however the only required source is the text (students may use other sources as well, but should avoid reproducing their essays or sources for said essay, and should keep in mind that the question is designed far more to test *their* knowledge and *their* analysis than research skills). Students will upload their papers to D2L no later than 4:00 p.m. on August 22. As with the Essay, if D2L is down the student may email their exam to the instructor (with the same guidelines as to file integrity in place).

#### **Required Text**

Jeremy Black, *The Cold War: A Military History*, (London: Bloomsbury, 2015).

Students will also be expected to read journal articles and/or chapters from e-books accessible through the library/online. Links or necessary information will be posted on D2L well prior to each class.

#### **Course Outline**

Tuesday, July 5:

**Introduction, Theory, Methodology or: How to Succeed in this Course.**

**Russia becomes the Soviet Union: Dawn of the Cold War?**

Readings: Chapter 1 (Pages 1-26).

Thursday, July 7

**“Let’s play Thermonuclear War”: The Second World War in brief, the Birth of the Atom Bomb, Perspectives on “The Bomb,” and the onset of the Cold War**

Required Readings: Chapters 1 and 2 (Pages 1 – 37), and one article/linked reading on D2L

Tuesday, July 12

**Existential Conflict: NATO, The “Fall” of China, and the Korean War**

Required Readings: Chapter 3 (Pages 37-79)  
(Optional readings will be posted to D2L).

Thursday, July 14

**“I will lead this crusade”: Eisenhower, Khrushchev, and the Cold War Crusades**

Required Readings: Pages 81-103, and one article/linked reading on D2L

Tuesday, July 19

**Kennedy’s Education on the Brink**

Required Readings: Pages 103-112, and one article/linked reading on D2L  
Note: For students wanting to write papers on a topic of their choosing, proposals are due.

Thursday, July 21

**Mid-term exam. / Media Representations of Nuclear Anxieties**

No readings

Tuesday, July 26

**Into the Quagmire: The Vietnam Wars**

Required Readings: Pages 103-135, and one article/linked reading on D2L

Thursday, July 28

**The Madman, Helsinki, and the Peanut Farmer: Alternatives to the Status Quo**

Required Readings: Chapter 5 (Pages 137-170)

Tuesday, August 2

**Israel’s Wars**

Required Readings: Two articles/linked readings on D2L

Thursday, August 4

**Understanding Those “Other” Wars: India-Pakistan, China-Vietnam, Africa’s “Bush” Wars, and wars on the “periphery”**

**Essay due, no required readings**

Tuesday, August 9

**Tearing it Down: The End of the Cold War...**

Required Readings: Chapters 6 and 7 (Pages 171-218)

Thursday, August 11

**The Unipolar World: The First Gulf War, Genocides, and the world order after the Soviet Union**

Required Readings: Postscript (Pages 219-224), and at least one of the articles/linked readings on D2L

Tuesday, August 16

**Play it again: Another new Cold War or the same one as Before?**

Required Readings: One article/linked reading on D2L.

## **Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information**

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Writing:**

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

### **Writing Support:**

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

### **Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print coursepack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

### **Red Box Policy:**

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**Departmental Grading System:**

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.

- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

### **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

### **Student Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

### **Other Useful Information:**

Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

*Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

*Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

*Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

*Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

*Student Union Information*: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

*Graduate Student Association*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

*Student Ombudsman Office*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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