



Department of History

HTST 383



The Cold War

Summer 2021

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Class Location: D2L

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Office Hours and communication: Drop-in Q+A Wednesdays from 9:00-9:30 and 14:30-15:00 on Zoom (link and password to be posted on D2L News each week) or by appointment.

****From 9-9:30 for the first class, instead of the office period, I will do the introduction to the class 'live' – going through the course outline and fielding any questions you might have about the course.**** This session will be recorded and posted on D2L.

Class Time: This class was originally scheduled to run on Saturdays. For purposes of asynchronous online delivery, the lectures will be posted to D2L on the Wednesday before our first originally-scheduled class (June 30), and the next week of the course will begin the following Wednesday (July 7) with another set of lecture postings, etc. The Saturday on which the class was originally scheduled is therefore in the middle of each week. Quizzes will take place at the end of each Wed. to-Wed. week, and will be available to be completed from 15:00 on Wednesday to 15:00 on Thursday. Materials for the week will be posted on D2L by 15:00 on Wednesdays.

COLOUR KEY: **To DO**; **TO READ**; **TO WATCH**

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on the military history of the Cold War, but also examines the causes, wider conduct and to a lesser extent ramifications of war from 1945 up to the end of the Cold War. In the aftermath of the Second World War the US had clearly usurped the European colonial powers as the dominant force in the Western world, having been the industrial powerhouse for the entire Allied war effort. US hegemony on the world stage was however to be challenged by both the USSR and later also the PRC.

The course will be delivered as an online 'distance learning' course. Having been given a number of options on how to run the course by the university, I in the end chose the 'Asynchronous' option, meaning that we will not have fixed class times. This gives you some flexibility when you process learning materials, although there will be an **online quiz** to test comprehension of material for weeks 1-5, for which you will have 24 hours to complete from the nominal end of one week/start of the next time of 15:00 on a Wednesday. I will also have a **Zoom question-and-answer office 'hour'/chat** from 09:00-09:30 and 14:30-15:00 on a Wednesday.

The lecture material will be delivered through a mix of media. I will be providing a video overview for each lecture – basically a very **short online video lecture**. The core of the lectures will consist of **ppt slides with notes in Word** with **supplementary video material (for example parts or the wholes of documentaries available to us on YouTube etc) embedded in the notes**. Finally, there will be **electronically-available reading each week along with set reading from the course text** (see below).

COURSE OUTCOMES:

At the end of the course, students should:

- *Be able to identify key events, stages, individuals, groups and processes in the Cold War
- *Have gained a broad understanding of cause and consequence, change and continuity and similarity and difference for varying events, periods and processes in the Cold War
- *Be familiar with and critical towards a range of source materials used by historians in understanding the past and in particular the Cold War
- *Have gained a critical appreciation for the manner in which elements of the Cold War have been presented in movies in different cultures at different times

*Be able to construct an historical argument critiquing a movie by analyzing and interpreting a variety of secondary sources

*Be able to present their historical argument in a systematic and coherent manner in written form

REQUIRED TEXT:

The course text will be:

Odd Arne Westad, The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

Although the book is available as an ebook from Cambridge University Press at the link below, it will cost you no more as a paperback, which is available not only from CUP but also from Chapters-Indigo and Amazon at a discounted price at the moment. I understand that the University Bookstore should also have copies closer to the class start date that can be mailed out without charge. I encourage you to order a hard copy (we are all spending far too much time in front of screens as it is) as soon as possible to make sure you have it for when the course starts. Questions relating to the weekly readings from the course text may be asked in both the weekly quizzes and final test.

The textbook is also available at no cost via the U of C library website. To use this version, plan ahead, as it may be in use by other students at any given time and therefore inaccessible to you.

Here are some links to purchase the course text:

[Chapters-Indigo](#)

[Amazon](#)

[Cambridge University Press](#)

Course reading from the textbook by week are as follows. **It is assumed that students will have read the relevant material from the course text by the time of the weekly quiz for the week:**

Week	Subject matter	Reading
1 <u>JUNE 30- JULY 7</u>	The Rise of the Superpowers The Beginning of the Cold War	Introduction Chapters 1 and 2
2 <u>JULY 7- 14 JULY.</u>	The Vietnam War	Chapters 3, 4 and 5
3 <u>14 JULY - 21 JULY</u>	Proxy Wars: The Cold War in Latin America	revisit pp. 143-152, 170-180, 201; 339-348

4 21-28 JULY	Proxy Wars: The Cold War in Africa The Soviet Union in Afghanistan	Revisit pp.89-91; 106-7, 135-143; Chapters 6 and 7 Chapter 8; pp.348-357
5 28 JULY - 4 AUGUST	The Arab-Israeli Wars	pp.123-8 and 197-200
6 4 AUGUST – 11 AUGUST	The Collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe The Collapse of the Soviet Union	Chapters 9, 10 and conclusion

This, and additional reading material for each class, is listed in the Class Schedule section of this course outline. **For the purposes of the final test it will be assumed that students have read all of material recommended from the course text and the additional reading material provided, in addition to having read the ppt slides and associated notes.**

EVALUATION:

Evaluation for this course consists of two movie critiques, a short fill-in-the-blanks quiz each week, and a final multiple-choice test. Students will be expected to **watch, in their own time, two movies for review**. These movies may be purchased or rented at the student's discretion. Many of the movies in List 1 are very readily available – some of those in List 2 in particular less so, and **so it is advised that students consider their movie option for the second critique early in course**. At the end of the course you may do a third critique (from List 3) if you are unhappy with one of your marks for the first two.

Weekly fill-in-the-blanks quizzes (weeks 1-5)	To be completed within 24 hours from the end of class (i.e. 15:00) on the Wednesday of weeks 2-6 (i.e. 7, 14, 21, 28 July and 4 August)	A fill-in-the-blanks quiz with 10 questions to be delivered via D2L. You will have 1 hour to complete each quiz.	4% of the final mark for each quiz (20% total)
Movie critique 1	Due to be submitted via D2L by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday 14 July (to be returned by Wednesday 21 July)	A movie critique of no more than 1,250 words (the word limit excludes bibliographic references and the bibliography) in the style of an academic book review (i.e. it is a movie review being written for an academic journal) from list 1	35% of final mark

		below.	
Movie critique 2	Due to be submitted via D2L by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday 28 July (to be returned by Friday 6 August at the very latest)	A movie critique of no more than 1,250 words (the word limit excludes bibliographic references and the bibliography) in the style of an academic book review (i.e. it is a movie review being written for an academic journal) from list 2 below. To be submitted as a Word document or pdf.	35% of final mark
Movie critique 3 (optional)	Due via D2L by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday 11 August (to be returned by Wednesday 18 August)	A movie critique of no more than 1,250 words (the word limit excludes bibliographic references and the bibliography) in the style of an academic book review (i.e. it is a movie review being written for an academic journal) from list 3 below.	35% of final mark (replaces lowest mark from Movie critique 1 or 2 if higher)
Final quiz	Via D2L on Wednesday 11 August at 15:00	30 multiple-choice questions covering material for the whole course. Students will be expected to have looked over the ppt slides and associated notes, and have read any reading provided. Provided on D2L. Start time – 15:00. To be completed within 24 hours. You will have one hour to complete the quiz.	10% of final mark

MOVIE CRITIQUES:

<p>List 1: Select one of the following to watch -</p> <p><u>War in China and Korea</u></p> <p>Pork Chop Hill (1959) Assembly (2007) 71 - Into the Fire (2010) The Frontline (2011)</p> <p><u>The Vietnam War</u></p> <p>Platoon (1986) Hamburger Hill (1987) Full Metal Jacket (1987) Casualties of War (1989)</p>	<p>List 2: Select one of the following to watch-</p> <p><u>Counterinsurgency in Latin America</u></p> <p>Under Fire (1983) Salvador (1986)</p> <p><u>Counterinsurgency in Africa and Central Asia</u></p> <p>Intimate Enemies (2007) 9th Company (2005) Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation (2007)</p>
	<p>List 3: Select one of the following -</p> <p><u>The Falklands War</u></p> <p>Tumbledown (1988) Blessed by Fire (2005)</p> <p><u>Arab-Israeli</u></p> <p>Cast a Giant Shadow (1966) Kedma (2002)</p>

COMPLETING THE MOVIE CRITIQUES – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

In order to score highly on your movie critique you must:

***Have watched and engaged with the movie concerned.**

*** Have analysed the content of the movie in the light of the historical literature – how is the movie accurate in its portrayal of events in the light of the historical literature, and how is it not?**

***Support your argument with evidence/examples – both referencing the movie and the historical literature. For ANY major assertion relating to the accuracy of the movie portrayal of events you should provide at least one piece of evidence/illustrative material from the literature.**

***Provide evidence/illustrative material for a particular point that should, ideally in most cases, take the form of BOTH aggregate data from academic works (e.g. statistical information) and a piece of individual testimony (e.g. from a memoir or interview).**

***Acknowledge sources used in your footnotes, and all works in your footnotes should be in your bibliography.**

***Footnote and provide a bibliography in a format accepted in academic historical work (references should not be embedded in the text).**

***In addition to any reading provided, students are expected to have found and used AT LEAST FOUR academic article-length pieces of academic scholarship (here taken as having referenced sources) in EACH movie critique. A book chapter or essay may be considered as equivalent to an academic journal article. If more than two chapters or essays are being used from a single book then the book is to count as one source for the purposes of the requirement to find four article-length pieces of academic scholarship.**

More than isolated spelling mistakes and errors in grammar, syntax and punctuation will be penalized.

**General guidelines for writing in History are available at:
<http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook1.pdf>**

The History Essay Handbook above provides information on how to reference your sources.

QUIZZES – SAMPLE QUESTIONS:

FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS:

That the United States was able to lead intervention in Korea in 1950 under the auspices of the United _____ gave the intervention a legitimacy that it might otherwise not have had.

The answer he is Nations!

After an end to dictatorship in _____ in 1974 during the following year Angola, Mozambique and Guinea gained their independence.

The answer here is Portugal!

Please be careful when answering these questions to get capitalizations right if you want to score the mark! You need a capital letter in most instances where you are

dealing with a specific example of a wider category, e.g. a specific country. The words chosen for the fill-in-the-blanks answers will only have one accepted spelling with clear cut capitalization!

MULTIPLE-CHOICE:

Which of the following typically denotes a type of nuclear weapon?

- a) IBM
- b) MAD
- c) ICBM
- d) UN
- e) B-52

The correct answer here is c) ICBM, or Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile!

WRITING:

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

D2L: Throughout the course, important material such as lecture outlines and study guides will be regularly posted on D2L. Students are advised to check this regularly.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

The lectures for this course will take a broadly chronological look at events between 1945 and the end of the Cold War, stopping to focus on particular themes such as the Cold War at sea or nuclear weapons.

Week 1 – Wednesday 30 June 2021: Introduction and Methodology; The Rise of the Superpowers; The Beginning of the Cold War; The Cold War at the Movies I

******From 9-9:30 for the first class, instead of the office period, I will do the introduction to the class 'live' – going through the course outline and fielding any questions you might have about the course.******

READING:

Westad, Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2

Week 2 – Wednesday 7 July: The Korean War; The Vietnam War

READING:

The Korean War: <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1017/CHOL9780521837194.014>
Westad, Chapters 3, 4 and 5
The Vietnam War: <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1017/CHOL9780521837200.015>

Week 3 – Wednesday 14 July: Nuclear Weapons; Proxy Wars – The Cold War in Latin America; The Cold War at the Movies II

READING:

Nuclear Weapons: <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1017/CHOL9780521837194.019> and <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1017/CHOL9780521837200.006>.
Latin America: Westad, revisit pp. 143-152, 170-180, 201; and 339-348

Week 4 – Wednesday 21 July: Proxy Wars – The Cold War in Africa and The Soviet Union in Afghanistan;

READING:

Africa: Westad, revisit pp.89-91; 106-7, 135-143; Chapters 6 and 7
Afghanistan: Westad Chapter 8; pp.348-357

Week 5 – Wednesday 28 July: The Arab-Israeli Wars; The Cold War at Sea; The Falklands War

READING:

The Arab-Israeli Wars: Westad, pp.123-8 and 197-200 and The Arab-Israeli Wars: <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1017/CHOL9780521837200.016>
Falklands War: reading: <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1080/04597238208460593> and <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1080/04597238208460594>

Week 6 – Wednesday 4 August: The End of Communism in Eastern Europe; The Collapse of the Soviet Union; The Cold War at the Movies III; Final test via D2L

READING:

Westad, Chapters 9, 10 and conclusion

Please note that the above class outline is provisional and may be subject to modification.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

In order to pass the course you must complete BOTH movie critiques 1 AND 2.

A flat 5% of the mark will be deducted for exceeding the word limit on a critique by >100 words, and you will not gain credit for that material beyond the word limit.

A flat 10% will be deducted for every week or part thereof during which a movie critique is overdue without prior agreement with the lecturer or due cause (as documented according to university requirements).

Work submitted after Wednesday 11 August will not be accepted and a mark of 0 recorded for that piece of work unless a satisfactory explanation for late submission has been provided.

Failure to complete a test/quiz within 24 hours will result in a score of 0 for the test without a satisfactory explanation allowing a student to receive the mark for the following test as the mark for the missed test as well.

DEPARTMENTAL GRADING SYSTEM:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all History courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or book an appointment with an ASC advisor at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>.
- For further information on academic advising and degree planning for arts students, see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees, and assistance with MyUofC, contact Enrolment Services in MacKimmie Tower Room 116, call 403-210-ROCK (7625), or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.
- **Attention history majors:** History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.
- Registration Changes and Exemption Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>

Writing:

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in the History Student's Handbook.

D2L: Throughout the course, important material such as lecture outlines and study guides will be regularly posted on D2L. Students are advised to check this regularly.

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. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#).

Plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- 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, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

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

Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*, [Section K](#).

Academic Accommodations:

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, 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. 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 course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Other Useful Information:

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

- **Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist**

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