



Department of History

HTST 490
Espionage and the State, 1939 to the Present
Winter 2021

Instructor: Dr. John Ferris

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Office Hours and Method: Wednesdays 12 to 1 pm, via Zoom, or email at any time

Course Delivery: Online, Synchronous

Synchronous Class Times: MWF, 11 to 12 pm.

Description

This course will introduce students to the history of intelligence as an activity of states since 1900. In particular, it will consider how intelligence has affected the thinking and behaviour of statesmen and commanders in internal politics, power politics and war, and how security, surveillance, deception, political warfare, propaganda and political policing, have affected states and societies. This course will link history to contemporary issues, and theory to practice.

Learning Outcomes

Participants in this course will have an opportunity to study primary documents and secondary sources on intelligence over the past century. They will have a chance to understand the complex, and often seemingly contradictory, ways in which intelligence affects action in different competitions, ranging from diplomacy and war to politics, and in which security, surveillance, deception, political warfare, propaganda and political policing, affect states and societies. In the process, students will gain experience in analysing primary and secondary sources, developing evidence based and argumentative research essays, and debating issues with colleagues.

Reading Material

John Ferris, *Behind the Enigma, The Authorised History of Britain's Secret Cyber Agency*, (Bloomsbury, 2020).

This book can be ordered for curbside pickup through the UCalgary Bookstore.

Additional assigned (digitally-available) readings are listed below.

Assessment

Some of the course will consist of D2L Chat discussions, and in-class debate on these posts, the

remainder consisting of lectures with ample room for class discussion. I will ensure that every student has an opportunity to speak, or Chat, but I am not a press-gang, and those who do not contribute at all in participation or Chat Rooms will receive a grade of “F” for that assignment. For a student to raise questions is regarded as a form of participation. Each student will be assigned to a group, which will comment on two of the six Youtube programmes denoted as “*Chat” in the course outline below. In each case, students will provide one 400 word Chat, and two responses to the Chats of their colleagues.

All students also will complete two written works. One will be a 1500 word analysis of primary documents, selected from the seven topics listed immediately below. Students are expected to discuss some element of these readings, analyse them and, if necessary, expand their comments be using other primary documents, or secondary sources. This assignment enables each student to develop original comments or arguments. The second will be a 2500 word paper on some aspect of intelligence, which will make use of the advanced secondary literature. The topic of the paper should be discussed with the instructor before you begin to write it.

Class Participation, including Chat: 40%.

Assessment of Primary Documents, Due Monday, 22 February: 30%

Term Paper, topic selected after consultation with instructor, due last day of class: 30%.

Primary Documents for Analysis

1. FBI, The Vault: (FBI assessments of Soviet penetrations of American security, 1946)

Nathan Silvermaster, Vol 82:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20130306064446/http://education-research.org/CSR/Holdings/Silvermaster/summaries.htm>

2. The websites of the Australian Signals Directorate, CSE, GCHQ and NSA.

<https://www.asd.gov.au/> , <https://www.cse-cst.gc.ca/en> , <https://www.gchq.gov.uk/>,
<https://www.nsa.gov/>

3. Intelligence Briefing of the American President

John L. Helgerson, Getting to Know the President: Intelligence Briefings of Presidential Candidates and Presidents-Elect, 1952-2012, (3rd. ed.), 2020, CIA, Center for the Study of Intelligence, <https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/getting-to-know-the-president-3rd-edition/getting-to-know-the-president-3rd-edition.html>

The National Security Archive, <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/intelligence-nuclear-vault/2016-12-20/presidents-daily-brief-spotlighted-soviet-missile-space-programs-1960s-1970s>
<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/intelligence/2016-09-14/did-nixon-even-read-cias-daily-briefs>
<https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB530-Presidents-Daily-Briefs-from-Kennedy-and-Johnson-Finally-Released/>

https://proquest.libguides.com/dnsa/dnsa_55 (complicated to search).

4. Soviet and East Bloc Intelligence, 1944-1992.

The Mitrokhin archive, Cold War International History Project

CWIHP <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collection/52/mitrokhin-archive>
<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collection/45/intelligence-operations-in-the-cold-war>

5. CIA Estimates and the Collapse of the Soviet Union , Cold War International History Project

<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collection/633/cia-reports-on-the-collapse-of-communism-in-europe>

6. The Stasi

<https://www.stasi-mediathek.de/> (Easily readable through Google Translate, though much of the collection remains in German)

7. Saddam Hussein

The Cold War International History Project, “Saddam Hussein’s Iraq”,

<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collection/168/saddam-hussein-s-iraq>

Kevin Woods and Mark E. Stout, “Saddam’s Perceptions and Misperceptions: The Case of ‘Desert Storm’, The Journal of Strategic Studies, 33/1, February 2010,

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01402391003603433>

Kevin Woods, James Lacey and Williamson Murray, “Saddam’s Delusions: The View from the Inside”, Foreign Affairs, 85/3, May-June 2006, <https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/stable/pdf/20031964.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3A23e14316677b688455499f1c0822ad8b>

Kevin M. Woods, David Pallkki and Mark E. Stout, The Saddam Tapes, The Secret Working of an Arab State, (CUP, 2011), Available ONLINE through the University of Calgary Library.

Grading Policies

Letter grades will be assigned as per the “Departmental Grading System,” listed below. Students may question their grades with the instructor.

Learning Technologies Requirements

The D2L site for this course contains relevant class resources. In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and

updated web browser; a microphone and speaker (built-in or external or headset); current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; broadband internet connection.

On-Line Instruction Statement

Class will be online, through Zoom, accessed via D2L, during listed class hours.

Inclusiveness, Accommodation, and Classroom Conduct

I am committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all registered students. If you have conditions or circumstances that require accommodations, you are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services and to contact me by email or during office hours to discuss reasonable measures that will ensure your success in this course. Such accommodation may include disability (physical or mental wellness, whether visible or not), the need to nurse or occasionally bring a child to class, the wish to be called a different name or pronoun, assistance with writing, or adjusting deadlines because of personal circumstances.

Part of creating an inclusive learning environment involves respecting your fellow classmates. In meeting any university's mandate of encouraging free and open inquiry, we will occasionally discuss topics about which you might be uncomfortable or have a set viewpoint. In such situations, it is essential that we understand that others share different experiences and perspectives, and that listening respectfully to and showing tolerance toward opposing viewpoints is part of the process of emerging as active, engaged citizens.

To protect the privacy of others, students may not record in any format any activity that occurs within the classroom or online. Permission to record lectures will only be given to students registered with Student Accessibility Services. All material in this course, including but not limited to lectures, quizzes, worksheets, handouts, and the textbook, are under the protection of copyright and may not be distributed to third parties under any circumstances.

Schedule

Week One, January 11-15, 2021:

Perception, Preconception and Interpretation; Politics and action; sources of intelligence.

Week Two, January 18-22, 2021:

History, 2500 BCE to 1900 ACE: intelligence, security, deception, political warfare, and political policing.

Week Three, January 25-29, 2021:

The First World War at sea, land and air

Week Four, February 1—5, 2021:

The First World war; economic warfare; intelligence and diplomacy; subversion, internal security, political warfare and political policing.

Week Five, February 8—12, 2021:

The Interwar Years: Intelligence structures and Competition; Subversion, internal security, political warfare and political policing; security intelligence in Japan, Germany and the USSR.

Reading Break, February 15-19, 2021: No classes

Week Six, February 22-26, 2021:

February 22: *Chat: Stalin's Spies and the Secrets of the NKVD, Secrets of War, Timeline, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxtyFW4MBz0&t=1123s>

Written assessment of primary documents assignment Due.

February 24: *Chat: Youtube, "Jonna Mendes: Inside the CIA and the Moscow Rules", <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctFITH6LZ04> ;

intelligence, policy, and the road to the Second World War.

Week Seven, March 1 to 5, 2021:

WW 2: Overview, and Bletchley, Ultra and Fortitude: The Western Allies and the Axis; The Eastern Front

Week Eight, March 8 to 12, 2021:

The Second World War: The Pacific War; subversion, internal security, political warfare and political policing;

The Cold War, Overview and sources

Week Nine, March 15 to 19:

March 15: *Chat: Ben McIntyre, “The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War”,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4uc5BxrWU_Q&list=PLdvpLgHnq6cNxsiV052Ke1OYWmpen5hoY;

Cold War Intelligence: Israel and Arab states

March 19: *Chat: Asraf Marwan: Death of a Superspy/Al Jazeera World,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSX63sLPNAE>

Week Ten, March 22 to 26, 2021:

NATO and the Warsaw Pact; intelligence in conventional wars;

March 26: *Chat: How the CIA and KGB Battled over Berlin, Battleground Berlin, Timeline,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q05rMyTzMrM>

Week Eleven, March 29 to 2 April, 2021:

The Cold War—subversion; internal security and political policing; decolonization, security, guerrilla warfare and counter-insurgency

Week Twelve, 5 to 9 April, 2021 :

intelligence and the end of the cold war;

Intelligence and Canada:

April (*Chat: The smartest guy in the room: Cameron Ortis and the RCMP secrets scandal, Fifth Estate”, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ni9c23aHDA>

Week Thirteen, 12 to 15 April 2021:

Women in intelligence;

intelligence, 1992-2021: Strike and Space; Influence Operations; The Cyber Commons: Cyber intelligence, social media and civil liberties

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPEARS ON ALL DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORY COURSE OUTLINES**

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies 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
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).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact [Enrolment Services](#)
- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your time table. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see **the** [Registration Changes and Exemption Requests](#) page.

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should

normally take it in your second year.

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](#).

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#) for more details, but to summarize, 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: Integrity and Conduct](#).

Academic Accommodations

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in the [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. Please see the [University of Calgary copyright page](#).

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment,

discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the [sexual violence policy](#).

Other Useful Information

Please see the Registrar's [Course Outline Student Support and Resources](#) page 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

Campus Security (220-5333)

Department of History Twitter @ucalgaryhist

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