

University of Calgary
Fall Session 2019
History 535
The United States and the World Since 1890

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Office Hours: WF 11-12 pm or by appointment

HTST 535 is a senior-level seminar that will employ a multidisciplinary approach to the study of American foreign relations since 1914. Students will examine the sources of continuity and elements of change in American diplomatic history. Over the course, we will examine both the process of foreign policy formulation as well as the way in which historians and other scholars interpret American foreign relations. We will evaluate the role of individuals, groups, institutions, and publics in the process on foreign policy formulation but also use different methodological approaches, like culture, ideology, and the gendering of people and nations.

Course objectives:

By the end of this course, successful students will be expected to:

- Explain the key developments in United States foreign policy since 1914
- Critically read and assess primary and secondary literature and situate arguments within broader historical debates
- Debate historical problems by engaging with other students and scholarship
- Develop research, writing, and analytical skills through historical inquiry
- Communicate their ideas and understandings in written work and class discussion

Texts:

Appy, Christian. *American Reckoning: The Vietnam War and Our National Identity*. New York: Penguin 2016

Herring, George C. *From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1776*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. **(Optional but strongly recommended)**

Merrill, Dennis & Thomas G. Paterson, *Major Problems in American Foreign Relations, Volume II: Since 1914*. Seventh Edition. Boston: Wadsworth, 2010.

Zelizer, Julian. *Arsenal of Democracy: The Politics of National Security from World War Two to the War on Terrorism*. New York: Basic Books, 2010.

Grades:

10% Term Paper Proposal and Annotated Bibliography **Due October 1**

10% Presentation and Written Summary (Every week, groups consisting of a maximum of 2 students will introduce the week's Documents from the Merrill and Patterson collection) **Due one week after Presentation**

20% Book Review **Due November 4**

20% Weekly participation

40% Term paper (15 typed double-spaced pages). **Due December 6**

Note:

- All assignments should be submitted **electronically** via the Digital Drop Box on D2L in **Word** format or as a **PDF** file.
- Audio or video recording of seminar discussions is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor.

Class Schedule:

The following is a *tentative* schedule of subjects and readings for the semester and the suggested reading schedule. Please note that some weeks have more readings than others.

Week 1 September 9 The "Indispensable" Nation? Multidisciplinary Perspectives and Approaches to American Foreign Policy

Readings: Herring, Introduction & Chapter 8. Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 1.

Week 2 September 16 Safe for Democracy: The First World War

Readings: Herring, Chapter 9 (skim) and Chapter 10; Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 2. Zelizer, Chapter 1.

Week 3 September 23 The Unfinished Peace: Isolationism and Depression in the 1920s and 1930s

Readings: Herring, Chapter 11 & 12; Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 3. Zelizer, Chapter 2

Week 4 September 30 The United States and the Second World War

Readings: Herring, Chapter 13; Merrill and Paterson, Chapters 4-5. Zelizer, Chapter 3

October 1 – 10% Term Paper Proposal and Annotated Bibliography Due

Week 5 October 7 Origins of the Cold War and the National Security State

Readings: Herring, Chapter 14; Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 6. Zelizer, Chapter 4.

Monday, October 14 – Thanksgiving – NO CLASS

Week 6 October 21 Cold War in Asia: The People's Republic of China and the War in Korea

Readings: Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 7. Zelizer, Chapter 5.

Week 7 October 28 Eisenhower and the "New Look"

Readings: Herring, Chapter 15; Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 8 & 9. Zelizer, Chapters 6-7.

Week 8 November 4 The Cuban Missile Crisis

Readings: Herring, Chapter 16; Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 10. Zelizer, Chapter 6

20% Book Review Due November 4

Reading Week – November 10-16 – No Classes

Week 9 November 18 Vietnam

Readings: Christian Appy's *American Reckoning*

Week 10 November 25 Détente and its Discontents

Readings: Herring, Chapter 18; Merrill and Paterson, Chapter 12. Zelizer, Chapters 10-12

Week 11 December 2 The End of the Cold War

Readings: Herring, Chapter 19; Merrill and Paterson, Chapters 13-14. Zelizer, Chapters 13-15

December 6 - 40% Term Paper Due

Essay Assignment:

This class has a 12-15 page (including bibliography and endnotes/footnotes) essay assignment due on any subject covered by the time-period of this class and should include primary source material. Papers are expected to be typed and double-spaced using standard fonts and margins and should conform to the standards identified in the Department of History's Essay Writing Guide. The Essay Writing Guide can be purchased at the University of Calgary bookstore or a copy is available online at the Department of History's Website (<http://hist.ucalgary.ca/>).

General comment on sources for written assignments: When students submit a written assignment that calls for the use of external materials, bear in

mind that it is expected that **academic** sources will be consulted. These include scholarly journal articles, books, and sources – **not encyclopedias, survey textbooks, or notes from in-class lectures.**

The essay will be graded on the following criteria:

Organization: Are the ideas in the paper organized efficiently? Does the argument flow logically and coherently?

Writing style/Editing: How is the paper written? Are there any issues with passive voice, punctuation, tense agreements? Does the paper require any editing, better word choices? Does each page have a number? This section will also evaluate adherence to footnote/endnote conventions as well as the structure of the bibliography and proper essay formatting.

Quality of Research: Evaluates both the sources consulted and their appropriateness for the subject as well as the extent to which those sources are used in writing the paper.

Originality/Quality of analysis: Does the paper present a standard interpretation/narrative or does it strive to go beyond the basic narrative to assess and analyze the material under consideration? Generally speaking, the better the analysis, the better the paper

Useful Sources:

Brookings Institution <http://www.brookings.edu/>

Central Intelligence Agency Freedom of Information Electronic Reading Room
<http://www.foia.cia.gov/>

Cold War International History Project

<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/program/cold-war-international-history-project>

Council on Foreign Relations <http://www.cfr.org/>

Miller Center at the University of Virginia <http://millercenter.org/>

National Security Archive <http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/>

Public Papers of the Presidents <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>

U.S. Department of Defense, Freedom of Information Electronic Reading Room
<http://www.dod.mil/pubs/foi/rdroom.html>

U.S. Department of State, <http://www.state.gov/>

U.S. Department of State Freedom of Information Electronic Reading Room
<http://www.state.gov/m/a/ips/c22790.htm>

U.S. Department of State, *Foreign Relations of the United States* series.

- Available in U of C Library Collection, call number JX 233 A3
- More recent volumes (1961-1980) are available online from the Department of State Office of the Historian Website at <http://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments>

Wilson Center <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/>

Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- **Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.**
- 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 Library Block (MLB), call 403-210-ROCK (7625), or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.
- Registration changes and exemption requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>.

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
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.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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.

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 referenced.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be dropped into the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: **1) course name and number, 2) instructor, 3) your name, and 4) your student number.** Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. are date stamped 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 at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

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*

<https://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history-students-handbook-2019.pdf>

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
- Using 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 is reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar, Section K*.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Copyright:

Instructors in all University of Calgary courses strictly adhere to the Copyright Act regulations and 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, you may be required 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>.

Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

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.

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

Other Useful Information:

- Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

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