

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Department of History

HIST 220-01: Colloquium in World History: Cold War

Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Xiaojia Hou
Email: Xiaojia.hou@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays: 2:45-3:45 PM
by email & by appointment
Join URL: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/99415179678>
Meeting ID 994 1517 9678 (1j448d)
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays, 6-8:45 PM
Classroom: Meeting ID: 998 9469 3785 Password 7o822i
Join URL: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/99894693785>
Units: 4 units

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

This is a colloquium with an emphasis on the World history in the Cold War. It aims to understand how the Cold War played out in culture, science and technology, diplomacy and indirect dissension across the globe, and helps the students to analyze the current crisis. Students are expected to write two book reviews, make multiple presentations and write an essay.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

CLO1: Learn to approach alien cultures and be alert of the complexity of human society. **This learning objective will be assessed by class discussions.**

CLO2: Identify thesis, evidence, strengths and weaknesses in various texts and critically analyze sources in their contexts. **This learning objective will be assessed by the book review.**

CLO3: Develop skills to work out a topic based on reading documents and write historical essays with a strong thesis and clear evidence of historical thinking. **Assessed by response papers, essay questions on exams, essay proposal and essay writing.**

CLO4: Develop skills to examine parallels between the past and present, striving to know how our own contemporary interests, identities or perspectives may influence our analysis of the past. **This learning objective will be assessed by the oral report and the research essay.**

Required Texts/Readings

Author: John Lewis Gaddis

Title: *We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History*
Publisher: Oxford University Press, USA, 1998

Author: Vladislav M. Zubok
Title: *A Failed Empire: The Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev* (New Cold War History)
(Paperback)
Publisher: The University of North Carolina Press, 2008

Author: Odd Arne Westad
Title: *The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times*
Publisher: Cambridge University Press 2007

Author: Mary L. Dudziak,
Title: *Cold War Civil Rights*
Publisher: Princeton University Press, 2000.

Each week, documents and articles will be posted on the Canvas website, as indicated by “*” in the course schedule. Doing the reading assigned for each class before coming to class is necessary to benefit from what we do in class.

In addition to the above required readings, you may also want to pay special attention to the following sources, where you will find new scholarship and recently declassified documents related to the Cold War History:

Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=topics.home

Internet Archive
http://www.archive.org/details/living_past

You are recommended to own a style and grammar book. Some options include:
Diana Hacker, A Pocket Style Manual.
Kate Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertation.

Library Liaison

The History Department Library Liaison is Nyle Monday (nyle.monday@sjsu.edu). Contact him for help with any library assignments in your History classes. His telephone number is (408) 808-2041.

Course Requirements and Assignments

The course begins with an introduction to the Cold War History through readings. Each week discussion questions will be posted on Canvas and discussed in class. On the basis of this reading experience, students will write **two book reviews, 5 pages each**, to compare/analyze those books, due **Sept 25**.

By the mid-October, each student needs to choose a field of interests. This field could relate to your B exam areas. It can be about a major Cold War event, such as the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Détente, the prolonging of the Cold War, or the end of the Cold War. It can also cover a Cold War-related theme, such as the relationship between ideology and Cold War confrontation, the changing international regime and international

system during the Cold War, or Americans' changed "lived experience" during the Cold War. The student's efforts during this stage will be reflected in a series of stage results—including a proposal, a draft bibliography and an analysis of historiography, which will be presented and critiqued in class. Please see details below.

Proposal for the paper, due Oct 6.

By the mid-October, you should be able to commit yourself to a specific field and present it in a preliminary proposal about 1 page in length. This proposal will describe in some details general issues that are of primary relevance to your essay:

1. The specific field to be investigated and the questions that have been asked.
2. The types of sources you have found for the topic.

Draft bibliography, due Oct 20.

This assignment is essentially a preliminary bibliography with comments. It will be composed of two parts:

First part. It should list all the sources you have consulted so far and it should identify the ones you intend to read. This list should be fairly substantial: articles, monographs and other secondary sources.

Second part. After the entire list, add a brief essay (generally 1 page in length) discussing your bibliographic search in general. You might include here a description and assessment of the general quality and nature of the materials available to you so far.

Oral report:

The oral report is a 15-25 minutes presentation of your work to the members of the colloquium. Your major emphasis should include the portrayal of the relevant background of your topic and an overview of historiography of the subject. You should avoid reading your paper but to summarize your main thesis, your argument, and the materials you use to support your argument. One of your fellow students will comment on your presentation. There will then be a general discussion of your work by all the colloquium members. This exercise will give you the opportunity to test and further develop the ideas, enrich the related readings and conclusions you have developed in the paper. Be sure to make notes of the colloquium's comments and questions so that you can respond to them in the final draft.

It is the paper presenters' responsibility to distribute the draft paper among all members of the class as least 24 hours before the session at which the paper will be presented and discussed.

Critique on other's paper, due Dec 1.

Each student in the course will specifically read another fellow student's draft paper and criticize it in a designated class session. The critique should concentrate on the strength and, especially, the weakness of the draft paper. After the session that a student gives the critique, he/she should provide the text of the critique to both the paper write and the instructor.

Analysis of the Historiography, due Dec 15.

The analysis should be between 10 and 15 pages of text, typed and doubled spaced.

All written and oral work must be completed in order to pass this course. Class participation will be considered in determining the final grade. Late paper submission will be penalized. The oral report must be given on the day assigned. If you have any question, please contact the Professor before taking action on your own.

Grading Information

Book Reviews	20%
Discussions and participation	30%
Historiography Project:	
Proposal	5%
Draft bibliography	10 %
Oral Report	10%
Written critique	5%
Final Paper	20%

93-96	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	0-59	F

Classroom Protocol

All students are expected to attend two lectures each week and complete all assignments. Please come to the class having completed the readings for that day. Active participation means asking good questions as well as proposing good answers. If you cannot attend a lecture, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed. Come to class on time and remain in your seat while class is in session. Do NOT interfere with other students' learning by chatting, passing notes, eating noisily, taking calls, checking messages, or texting in class. Turn off ALL electronic devices such as phones, laptops, tablets, computers, and recorders and put them away when you come to class. Do NOT use electronic devices in class without the instructor's written permission in advance. Do NOT photograph, record, transmit, share, stream, upload, broadcast, or post ANYTHING from this class. Do NOT send or receive calls, texts, or messages in class.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>.

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Fall 2020 Course Schedule

Note: This schedule is subject to change with fair notice as announced in class or posted on Canvas. Please follow the Canvas Instruction.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 25	Introduction Assignments 1 Post on discussions: In your opinions, how did the Cold War have changed the world we are living now? 2 points 2 Prepare for Discussions for Sept 1.
2	Sept 1	Origins of the Cold War Readings: <i>We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History</i> George Kennan, “Long Telegram” * Nikolai Novikov, “Telegram” * Article “The Cold War: What Do ‘We Now Know’?.” * Assignments: TBA
3	Sept 8	The “Soviet Empire” Readings: <i>A Failed Empire: The Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev</i> Assignments: TBA
4	Sept 15	The Cold War in Asia and in the “Third World” Readings: <i>The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times</i> Assignments: TBA
5	Sept 22	US and the Cold War Readings: <i>Cold War Civil Rights</i> Two Book Reviews due Sept 25.
6	Sept 29	No class, individual consultation.
7	Oct 6	Presentations of proposals

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Essay proposal due
8	Oct 13	No class, individual consultation. Assignments: TBA
9	Oct 20	Progress Reports Draft bibliography due
10	Oct 27	No Class, preparing for the presentations, individual consultation
11	Nov 3	Project presentations and discussions
12	Nov 10	Project presentations and discussions
13	Nov 17	Project presentations and discussions
14	Nov 24	Thanksgiving, No Class.
15	Dec 1	Discussions
Final Exam	Dec 15	Final Paper due