Instructor: Chris Tudda
Classroom:
Office:
Office Hours:
E-mail: ctudda@gwu.edu
Web Site: Access this syllabus and other links on Blackboard

Note: The views presented here are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Department of State or the United States Government. All primary source documents presented in class have been declassified and released in the Foreign Relations of the United States Series.

Course Description and Objectives

This course examines the history of U.S. foreign relations from the final six months of World War II through President Lyndon B. Johnson’s administration. Through lectures, readings (both primary and secondary), class and group discussions, and various multimedia, we will study main events, trends, and patterns of U.S. foreign relations during that critical time in U.S. history.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Students are expected to:

1. Identify the major developments in the history of U.S. foreign policy from 1945 to 1968.
2. Examine and evaluate the relationship between domestic and foreign policies.
3. Understand the U.S. national security decision making process.
4. Develop the skills of the historical process, including critical thinking, reasoning, and analysis.
5. Argue clearly and write and speak coherently about their views with consistent recourse to information drawn from course readings, lectures, class discussion, research, and knowledge developed outside of the course.

The extent to which these learning objectives have been achieved in the course will be measured by:

1. Class participation (in-class, in office hours, and/or via email)
2. Mid-term Exam (short and long identifications and essay questions)
3. An original research paper based upon primary source foreign relations documents.
4. Final Exam—Non-cumulative (short and long identifications and essay questions)

**Required Readings (available at GW bookstore and on reserve at Gelman Library)**


Mark Atwood Lawrence, *The Vietnam War: A Concise International History* (Oxford University Press, 2008)


**Recommended Readings: (available either at bookstore and/or on reserve at Gelman Library)**

Howard Jones, *The Bay of Pigs* (Oxford University Press, 2008)

**Student Responsibilities**

Students must keep up with the reading assignments in order to perform well in this course. Completion of reading assignments is critical for following the material covered in lecture and for participation in class discussions.

Grades will be based on a midterm exam (25%), a final exam (25%), one research paper (35%), and class participation (15%). Grades are calculated as follows: A = 92-100; A- = 90-91; B+ = 87-89; B = 82-86; B- = 80-81; C+ = 77-79; C = 72-76; C- = 70-71; D+ = 67-69; D = 60-66. All assignments will be based on the lectures, reading assignments, and classroom discussions. Lectures will complement, but not necessarily duplicate, reading assignments. Failure to complete and submit any of the written assignments (the two exams and the research paper) will result in an F for the course.

The midterm and final exams will include identifications and essays. Makeup exams will be given only in the case of an official excuse (ie a doctor’s note) or religious
holiday(s). You must notify me the day before, or the day of, an exam that you will miss due to an official excuse. In accordance with University policy, students must notify the instructor during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance.

A research paper assignment, to be at least 10 but no more than 12 pages, based mainly on foreign relations primary source documents, will be handed out in class early in the semester. Papers submitted after the due date will be marked down by ½ letter grade (i.e. an A will automatically become an A-, etc.) per day unless the student provides the instructor with an official excuse (i.e. a doctor's note). I will also send out via email a copy of one of my own research papers with the proper footnote/endnote format and the basic structure of a research paper.

Attendance will only be taken early on in order for me to learn your names. Students miss class at their own peril because class participation is critical to the success of the course. You are responsible for any material missed if you are absent from class. Your paper assignment and exam review sheets will be posted on Blackboard or sent via email if you miss the class when they’re distributed.

Participation is taken into account based on a student's engagement in the class. Active involvement in class discussions, thoughtful questions, and respect for differing opinions will decide the participation portion of the grade. Questions and comments should be qualitative rather than only quantitative. Simply speaking without offering constructive comments will not score a high participation grade. Since some students are hesitant to speak in front of large groups, questions and discussion sent by e-mail or conducted in office hours are just as valid.

If you need to leave class early for any reason, please let me know before class begins and exit quietly from the room so you do not distract anyone. Please shut off cell phones or any other electronic devices, except for laptops, during the class period.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

I personally support the GW Code of Academic Integrity. It states: “Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.” For the remainder of the code, see: [http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html](http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html)

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

**DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)**

Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Disability Support Services office at 202-994-8250 in the Marvin Center, Suite 242, to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. For additional information please refer to: [http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/](http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/)
In accordance with University policy, in order to retake an exam or rewrite a paper you must register with the DSS office before the exam is given or the paper is due.

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER (UCC) 202-994-5300
The University Counseling Center (UCC) offers 24/7 assistance and referral to address students' personal, social, career, and study skills problems. Services for students include:
- crisis and emergency mental health consultations
- confidential assessment, counseling services (individual and small group), and referrals

http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServices

SECURITY
In the case of an emergency, if at all possible, the class should shelter in place. If the building that the class is in is affected, follow the evacuation procedures for the building. After evacuation, seek shelter at a predetermined rendezvous location.

Course Calendar

Jan. 12      Introduction to the Course; Syllabus Review
Jan. 14      WWII Diplomacy and the Conference
Jan. 19-21   The Yalta Conference Part 2
Jan. 28-30   Potsdam, Hiroshima and the Dawn of the Atomic Age
             Read Gaddis, pp. 194-275 (ok to skip info about Kennan’s personal life)
             Read Gaddis, pp. 276-336 (ok to skip info about Kennan’s personal life)
Feb.         Eisenhower’s Cold War Part One
             Read Osgood, pp. 46-150
Feb.         Eisenhower’s Cold War Part Two
             Read Osgood, pp. 181-287, 354-69
Mar.         The Bay of Pigs and Cuban Missile Crisis
             Read Fursenko/Naftali, pp. 184-256 (pdf I will email you)
Mar.         MIDTERM EXAM
Mar. 14-18  SPRING BREAK, NO CLASSES

Mar.       JFK and Vietnam

Mar.       LBJ, Tonkin Gulf, and Vietnam

Mar.       The U.S. Takes over the War

Apr.       The Run-up to the 6-Day War
            Read Oren, pp. xxiii-126

Apr.       Days One to Four and the Liberty Incident
            Read Oren, pp. 170-277

Apr.       The End of the War and the Remaking of the Middle East
            The Glassboro Summit and the Beginnings of Détente
            The Tet
            Offensive and the Election of 1968
            Read Oren, pp. 278-312

APRIL 21  PAPERS DUE; LAST DAY OF CLASS

May  ??    FINAL EXAM