History of International Relations and the Cold War

Higher School of Economics 2017-18
Tuesdays 10-12
Instructor: Navid Hassanpour nhassanpour@hse.ru
Teaching Assistant: TBD
Coordinator: TBD

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Course Description: This course is an overview of the history of International affairs after the Second World War. As such it includes the history of international relations during the Cold War and after the collapse of communism till the present time. The course is comprised of lectures on concepts and case studies, and accompanying seminars for interactive discussions of the material outlined in the lectures. The course main focus is on four general themes: 1) The breakdown of the Grand Alliance and the origins of the Cold War 2) The dynamics of the Cold War and its international covert operations and propaganda 3) The Cold War theatres in different regions of the World 4) The end of the Cold War and rise of China 5) Conflict and security in the post-9/11 world

We will have a midterm at the end of each module. These three exams are in addition to a final exam administered at the end of the course.

Seminars are scheduled to help students to develop their practical skills via working with theoretical examples, writing exercises involving case studies, and in-class discussions with the instructor.

Evaluation: The grade for this course is based on a final exam 50%, three midterms each 10%, for a total of 30%, and quizzes, presence and participation in seminars and class 20%. Optional bonus points are given for writing a paper on a “case study” using the conceptual themes taught in class.

Readings: Selected chapters from textbooks, and relevant papers are assigned each week. Students are expected to have read the material before attending the lecture. In case required readings are not available online or are not in the required texts, a scanned version will be

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1 The structure of the course closely follows the outline of the syllabus and study guide for the course World history since 1945 by J. Kent Department of International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science (2012). The weekly readings assigned in the course are also designed to match those of the aforementioned course.
Required Textbooks: The following textbooks can be consulted for further learning. Additional readings are assigned per week.


Office Hours: Instructor: Fridays 2:30 to 4:00 PM and by appointment, Teaching Assistant: TBD

Outline and Schedule

- **Lecture 1: Onset of World War II**
  - Required Reading
    * Introduction to the course, UoL Study Guide

- **Lecture 2: World War II and the Beginning of a New World Order**
  - Required Reading

- **Lecture 3: Breakdown of Grand Alliance 1943-46**
  - Required Reading

- **Recommended Reading**

- **Lecture 4: Marshall Plan and Communism in Eastern Europe and Around the Globe, 1948-53**

  - **Required Reading**

  - **Recommended Reading**

- **Lecture 5: The Onset of the Cold War: from Containment to Rollback, 1948–53**
• Lecture 6: Intelligence and Propaganda Operations

– Required Reading


– Recommended Reading

  * Corke, S. ‘Bridging the gap: containment, covert action and the search for the missing link in American Cold War policy, 1948–1953’, *Journal of Strategic Studies* 20(4) 1997

• Lecture 7: Cold War and Nuclear Arms Race

  * Young, J.W. and J. Kent *International relations since 1945: a global history* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003) Chapters 4A, 4B, 4D, 5B, 5C and 7A

  – Required Reading

  * Young, J.W. and J. Kent *International relations since 1945: a global history* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003) Chapters 4A, 4B, 4D, 5B, 5C and 7A

  – Recommended Reading

  * Andrew, C.M. and V. Mitrokhin *The Mitrokhin archive: the KGB in Europe and the West* (London: Allen Lane, 1999)
  * Osgood, K.A. *Total Cold War: Eisenhower’s secret propaganda battle at home and abroad* (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2008)
  * Osgood, K.A. ‘Form before substance: Eisenhower’s commitment to psychological warfare and negotiations with the enemy’, *Diplomatic History* 24(3) 2000.
– Required Reading


– Recommended Reading

* Kaplan, F. The wizards of Armageddon (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1983)

- Lecture 8: Sino-Soviet Split

– Required Reading


– Recommended Reading

* Zubok, V. and C. Pleshakov Inside the Kremlin’s Cold War: from Stalin to Khrushchev (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996)

- Lecture 9: Détente between the U.S. and the USSR 1969-79

– Required Reading


– Recommended Reading

* Litwak, R.S. *Détente and the Nixon doctrine* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986)

**Lecture 10: The Cold War in Asia: Korea**

- Required Reading
  

- Recommended Reading
  
• Lecture 11: The Cold War in Asia: Vietnam

- Required Reading

- Recommended Reading

• Lecture 12: The Cold War in Eastern Europe

- Required Reading

- Recommended Reading
• Lecture 13: The Cold War in Latin America: The Cuban Crisis

- Required Reading

- Recommended Reading

• Lecture 14: The Cold War in the Middle East: the Arab-Israeli Conflict

- Required Reading

- Recommended Reading


- Lecture 15: The Cold War in Africa: The Congo and Angola
  - Required Reading
    * Westad, O.A. *The global Cold War: third world interventions and the making of our times* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007)
  - Recommended Reading
    * Kent, J. *America, the UN and decolonization: Cold War conflict in the Congo* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2010)

- Lecture 16: End of the Cold War and Collapse of Communism and Soviet Union-I
– Required Reading

* Brown, A. *Seven years that changed the world* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007)


* Kramer, M. ‘The collapse of East European communism and the repercussions within the Soviet Union (Part III)’, *Journal of Cold War Studies* 7(1) 2005.

– Recommended Reading


• Lecture 17: End of the Cold War and Collapse of Communism and Soviet Union-II

– Required Reading

* Brown, A. *Seven years that changed the world* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007)


– Recommended Reading


• Lecture 18: The U.S. War on Terror

  – Required Reading

  – Recommended Reading

• Lecture 19: The Rise of China

  – Required Reading
  * Deng, Y. *China’s struggle for status: the realignment of international relations* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008)

  – Recommended Reading
  * Kang, D.C. *China rising: peace, power and order in East Asia* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2010)
  * Ross, R.S. ‘Beijing as a conservative power’, *Foreign Affairs* 76(2) 1997.
  * Zheng, B. ‘China’s peaceful rise to great power status’, *Foreign Affairs* 84(5) 2005.
• Lecture 20: American Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

  – Required Reading

  – Recommended Reading

• Lecture 21: Ukraine, Syria and Proxy Wars of Influence: Implications for the World Order

  – Required Reading
    * TBD

  – Recommended Reading
    * TBD