History 303.001 -- Global Diplomacy

Syllabus, Spring 2016

Instructor: Dr. Troy Davis
Department: History
Office: 309, Liberal Arts North
Office Hours: MW 9:00-9:50 a.m., 2:00-3:00 p.m.; TR 9:30-10:20; and by appointment
Office Phone: 468-2229 or 468-3802
E-Mail: TDavis@sfasu.edu
Class Meeting Time and Place: TR 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Ferguson 472

Required Books:
- *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, by Walter LaFeber
- *Summits: Six Meetings that Shaped the Twentieth Century*, by David Reynolds
- *To End a War*, by Richard Holbrooke

Course description: Survey of the complexities of international relations since the end of World War II, including the rise and fall of the Cold War and the role of the Third World in global affairs.

Course grade: Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on three exams and two book reviews (one of the book by David Reynolds, due March 10, and one of the book by Richard Holbrooke, due April 21). Each exam will be worth 25% of your course grade. The third exam will be administered during finals week, but it will be non-cumulative. Each of the book reviews will be worth 12.5% of your grade.

Attendance policy: Regular attendance is an important part of the educational experience in any university-level course. Accordingly, your final average in this course will be dropped five percentage points for each absence beyond four. In addition, in order to discourage excessive tardiness, which is distracting to both the instructor and other students, two tardies will be treated as the equivalent of one absence. (If you have to leave any class meeting early for some legitimate reason, please notify Dr. Davis of that fact before the class period begins. Otherwise, you will be counted absent for that class period.)

Makeup policy: Makeup exams will be allowed only in documented cases of emergency. If you fail to show up for an exam without having first consulted with Dr. Davis (or without having first called the History Department in an attempt to consult with Dr. Davis), you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. Makeup exams that are allowed will be administered during the last week of classes.

Policy on cheating and plagiarism: Cheating and plagiarism are extremely serious offenses and will not be tolerated in this course. Any student caught cheating on an exam or plagiarizing any part of a paper will receive a grade of F in the course. A full description of university procedures in response to cheating and plagiarism can be found on-line at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/. Click on Policy 4.1 “Student Academic Dishonesty.”
Students with disabilities: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Cell phones: Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices before coming to class.

Classroom conduct: Unprofessional or inappropriate behavior, especially any that might distract or demoralize other students and interfere with their learning (side conversations, texting, sleeping in class, etc.) may result in your being asked to leave the classroom.

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments:

Topic 1 -- International Relations during the Interwar Years and World War II. Read LaFeber, Introduction and chapter 1.

Topic 2 -- Aftermath of the War in Europe and the New Balance of World Power. Read LaFeber, chapter 2.

Topic 3 -- Breakdown of the Wartime Alliance and the Onset of the Cold War. Read LaFeber, chapter 3.


Topic 5 -- East-West Rivalries during the Eisenhower Era. Read LaFeber, chapter 5.

February 23 -- First Exam: Will cover Topics 1-5.

Topic 6 -- Latin America and the Cold War from 1945 to the Cuban Missile Crisis. Read LaFeber, chapter 6.


Topic 8 -- The Middle East and the Cold War, 1945-1975. Read LaFeber, chapter 8.

March 10 -- Review of Reynolds book is due.

Topic 9 -- East Asia and the Cold War from the Chinese Civil War to the Breakup of the Chinese-Soviet Alliance. Read LaFeber, chapter 9.
Topic 10 – East Asia and the Cold War from the First Indochina War to the Late 1970s. Read LaFeber, chapter 10.

April 7 -- Second Exam: Will cover Topics 6-10.

Topic 11 -- U.S.-Latin American Relations since the Cuban Missile Crisis. Read LaFeber, chapter 11.

Topic 12 -- Africa in International Affairs since the Early 1960s. Read LaFeber, chapter 12.


April 21 -- Review of Holbrooke book is due.

Topic 14 -- The Resurgence of European Ethnic Conflict following the Cold War. Read LaFeber, chapter 14.


Tuesday, May 10, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. -- Third Exam: Will cover Topics 11-15. There will also be a question on the LaFeber book.
Additional Information on Learning Outcomes and University Policies Relevant to this Course

Program Learning Outcomes
The SFA History Department has identified the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for all SFA students earning a B.A. degree in History:

1. The student will evaluate the role of the historian in society.
2. The student will assess the significance of historical events/phenomena and analyze their historical contexts.
3. The student will locate, identify and critically analyze primary and secondary sources appropriate for historical research.
4. The student will interpret evidence found within primary sources and place those sources within their appropriate historical context.
5. The student will effectively communicate historical arguments in support of a central thesis, including the proper citation of sources using the most recent edition of the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

This course will focus on PLOs 2 through 5 above, though the book reviews are not research papers and will not, therefore, require students to cite sources according to the *Chicago Manual*.

Student Learning Outcomes
The more specific outcomes for this particular course are as follows:

1. The student will be able to explain the reasons behind the breakdown of World War II’s Grand Alliance and the onset of the Cold War.
2. The student will be able to explain why the United States and its Western Cold War allies adopted the strategy of Containment in response to the perceived threat of Soviet expansionism.
3. The student will be able to analyze the causes and consequences of decolonization in the aftermath of World War II.
4. The student will be able to explain the collapse of European communism and the effect of the collapse on international relations.

Student Academic Dishonesty (University Policy 4.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.
Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

A full description of university procedures in response to cheating and plagiarism can be found on-line at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/. Click on Policy 4.1 “Student Academic Dishonesty.”

Withheld Grades Course Grades Policy (University Policy 5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.