

The 1960s in Global Perspective

History 535-002 / 615-008 / 635-002

Fall 2009

Wednesdays, 7:20-10:00 pm

Location: Robinson B 442

Prof. Steven A. Barnes

Robinson B226A

sbarnes3@gmu.edu

703-993-1247

Office Hours: Mondays 11am-noon, Wednesdays, 5-6 pm and by appointment.

Course Description:

This course will examine the “phenomenon” of the 1960s, culminating with the “year that rocked the world”—1968. The course will include not only readings on the 1960s in a general sense but also particular national histories that focus on topics that may include: the civil rights, anti-war and counterculture movement in the United States, the Cultural Revolution in China, the upheavals in France, Germany and Mexico in 1968, the Prague Spring and its destruction by tanks of the Warsaw Pact, de-Stalinization and re-Stalinization in the Soviet Union, anti-colonial movements in Africa and Asia, etc. The course will discuss the extent to which the 1960s has significance on a global scale and the reasons behind its global nature.

Course Requirements:

1) Participation:

Participation is crucial to the success of this course. Consequently, participation in each week's discussion will contribute substantially to the final grade. Attendance in class is crucial. If you do not attend, you cannot participate and your participation grade will suffer accordingly.

With the possibility of an outbreak of the H1N1 influenza virus this year, I certainly encourage you to stay home when you have a fever. However, please try to attend class in all other situations.

2) Oral Presentations:

One and occasionally two students will be required to open the week's session with a brief discussion of the issues raised by the week's readings, after which they will lead discussion of the readings.

3) Written Assignments:

Students will write 1 ½-2 page book reviews for 10 of the 13 class sessions. It is your choice which weeks you choose not to write an assignment. These assignments are **due at the beginning of the class session for which they are written**. These reviews should not just capsule the book, but should raise the points you see as most relevant for class discussion.

Additionally, students will write a final paper of 10-12 pages. You will choose a primary source related to the history of the 1960s. You will then use the primary source to interrogate the historiography discussed in class, and you will use the historiography to elucidate the primary source. Details will be discussed further in class. No additional research will be required. **THIS IS NOT A RESEARCH PAPER**. The final paper will be **due December 16, 2009**.

Grade Breakdown:

Participation	20%
10 1-2 page reviews (4% each)	40%
Final Paper	40%

Course Policies – READ CAREFULLY:

Policy on Late Work: No extension on assignments will be granted. Grades on assignments will be reduced by 5 percent for each day of lateness.

Email Addresses: The professor will communicate with students via email. Therefore, all students must activate and check their official GMU email addresses frequently. You may forward it to another account, but you are responsible for the information that is sent via your official account.

ADA: Students with learning disabilities who need special accommodation must present appropriate documentation to me by the third week of class. Contact the Disability Resource Center (<http://www.gmu.edu/student/drc>) to obtain documentation.

Cheating and Plagiarism: All work in this class must be your own unless otherwise directed by the professor. If you haven't already, read the George Mason University Honor Code which defines cheating and plagiarism and outlines the penalties and procedures that apply thereto. Violators will receive the maximum penalty allowed by the University. If you have any questions on what constitutes cheating or plagiarism after reviewing these materials, please talk to me. If you are unsure when completing an assignment, ask me. Do not take a chance of your case winding up before the Honor Board. For more information on George Mason's honor code: <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>

Course Reading:

The readings for the course are listed below. Additional material may be provided by the instructor to supplement the scheduled weekly readings. All books after the first are available at the GMU Bookstore. Articles are available online via the library website.

Week 1 (September 2) Introduction

Week 2 (September 9)

David Reynolds, *One World Divisible: A Global History since 1945*

Week 3 (September 16)

Jeremi Suri, *Power and Protest: Global Revolution and the Rise of Détente*

Jeremi Suri (ed.), *The Global Revolutions of 1968* (selections of readings to be announced)

Week 4 (September 23)

Maurice Isserman and Michael Kazin, *America Divided: The Civil War of the 1960s*

Week 5 (September 30)

Mary L. Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*

Week 6 (October 7)

Daniel Singer, *Prelude to Revolution: France in May 1968*

Week 7 (October 14)

Amir Weiner, "Déjà vu All Over Again: Prague Spring, Romanian Summer and Soviet Autumn on the Soviet Western Frontier," *Contemporary European History* 2006 15(2): 159-194.

Jeremi Suri, "The Promise and Failure of 'Developed Socialism': The Soviet 'Thaw' and the Crucible of the Prague Spring, 1964-1972," *Contemporary European History* 2006 15(2): 133-158.

Kristin Roth-Ey, "Finding a Home for Television in the USSR, 1950-1970," *Slavic Review* 2007 66(2): 278-306.

Interview with Nikolai Vasin, <http://www.hf.uib.no/russisk/steinholt/articles/vasin.pdf>

BBC Radio World Service, "Beatles in the USSR,"
http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/documentaries/2009/02/090204_beatles_ussr.shtml (Listen to podcast.)

Week 8 (October 21)

Isabella Ginor and Gideon Remez, *Foxbats over Dimona: The Soviets' Nuclear Gamble in the Six-Day War*

Week 9 (October 28)

Kieran Williams, *The Prague Spring and Its Aftermath: Czechoslovak Politics, 1968-1970*

Week 10 (November 4)

Roderick MacFarquhar and Michael Schoenhals, *Mao's Last Revolution*

Week 11 (November 11)

Elaine Carey, *Plaza of Sacrifices: Gender, Power and Terror in 1968 Mexico*

Week 12 (November 18)

Jeremy Varon, *Bringing the War Home: The Weather Underground, the Red Army Faction, and Revolutionary Violence in the Sixties and Seventies*

Week 13 (December 2)

Mark Kurlansky, *1968: The Year that Rocked the World*

Week 14 (December 9)

Jeremi Suri, "The Rise and Fall of an International Counterculture, 1960-1975," *American Historical Review* 2009 114(1): 45-68.

Paul Berman, *A Tale of Two Utopias: The Political Journey of the Generation of 1968*