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History 101.11

The Cold War in Asia
Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:45-2:00
Rome 206

Summary:

This course will examine the history of the Cold War in Asia. Particular attention will be placed on American efforts to expand its influence over the Asian continent during the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s and to the ways that Asians adapted to and resisted American influence. Topics to be covered include: The Chinese Revolution, The American Occupation of Japan, The Korean War, American Development Policies, and democratization. The course, for the most part, proceeds chronologically but I have in some instances sacrificed chronology so that particular themes can be emphasized. In putting together this class I operated on several basic assumptions. First, that in examining the history of the Cold War in Asia, understanding how the Cold War was experienced by Asians themselves is just as important as examining American foreign policies. Second, that the Cold War had cultural, economic and social effects in Asia. It was more than simply political and military conflicts between the different powers. Finally, that in order to approach the history of the Cold War in Asia it is important to read not only accounts written by American historians, but also to immerse one's self in historical documents and in accounts written during the Cold War itself. Consequently, I have assigned numerous primary source materials which students should carefully read and analyze.

Requirements:

Students are expected to attend course and participate in discussion regularly. I have made an effort to limit the size of this class in order to assure that we can have meaningful and well-participated class discussions. Class participation will therefore be a very significant part of the grade. Class participation grades will be determined by the quality of comments students make during class sessions and by students' general demeanor and attitude in class. We will play "Brazinsky's 30 Seconds of Fame Game" at the beginning of each Monday Session so students who come late without a valid excuse will be penalized. There will be no exams for this class. Students will instead be expected to write three papers. Papers will be judged on the sophistication of their arguments, their use of evidence to support these arguments, organization, and style. All examinations, papers, and other graded work products and assignments are to be

completed in conformance with The George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity. Grades will be determined according to the following formula:

Paper 1(Due in Class on Wednesday, October 6): 25%

Paper 2 (Due in Class on Monday, November 1): 25%

Paper 3 (Due in my box by Monday, December 13): 25%

Class Participation: 25%

Office Hours:

As indicated above, I will be available in my office on Mondays and Wednesdays between 2:00 and 3:30. Students are welcome to show up without an appointment. Students wishing to meet with me who cannot attend regular office hours should e-mail me to set up an appointment. Technical questions regarding deadlines for pass/fail, add/drop, registrations, forms, credit etc., should be directed to the History Department secretary's office in Phillips 335 at 994-6230.

Readings:

There are five books that I have assigned for purchase in this class. These are:

Bruce Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun: A Modern History* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1997). (recommended)

Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2001).

Christina Klein, *Cold War Orientalism: Asia in the Middlebrow Imagination, 1945-1961* (Berkeley: University California Press, 2003)

William J. Lederer and Eugene Burdick, *The Ugly American* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1998).

Judith Shapiro, *Mao's War Against Nature: Politics and the Environment in Revolutionary China* (New York: Cambridge University Press 2001). (recommended).

In addition there are numerous reading assignments that students will need to access through Blackboard. Students can access these articles by selecting course outline and then clicking on the appropriate session. Some of these readings are links to other internet web sites and some are articles that I have scanned and posted on to Blackboard. In some instances I will require students to print out a particular reading and bring it to class in order to facilitate discussion. I may post additional readings on Blackboard for some of the classes listed below. I will announce these new readings in class. Any new

readings will consist of no more than 20 pages and be posted at least one week before a particular class.

Background Readings:

Students who feel that they need more background on the history of a particular country or region covered in class may want to look at one of the following books. None of these are required.

Jonathan Spence, *The Search for Modern China* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1990)

Peter Duus, *Modern Japan* (Houghton Mifflin Company, 1998).

David J. Steinberg et. all, *In Search of Southeast Asia: A Modern History* (International Thomson Publishing, 1971).

Class Schedule:

Week One: Introduction/Overview

Wednesday, September 1: No readings

Week Two: The End of World War II in Asia

Wednesday, September 8: 1) Michael Hunt and Steven Levine, “The Revolutionary Challenge to Early Cold War U.S. Policy in Asia.” (BB)
2) Policy Paper Prepared in the Department of State. (BB)

Week Three: The Occupation of Japan

Monday, September 13: 1) John Dower, “Occupied Japan and the Cold War in Asia.” (BB)
2) Film: Our Job in Japan. (BB)

Wednesday, September 15: 1) John Dower, *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, Chapter 4. (BB)

Week Four: The Chinese Revolution

Monday, September 20: 1) Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*, Chapter 1.
2) Selections from Mao Tse-Tung, “On New Democracy,” pages 76-92, 100-102, 110-112 (BB).

Wednesday, September 22: 1) Michael Hunt, “Mao Tse-Tung and the Issue of Accommodation with the United States, 1948-1950.” (BB)
2) Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*, Chapter 2.

Week Five: The Korean War

Monday, September 27: 1) Bruce Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun: A Modern History*, Chapters 4 and 5.

Wednesday, September 29: 1) Kathryn Weathersby, "To Attack or Not to Attack: Kim Il-Sung and the Prelude to War." (BB).
2) Bruce Cumings and Kathryn Weathersby, "An Exchange on Korean War Origins." (BB)
3) Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*, Chapter 4.

Week Six: American Culture and the Cold War in Asia

Monday, October 4: 1) Christina Klein, *Cold War Orientalism*, Chapter 2 and if possible skim Chapter 1.

Wednesday, October 6: 1) Christina Klein, *Cold War Orientalism*, Chapter 5.
2) View Film: *The King and I*.

Week Seven: Critiques of American Involvement in Asia (Ugly Americans)

Monday, October 11: 1) William J. Lederer and Eugene Burdick, *The Ugly American*, pp.11-66, 110-115.

Wednesday, October 13: 1) William J. Lederer and Eugene Burdick, *The Ugly American*, pp. 174-191, 205-285.

Week Eight: Economic Development, Modernization and U.S.-Asian Relations

Monday, October 18: 1) Walt Rostow, *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto*, 1-16, 144-167. (BB)
2) Agency for International Development, "U.S. Foreign Aid in the Far East." (BB).

Wednesday, October 20: 1) Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun*, Chapter 6.
2) Bruce Cumings, "The Origins and Development of the Northeast Asian Political Economy: industrial sectors, product cycles and political consequences."

Week Nine: The Cold War in Asia and the Environment

Monday, October 25: 1) Nick Cullather, "Damming Afghanistan: Modernization in a Buffer State," *The Journal of American History*, September 2002. (BB)
2) Nick Cullather, "Miracles of Modernization: The Green Revolution and the Apotheosis of Technology," *Diplomatic History*, March 2004. (BB)

Wednesday, October 27: 1) Judith Shapiro, *Mao's War Against Nature: Politics and the Environment in Revolutionary China*, 1-20, 67-138.

Week Ten: Nuclear Weapons and their Consequences

Monday, November 1: 1) Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*, Chapter 7.
2) "Mao Zedong's Handling of the Taiwan Straits Crisis of 1958," *Cold War International History Project Bulletin*, 6/7. (BB)

Wednesday, November 3: 1) Roger Dingman, "Alliance in Crisis: The Lucky Dragon Incident." (BB)
2) View film: *Godzilla*.

Week Eleven: North Korea

Monday, November 8: 1) Bruce Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun*, Chapter 8.
2) "Report Embassy of Hungary in North Korea, 17 August 1955." (BB)
3) "Report Embassy of Hungary in North Korea, 16 December 1959." (BB)

Wednesday, November 10: 1) Mitchell Lerner, "A Failure of Perception: Lyndon Johnson, North Korean Ideology, and the *Pueblo* Incident," *Diplomatic History*, fall, 2001. (BB)
2) Selected Documents on *Pueblo* Incident. (BB)

Weeks Twelve and Thirteen: China's Realignment

Monday, November 15: 1) Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*, Chapter 3.
2) Letter from Allen S. Whiting to Henry Kissinger, 16 August 1969, enclosing report, "Sino-Soviet Hostilities and Implications for U.S. Policy" (BB)
3) Excerpts from "The Emerging Disputes Between Beijing and Moscow." (BB)

Wednesday, November 17: 1) Harry Harding, *A Fragile Relationship: The U.S. and China since 1972*, Chapter 2
2) Kissinger to Nixon "My Talk with Chou En-Lai." (BB)
3) "Your Encounter with the Chinese." (BB)

Monday, November 22: 1) Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*, Chapter 9.
2) "New Evidence on Sino-[American] Rapprochement." (BB)
3) "Excerpt of Zhou Enlai's Instructions on How to Prepare for Nixon's Visit." (BB)
4) "Memoranda of a Conversation." (BB)

(No Class on Wednesday, November 24)

Week Fourteen: The Cold War in South Asia

Monday, November 29: 1) Andrew Rotter, "Gender Relation, Foreign Relations: The United States in South Asia, 1947-1964," *Journal of American History*, September, 1994. (BB)

2) Andrew Rotter, "Christians, Muslims, and Hindus: Religion and U.S.-South Asian Relations, 1947-1954," *Diplomatic History*, Fall, 2000. (BB)

3) "The Position of the United States with respect to South Asia." (BB)

Wednesday, December 1: 1) National Security Archives Briefing Book: The Tilt: The U.S. and the South Asian Crisis of 1971. Summary, Documents 9-11, 19-21, 24, 30. (BB)

Week Fifteen: Democratization

Monday, December 6: 1) Stanley Karnow, *In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines*, Chapter 1. (BB)

2) Report on Human Rights Practices in Countries Receiving U.S. AID. (BB)

3) "President's Message to President Marcos." (BB)

Wednesday, December 8: 1) Bruce Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun*, Chapter 7.

2) View Film: *Peppermint Candy (Pakha Satang)*.

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