The grade for this course will be based on an optional midterm and a required final exam.

The 90 minute optional midterm will be given on October 21 from 12 to 1:30pm. It will consist of two essay questions based on the readings and the class discussion. You must answer one of these questions. For those who take it, the midterm will count 1/3 of the grade.

The three hour final exam will consist of three essay questions based on the readings and the class discussion. You must answer two of these questions.

There is also the option of writing a research paper, which will count 2/3 of the final grade. Interested students must discuss this option with the professor.

All assignments should be read before class so that you can follow the lecture and participate in the discussion. I suggest you read the assignments for each week in the order listed.

All assignments are on reserve.

Constructive participation in class discussion will be taken into account for the final grade. Those students with excellent class participation will receive an “A” for the course without having to take the final exam.

September 6   The World in 1945


September 13  The Origins of the Cold War


September 20  The Cold War in Asia


September 27  The United States and Europe: from Eisenhower through Johnson


October 4  The United States and the Middle East: from Truman through Johnson


Peter Hahn, Crisis and Crossfire: The United States and the Middle East Since 1945, Potomac, 2005, pp. 19-55.

Memcon (Truman, Marshall, et al), May 12, 1948, in Hahn, Crisis and Crossfire, pp. 140-42.


Ray Takeyh and Steven Simon, The Pragmatic Superpower: Winning the Cold War in the Middle East, Norton, 2016, pp. 161-91. [Six Day War]

Readings on the USS Liberty:
- Robert Dallek, Flawed Giant: Lyndon Johnson and His Times, 1961-1973, Oxford University

Optional: If you are interested in the sinking of the *USS Liberty*, I suggest you watch: BBC, "*USS Liberty*: Dead in the Water," 2002 (68 min.), [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjOH1XMAwZA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjOH1XMAwZA) There is a great deal about the sinking of the *USS Liberty* on the web, much of it unreliable. This BBC documentary includes much of the most recent research as well as interviews with many of the key participants. I find it balanced and reliable, with the provisos that (1) many mysteries remain and (2) the discussion of Operation Cyanide is contested because it is so speculative.

### October 11 The United States and Latin America: From Eisenhower through Johnson


Richard Goodwin, memorandum for the President ("Conversation with Commandante Ernesto Guevara of Cuba"), Aug. 22, 1961, [http://americancentury.omeka.wlu.edu/files/original/3e027f808b84322ec9f28e8e78e93b7.pdf](http://americancentury.omeka.wlu.edu/files/original/3e027f808b84322ec9f28e8e78e93b7.pdf)

Dallek, *Flawed Giant*, pp. 262-68.


October 18  The United States and Africa: From Eisenhower through Johnson


Elizabeth Schmidt, *Foreign Intervention in Africa: From the Cold War to the War on Terror*, Cambridge University Press, 2013, pp. 57-74. [Congo-L]


October 21, 12:00-1:30  Midterm

October 25  South East Asia: From Eisenhower through Johnson


Weiner, Legacy of Ashes, pp. 142-54. [Covert operation in Indonesia]


Optional: I suggest you watch The Fog of War, directed by Errol Morris (2003).

November 1  Détente: Nixon and Ford

LaFeber, America, Russia and the Cold War, pp. 272-97.


Gleijeses, Conflicting Missions, pp. 273-99. [Angola]


November 8  Carter: A New Beginning?

LaFeber, America, Russia and the Cold War, pp. 299-315.


Schmidt, *Foreign Intervention in Africa*, pp. 57-74. [Horn of Africa]


**November 15  The End of Détente. From Carter to Reagan**

Takeyh and Simon, *The Pragmatic Superpower*, pp. 239-68. [Fall of the Shah]


Brown, *The Rise and the Fall of Communism*, pp. 421-37. [Poland]


November 22  Thanksgiving Break

November 29  The End of the Cold War

Quandt, Peace Process, pp. 335-80.

George Shultz, Turmoil and Triumph: My Years as Secretary of State, Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1993, pp. 101-14.


Charles Cogan, “Partners in Time: The CIA and Afghanistan,” World Policy Journal, Summer 1993, pp. 73-82.

December 6  From Bush to Bush


