HIST 3305/WORLD SINCE 1945
Office Hours-Friday 10-12 or by appointment
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Course Description and Objectives
This class offers students an historical overview of the contemporary world, while also trying to promote an awareness of the striking diversity of views that both characterize and shape that world. Through multiple perspectives the students will look at major issues in the post-1945 world: the Cold War; colonialism, decolonization, and the struggle for national independence; globalization; the international economy and different economic cultures; ethnic, gender, racial, and religious differences; the nature of international conflict in the post-Cold War world; and the changing nature of humans’ relationship to the world around them (in both environmental and technological terms). Objectives: To create awareness of the world around us; to be exposed to the real meaning of history through critical analysis of primary sources; to challenge and change existing stereotypes about history of the world; to develop historical thinking by understanding the past and the people who inhabited it on their own terms while also recognizing how our views of the past are shaped by our own experiences.

Grade distribution
A=100-90, B=89-80; C=79-70; D=69-60; F=below 60

Attendance
Attendance is required for academic success of the course. You are allowed to miss one class without an excuse. Please notify your instructor in advance if you have to miss classes in cases of family/medical emergencies or job-related absences. No make-up exams unless your situation is exceptional. Your active participation is important (10% of your grade). I will not reward you for attendance. I will, however, penalize you if you miss classes. Please follow the deadlines. You will loose 2 points for each day a project is due.

Academic Honesty
No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).

Required readings
1. W. McWilliams, H. Piotrowski. The World since 1945
2. Defining the horrific.
4. Articles on Vista (to be announced)
Exams:
1. There will be 4 exams (each is 20% of your grade= 80%). For each exam there is a practice test. All primary documents are either on VISTA or in your book (documents).
2. Group assignments and your group presentation on genocides, participation- 20%. Details and Due date to be announced.

Weekly schedule (tentative):
1. World War II and aftermath.
   Read Chapter 1.
   Look at the interactive maps:
   Read the documents Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima in the Cold war documents
   Answer all the questions posted after the document, be ready to discuss.
2. Cold War
   Read chapters 2 and 3.
3. Cold War-continued
   Read all about Yalta and Potsdam conferences in your textbook.
   Read the documents: The Yalta conference and the Potsdam conference. Answer all questions.
   Read the documents-Stalin’s election speech and Churchill’s iron Curtain speech. Answer all questions.
4. Cold War-continued
   Read the document- the Truman doctrine. Read the documents-Warsaw pact and The NATO Alliance.
   Answer all questions.
6. Fear in America
   Read the document- McCarthy on Communists. Answer all questions.
Exam 1
7. Eastern Europe
   Read chapter 4 and 8
   Read the documents-The Hungarian Rebellion and The Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia.
8. After Stalin
   Read chapters 8 and 10. Watch Power Point presentation “Khrushchev”
   Read the document -Khrushchev’s Secret Speech. Answer all questions.
   Read chapter 3, 5. Read the documents The Korean War.
   Read chapter 9
11. China
   Read chapter 14
   Read the following lectures:
   http://www.wsu.edu:8001/~dee/MODCHINA/COMM2.HTM
   http://www.wsu.edu:8001/~dee/MODCHINA/REV2.HTM
   Read the documents Mao proclaimed republic of China. Answer all questions.
Exam 2
12. Modern Asia
   Read chapter 16
13. Decolonization and revolution in Latin America
Read chapters 11
14. Revolution, one failed, one succeeded: Guatemala and Cuba
Read chapters 13
Read the documents Castro on the Cuban revolution. Read CIA files on Chile (VISTA)
15. Africa
Read chapters 6 and 12
16. South Africa
http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/features/storyofafrica/12chapter6.shtml
Law http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/features/storyofafrica/12chapter7.shtml
Collapse of the system http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/features/storyofafrica/12chapter11.shtml
Mandela Inaguration http://www.wsu.edu/~wldciv/world_civ_reader/world_civ_reader_2/mandela.htm
Exam 3
17. Soviet Union
Read chapter 18
Read the documents The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan .
18. Soviet Union, causes and consequences of disintegration
Read chapter 18
19. The end of the Cold war?
Read all about revolutions of 1989
http://www.historyguide.org/europe/lecture16.html
Read the Attempted Coup in the USSR and Gorbachev’s resignation speech .
20. Genocides presentations, p. 1
Read the documents Genocides (Vista)
21. Genocides presentations, p. 2
22. Islam
Read chapters 20 and 21 on Political Islam and the Middle East
23. Globalization and Environment
Read chapter 17
Read the documents on Environment (VISTA). Go through five WebPages listed, answer these questions:
1 What is the page about?
2. What kind of format does it have, any pictures, data etc?
3. Did you learn something new?
4. Would you recommend it to a friend, why?
24. Brave New World
25. Final exam