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.

Required readings
1. W. McWilliams, H. Piotrowski. The World since 1945
2. Defining the horrific

Communication:
Your professor is available via kvladimi@kennesaw.edu Try your best to inform me of any problems your experience. Watch for the announcements, I will post them frequently. PROPER WAY TO ADDRESS ME IS DR. VLADIMIROV OR DR. V. NO INFORMAL TEXT MESSAGE LINGO.

Rules of engagement:
Attendance is mandatory. If you miss more than one class—you failed the class. If you are late more than 5 min-everyone has a quiz.
No walking. No food.
No laptops, iPods, I-pads, cells etc.
No grooming, sleeping, knitting.
No silly or smart remarks.

Exams:
1. There will be 2 exams (each is 30%). All primary documents are either on VISTA or in your book with the documents.
2. 3 movie reviews, 10% each.

Academic Honesty
Students are expected to be familiar and to comply with the regulations regarding academic honesty as described in the Kennesaw State University Catalog, pp. 314-315.
The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of these high standards is crucial since the validity and equity of the University’s grades and degrees depend upon it.

No students 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 as part of a course. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated; when the language, ideas, theories, data, 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. Anything directly copied from the Internet without proper citation is plagiarism. Papers without proper citations will get zero credit; a student will fail the course and can be suspended for at least one semester unless evidence is provided to convince the courts that substantial mitigating circumstances existed in that student’s offense.

Tentative schedule:
World War II, causes, alliances, consequences.
Read Chapter 1.
Read the documents Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima in the Cold war documents
Answer all the questions posted after the document.
Yalta, Potsdam and the world divisions. Western Europe after the war.
Read chapters 2 and 3.
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.
Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.
Read the document- the Truman doctrine. Read the documents-Warsaw pact and The NATO Alliance.
Read chapter 4 and 8
Read the documents-The Hungarian Rebellion and The Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia.
Read chapters 8 and 10.
Read the document -Khrushchev’s Secret Speech. Answer all questions.
Asia after the war. Films.
Read chapter 3, 5. Read the documents The Korean War.
Read chapter 9
Read chapter 14
Read the documents Mao proclaimed republic of China. Answer all questions.
Read chapter 16
Africa
Read chapters 6 and 12
On 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
Latin America, Caribbean. Film.
Read chapters 11
Guatemala and Cuba
Read chapters 13
Read the documents Castro on the Cuban revolution. Read CIA files on Chile (VISTA) Genocides. Film
Read the documents Genocides
Read chapter 18
Read the documents The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.
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.
Last decades of the 20th century, trends and new developments.
Read chapter 17
Read chapter 22.