COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This graduate course will focus on how social, cultural, and political changes inside the United States have influenced and been affected by events, forces, and processes outside the country’s borders since the United States emerged as a world power and acquired an overseas empire. The central premises of the course are: (1) that many important movements and developments inside the United States in the twentieth century cannot be understood solely within the frame of the nation and (2) that our understanding of such movements and developments can be enriched by transnational, international, global, and comparative perspectives.

The course is intended especially for (1) graduate students in U.S. history who may be asked to teach broad surveys in which they will need to lecture on U.S. foreign relations; (2) graduate students in global history who may be asked to teach world history courses in which they will need to integrate U.S. history into broader global narratives; and (3) graduate students in Latin American, European, Asian, or African history who are interested in learning more about how the United States has interacted with nations in those continents.

The major objectives of the course are: to help students build foundations for teaching survey courses in U.S. history and world history at the college level; to stimulate thinking about interconnections between specialized fields of American history; to promote critical analysis of the strengths and limitations of existing historical studies; and to encourage creative thinking about directions for future research.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of all required readings and active participation in discussions of the works at the class meetings.
2. Two brief (5-10 minute) oral presentations to open discussion of the required readings.
3. Weekly short (500-750 word) review essays which will develop critical perspectives on the assigned reading. Due at noon the day before discussion of the reading. No essays required for the first and final class meetings.
4. One longer (15-page) essay, based on extensive reading (at least three books) on one of the topics addressed in the course or on another topic approved by the instructor. A proposal for this essay will be due on September 28.

GRADING

Class participation (including oral presentations) will count for 20% of the grade; each short essay will count for 5% of the grade; the longer paper will count for 30% of the grade.
ASSIGNED BOOKS
Dean, Robert D. Imperial Brotherhood: Gender and the Making of Cold War Foreign Policy (Amherst, 2001)
De Grazia, Victoria. Irresistible Empire: America’s Advance through Twentieth-Century Europe (Harvard, 2005)
Dower, John. Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II (Norton, 1999)
Rodgers, Daniel T. Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age (Harvard)

The books have been ordered through the Rutgers University Bookstore and they have been placed on graduate reserve at Alexander Library.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READING
Articles in scholarly journals can be accessed electronically through the Rutgers Library subscriptions. Other essays or chapters will be available on electronic reserve through www.libraries.rutgers.edu.
Schedule of Readings and Discussions

SEPTEMBER 7: INTRODUCTIONS. EMPIRE AND ANTI-IMPERIALISM.

Required reading:

Supplemental reading:
Richard Welch, Response to Imperialism: The United States and the Philippine-American War (1979)
Emily Rosenberg, Spreading the American Dream: American Economic and Cultural Expansion, 1890-1945 (1982)
Frank Ninkovich, The United States and Imperialism (2001)
Thomas Bender, ed., Rethinking American History in a Global Age (Berkeley, 2002)
Odd Arne Westad, The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times (Cambridge, 2007), Chapter 1: “The empire of liberty”
George C. Herring, From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations since 1776 (Oxford University Press, 2008)
Dominic Tierney, How We Fight: Crusades, Quagmires, and the American Way of War (2010), Chapter 5
Jeremi Suri, Liberty’s Surest Guardian: American Nation-Building from the Founders to Obama (2011), Chapter 3
SEPTEMBER 14: GENDER, SEX, AND U.S. FOREIGN RELATIONS

**Required reading:**
Hoganson, Fighting for American Manhood
Dean, Imperial Brotherhood, Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 7, and 8

**Supplemental reading:**
Leila J. Rupp, Worlds of Women: The Making of an International Women’s Movement
Allison Sneider, Suffragists in an Imperial Age (2008)
Helen Laville, Cold War Women: The International Activities of American Women’s Organisations (2009)

SEPTEMBER 21: RACE AND EMPIRE

**Required reading:**
Renda, Taking Haiti
Kramer, The Blood of Government, Introduction and Chapters 2, 3, and 5

**Supplemental reading:**
Hans Schmidt, The United States Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934 (Rutgers, 1971)
Brenda Gayle Plummer, Haiti and the United States (1992)
Laura Briggs, Reproducing Empire: Race, Sex, Science, and U.S. Imperialism in Puerto Rico (Berkeley, 2002)
Michel Gobat, Confronting the American Dream: Nicaragua Under U.S. Imperial Rule (Duke, 2005)


SEPTEMBER 28: PROGRESSIVISM AND SOCIALISM IN THE U.S. AND EUROPE
Proposal for longer, final essay due.

Required reading:
Daniel T. Rodgers, Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age
Alan M. Ball, Imagining America (2003), Chapter 1 [E-Reserve]

Supplemental reading:
Richard Hofstadter, The Age of Reform
Robert Wiebe, The Search for Order, 1877-1920 (1967)
Peter Filene, Americans and the Soviet Experiment, 1917-1933 (1967)
Nick Salvatore, Eugene V. Debs: Citizen and Socialist (1982)
Robin D. G. Kelley, Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression (1990)
Lizabeth Cohen, Making a New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919-1939
David Engerman, Modernization from the Other Shore (2003)
Michael David-Fox, Showcasing the Great Experiment: Cultural Diplomacy and Western Visitors to the Soviet Union, 1921-1941 (2012)

OCTOBER 5: NO CLASS. INDEPENDENT READING FOR LONGER HISTORIOGRAPHIC REVIEW ESSAY.
OCTOBER 12: FEMINISM, ANTI-FEMINISM, BOLSHEVISM, AND SOVIET RUSSIA

**Required reading:**

**Supplemental reading:**
Robyn Muncy, *Creating a Female Dominion in American Reform 1890-1935* (1991)
Kate Weigand, *Red Feminism: American Communism and the Making of Women’s Liberation* (Johns Hopkins, 2001)
OCTOBER 19: BLACKS, ANTI-RACISM, COMMUNISM, AND THE SOVIET UNION

Required reading:

Supplemental reading:
Robin D. G. Kelley, Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression (University of North Carolina Press, 1990)
Joy Gleason Carew, Blacks, Reds and Russians: Sojourners in Search of the Soviet Promise (Rutgers University Press, 2008)

OCTOBER 26: CAPITALISM AND CONSUMERISM

Required reading:
De Grazia, Irresistible Empire: America’s Advance through Twentieth-Century Europe

Supplemental reading:
Daniel Horowitz, The Morality of Spending: Attitudes Toward the Consumer Society in America, 1875-1940 (1985)
R. Marchand, Advertising the American Dream: Making Way for Modernity, 1920-1940

NOVEMBER 2: MILITARY OCCUPATIONS AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

Required reading:
John Dower, Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II

Supplemental reading:
Akira Iriye, ed. Mutual Images: Essays in American-Japanese Relations
Kyoko Hirano, Mr. Smith Goes to Tokyo: Japanese Cinema under the American Occupation (1992)
Heide Fehrenbach, Heide and Uta G. Poiger, ed., Transactions, Transgressions, Transformations: American Culture in Western Europe and Japan
Reinhold Wagnleitner, Coca-Colonization and the Cold War: The Cultural Mission of the United States in Austria after the Second World War
D. Tierney, How We Fight: Crusades, Quagmires, and the American Way of War (2010)

Required reading:
Masuda, Cold War Crucible

Supplemental reading:
Michael Rogin, The Intellectuals and McCarthy: The Radical Specter (1967)
David Oshinsky, A Conspiracy So Immense: The World of Joe McCarthy (1983)
Ellen Schrecker, No Ivory Tower: McCarthyism and the Universities (1986)
Stephen J. Whitfield, The Culture of the Cold War (1991)
Frank Kofsky, Harry S. Truman and the War Scare of 1948 : a Successful Campaign to Deceive the Nation (1993)
Vojtech Mastny, The Cold War and Soviet Insecurity : the Stalin years (1996)
Ellen Schrecker, Many Are the Crimes: McCarthyism in America (1998)
Chen Jian, Mao’s China and the Cold War (2001), Introduction
Tony Shaw and Denise J. Youngblood, Cinematic Cold War: The American and Soviet Struggle for Hearts and Minds (2010)

NOVEMBER 16: DESEGREGATION, DECOLONIZATION, AND THE COLD WAR

Required reading:
Mary Dudziak, Cold War Civil Rights
**Supplemental reading:**
Penny Von Eschen, *Satchmo Blows Up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War*

**NOVEMBER 23: NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING)**

**NOVEMBER 30: THE U.S. WAR IN VIETNAM AND ITS OPPONENTS**

**Required Reading:**

**Recommended Reading:**
George Herring, *America’s Longest War: The United States and Vietnam, 1950-1975*
Mark Philip Bradley, *Vietnam at War* (2009)
Todd Gitlin, *The Sixties: Years of Hope, Days of Rage*
Maurice Isserman, *If I Had a Hammer...: The Death of the Old Left and the Birth of the New Left* (1987)
James Miller, “Democracy is in the Streets”: *From Port Huron to the Siege of Chicago* (1987)

DECEMBER 7: CITIZEN ACTIVISTS AND THE END OF THE COLD WAR

**Required reading:**

**Supplemental reading:**
Matthew Evangelista, *Unarmed Forces: The Transnational Movement to End the Cold War* (Cornell University Press, 1999)
Melvyn P. Leffler, *For the Soul of Mankind: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Cold War* (2007), Chapter V

DECEMBER 15: FINAL PAPERS DUE.