

Coastal Carolina University  
Thomas W. & Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts  
Department of History

## HIST 320: Topics in Cold War History [The Global Cold War]

Fall 2021

TTH: 8:00-9:15 / BRTH 241

Dr. Christopher Gunn

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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 8:30-10:45 am, and by appointment.



### Course Description

**HIST 320: Topics in Cold War History (3 credits).** This course examines various thematic, geographical, and historiographical topics in the history of the Cold War. Topics might include the origins and evolution of the conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, the Cold War in Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, containment, détente, espionage, the nuclear arms race, and the collapse of the Soviet Union. This course is repeatable for up to six credit hours under different topics. F, S, Su.

## Nature of the Course

This course has required weekly readings, and class time consists of both lectures and discussion. Students are expected to attend class, complete the course readings, participate in class discussion and complete all course assignments.

## Course Instructional Objectives

The course has four objectives. The first is to provide detailed coverage of the history of the Cold War. The second is to enable a better understanding of the political and social changes this conflict has caused over time. Finally, the third and fourth objectives are to encourage analysis and critical assessment of the primary and secondary sources covering this time period. In order to accomplish these objectives, the student must attend the class lectures and complete all assignments.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. To identify the primary themes, trends, events, groups and individuals in the history of the Cold War.
2. To discuss these topics in an informed and detailed manner.
3. To evaluate and analyze the value of primary source materials.
4. Assemble interpretive arguments based on the secondary literature.

## Course Requirements and Grading

Discussion & Participation	25%
4 Essay Tests (12.5% each)	50%
Historiographical Essay	25%

## Required Books:

Westad, Odd Arne. *The Cold War: A World History*. New York: Basic Books, 2017.

## Attendance Policy:

There are two types of 'attendance' in this course: '**in-class**' & '**streaming**'. All **in-class** meetings should follow the health and safety guidelines developed by the University and published in the Coastal Comeback plan. That includes physical distancing, one-way entry and exit (where possible), face-coverings (see below), personal protective equipment, and limitations on the use of high-touch items, including elimination of the use of paper or shared instructional materials. Students who are participating **in-class** should evaluate your own health status regularly and refrain from attending class and other on-campus events if you are ill. Students who miss class due to illness will be given opportunities to access the course online. You are encouraged to seek appropriate medical attention for treatment of illness. In the event of contagious illness, please do not come to class or to campus to submit work or meet with me. Instead, notify me by email about your absences as soon as possible, so that accommodations can be made. Please note that documentation for excused absences may be required (see below). However, you should not come to class if you are feeling sick, even if you have not seen a doctor. Students who selected '**in-class**' instruction for this course may opt out and move to '**streaming**' for the remainder of the semester, but must contact me to make these arrangements.

As a reminder, **face coverings** are required indoors at all times and outdoors when physical distancing is not possible. CCU requires all students to wear face masks or cloth face coverings in classrooms, laboratories, and other instructional spaces. Compliance with the face-covering protocol is expected. If you do not comply with a classroom rule, you may be asked to leave class and/or reported to the Dean of Students Office. If you forget your mask, or if your mask breaks on your way to class, there are disposable masks available for your use.

Individuals whose unique and individual circumstances require an exception to the face covering requirement, as indicated by a medical professional, may request an exception in accordance with campus ADA policies. Contact the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services at 843-349-2503 or [disability@coastal.edu](mailto:disability@coastal.edu). Appropriate accommodations relating to class modality and social distancing will be evaluated and implemented based on the student's needs.

Students who selected '**streaming**' for this course on *webadvisor* are expected to attend class by logging in and streaming the course live via MS Teams during our designated course meeting times with their cameras on (contact me if this is an issue). However, students may opt out and move to '**in-class**' for the remainder of the semester, but must contact me to make these arrangements **BEFORE** attempting to attend class in-person.

Attendance and class participation are critical to this course. Excused absences must satisfy university policy (see <http://www.coastal.edu/policies/pdf/acad-125classattendance.pdf> for further information), and are typically given for documented cases of an incapacitating illness; official representation of the University (excuses for official representation of the University should be obtained from the official supervising the activity); death of a close relative; and religious holidays: [www.interfaithcalendar.org](http://www.interfaithcalendar.org). Seven (7) unexcused absences in this class (25% of the total) will result in automatic failure for the course.

## Moodle

A copy of the course syllabus, schedule and grades will be posted to the course's Moodle site. As mentioned above, please check this site regularly for changes and announcements.

## Course Communication

All changes, announcements and communication will be done via the course's Moodle website. The default email account for this system is your student email. Please check the website frequently! Anyone not using their student email will need to make the proper arrangements to have their mail forwarded to their CCU account. Direct correspondence, concerns and/or questions should be sent to [cgunn@coastal.edu](mailto:cgunn@coastal.edu). When you write, include your class and section information (number or meeting time), and I will try and answer all messages within 24 hours, or by Monday morning if received after 5 PM on Friday. Additionally, if you are writing with questions about assignments, instructions, etc., please review the syllabus first to make sure these questions have not already been answered!

## Classroom Etiquette

In order to create and sustain a positive learning atmosphere and environment in the classroom, I expect the following from each student in the course:

- To come to class on time, and remain until the session is over.
- To restrict personal communication during class (talking, texting, tweeting, facebooking, etc.)
- To show respect and tolerance to your classmates, their comments and their views, at all times.

-- To discuss and debate politely. (i.e., listen when someone is speaking, wait until others are finished, speak in a normal tone, etc.)

Failure to follow these rules may result in dismissal from the classroom, and repeated disruptive behavior will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

### Class Discussion & Participation (25%)

25% of your overall grade for this course will be based on your participation and contribution in class. In order to do this, each student must complete that session's readings before class and bring those materials (electronic or paper) with you. Students will be expected to offer informed interpretation and analyses, discuss the readings, respond to comments, and engage in debates, etc. during class discussion sessions.

Additionally, each student must post a 'discussion' question to the weekly forum by 23:59 on Wednesday nights for Thursdays' discussions. Your question should be a thought-provoking 'why' question, based on the previous week's course readings, documentaries & films. It should be obvious why an 'answer' to your question would help you/us understand the history of the Cold War, and be prepared to explain if it is not obvious. These questions should **NOT** be yes/no questions, or factual questions that can be answered easily with minimal (google) research. Also, provide page numbers from the texts when applicable. **You will be expected to introduce your question in class, and will NOT get credit if you are absent!** There are 13 graded sessions scheduled, and your lowest grade will be dropped. The remaining 12 will represent 25% of your grade.

### Essay Tests 1, 2, 3, & 4 (50%)

There will be four 'take home' essay tests. These essays will be due on Moodle no later than 23:59 on Sunday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> & Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. These essays will each be worth 12.5% of your final grade. I will provide you with the question to prepare in advance, and you will write a 1000-word minimum response. You must use all relevant course materials to write the essay, **not the internet!** Your written responses should be in your own words (do not copy, quote, or paraphrase passages from the book(s) or other sources!). This will not count towards the word minimum (neither does a bibliography or works cited page!).

To receive credit for the essay tests in this class:

1. Your essay must be submitted as a MS Word document on time through Moodle.
2. Your essay must have a minimum of 1000 words.
3. You must include proper Chicago Style footnote citations to acknowledge the books and all other course material used in your response. In other words, you must provide the sources for your information!

**You will not receive credit for your response if you do not meet the minimum word requirement (i.e., 999 words will be graded a '0')!**

Finally, plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Any 'cut and paste' responses from outside sources, or passages run through a paraphrase program, will be referred to the Academic Integrity officer.

### Historiographical Essay (25%)

A major component of this course is an historiographical essay (2500 words / 10 pages) on the materials you have read for this class [which you have already analyzed in depth for your précis!].

Your historiographical essay will evaluate the current 'state of the field' in analysis and research on the Cold War topic of your choice.

What does the recent scholarship say about your topic? Is there an identifiable consensus among scholars? Are there lingering disputes, disagreements, or variances? Are there any gaps? What areas are the strongest? What areas do you believe scholars should focus their attention? Why?

Guides on how to write an essay of this type can be found on the course Moodle site, as well as a published example.

All drafts received on or before Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 will be eligible for a rewrite. Final drafts must be uploaded to Moodle by 8:00 on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### **Make-up Tests & Late Assignments:**

If you are unable to complete an assignment when it is due and have a documented, legitimate excuse, you must contact me within one week to arrange an extended deadline. Extensions for other reasons will only be granted on a case-by-case basis, and only if arrangements are made with me **at least 24 hours prior to the due date. Late work without a documented excuse, or a prior arrangement, will not be accepted.**

### **Closing of the University for Inclement Weather**

In the event of hazardous weather, faculty, staff, and students are requested to listen to local radio and television stations or visit the Coastal Carolina University website for official University closing announcements. Announcements about hazardous weather are also posted on the University's homepage. Review the [Hazardous Weather and Emergency Conditions Leave Policy](#) (FAST-HREO-220). Instructors may refer to the [Contingency Instruction website](#) or Section VIII N. Contingency Instruction for information about what to do if class has been cancelled.

### **Grading Scale**

A	90-100
B+	85-89
B	80-84
C+	75-79
C	70-74
D+	65-69
D	60-64
F	≤ 59

### **Academic Integrity Code**

From the Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct Handbook, pp. 3-7.

#### **A. Statement of Community Standards**

Coastal Carolina University is an academic community that expects the highest standards of honesty, integrity and personal responsibility. Members of this community are accountable for their actions and are committed to creating an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

#### **B. Expectations of Community Members**

Students:

Understand and abide by the Code of Student Conduct

Take responsibility for personal behavior

Actively oppose every instance of academic dishonesty

### **C. Honor Pledge**

Coastal Carolina University is an academic community that expects the highest standards of honesty, integrity and personal responsibility. As members of this community, we are accountable for our actions and are committed to creating an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

On my honor, I pledge:

That I will take responsibility for my personal behavior; and

That I will actively oppose every instance of academic dishonesty as defined in the Code of Student Conduct.

From this day forward, my signature on any University document, including tests, papers and other work submitted for a grade, is a confirmation of this honor pledge.

### **D. Prohibited Conduct**

1. Plagiarism, cheating and all other forms of academic dishonesty

a. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following:

(i) borrowing words, sentences, ideas, conclusions, examples and/or organization of an assignment without proper acknowledgment from a source (for example, a book, article, electronic documents, or another student's paper);

(ii) submitting another person's work in place of one's own; (iii) submitting work without proper acknowledgment from commercial firms, websites, fraternity or sorority files or any other outside sources, whether purchased or not;

(v) allowing another person to substitute for them any part of a course for them, including quizzes, tests, and final examinations;

(vi) submitting any written assignments done with the assistance of another without the explicit permission of the instructor;

(vii) submitting work that was originally prepared for another class without the explicit permission of the instructor;

(viii) knowingly aiding another student who is engaged in plagiarism.

b. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

(i) using unauthorized information, materials or assistance of any kind for an assignment, quiz, test, or final examination;

(ii) knowingly aiding another student who is engaged in cheating.

2. Furnishing false information to any University official, faculty member or University office to obtain academic advantage.

3. Forging, altering or misusing any University document or record to obtain academic advantage.

Instances of cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Any violations will be reported per university procedures set out in the Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct Handbook (see pp. 4-7), and will be assigned a grade of '0'.

For a complete copy of the Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct see:

<http://www.coastal.edu/media/studentaffairs/deanofstudents/pdf/CCU%20Code%20of%20Student%20Conduct%20WEB%20Aug14%20PRINT.pdf>

### Americans with Disabilities Act

Coastal Carolina University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. If you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services. This office is located in Indigo House and the phone number is 843-349-2341. Please make an appointment with a staff member in Accessibility and Disability Services so that such accommodations can be considered. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper forms and meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible. Website: <http://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices> Phone number: 843.349.2341

### Moodle Support for Students

Check the ITS website for Student Services [www.coastal.edu/scs](http://www.coastal.edu/scs)

### Learning Assistance Center

Website: <http://www.coastal.edu/lac>

Phone number: 843.349.6536 for information about services

Writing Center: <http://www.coastal.edu/writingcenter>

# The Global Cold War

(This schedule is tentative and some changes with advance notice may be made.)

## Week 1

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- Aug. 19: **Course introduction & World Making**
- Westad, pp. 1-18

## Week 2

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- Aug. 24: **Starting Points**
- Westad, pp. 19-42

- Aug. 26: **Tests of War**
- Westad, pp. 43-70
  - Discussion 1

## Week 3

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- Aug. 31: **Europe's Asymmetries**
- Westad, pp. 71-98

- Sept. 2: **Reconstructions**
- Westad, pp. 99-128
  - Discussion 2

## Week 4:

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- Sept. 7: **New Asia**
- Westad, pp. 129-158

- Sept. 9: **Korean Tragedy**
- Westad, pp. 159-182
  - Discussion 3
  - **Test 1 is due Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> by 23:59!**

Week 5:

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- Sept. 14:     **Eastern Spheres**  
- Westad, pp. 183-208

- Sept. 16:     **The Making of the West**  
- Westad, pp. 209-232  
- Discussion 4

Week 6:

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- Sept. 21:     **China's Scourge**  
- Westad, pp. 233-260

- Sept. 23:     **Breaking Empires**  
- Westad, pp. 261-286  
- Discussion 5

Week 7:

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- Sept. 28:     **Kennedy's Contingencies**  
- Westad, pp. 287-312

- Sept. 30:     **Encountering Vietnam**  
- Westad, pp. 313-338  
- Discussion 6  
- **Test 2 is due Sunday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> by 23:59!**

Week 8:

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- Oct. 5:        **The Cold War & Latin America**  
- Westad, pp. 339-364

- Oct. 7:        **The Age of Brezhnev**  
- Westad, pp. 365-394  
- Discussion 7



Week 9:

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- Oct. 12:     **Nixon in Beijing**
- Westad, pp. 395-422
  - Historiographical Essay Topics & Source Lists are due!

- Oct. 14:     **The Cold War & India**
- Westad, pp. 423-448
  - Discussion 8

Week 10:

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- Oct. 19:     **Middle East Maelstroms**
- Westad, pp. 449-474

- Oct. 20:     **Defeating Détente**
- Westad, pp. 475-500
  - Discussion 9

Week 11:

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- Oct. 26:     **European Portents**
- Westad, pp. 501-526

- Oct. 28:     **Gorbachev**
- Westad, pp. 527-552
  - Discussion 10
  - **Test 3 is due Sunday, September Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> by 23:59!**

Week 12:

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- Nov. 2:      **Global Transformations**
- Westad, pp. 553-578

- Nov. 4:      **European Realities & The World the Cold War Made**
- Westad, pp. 579-630
  - Discussion 11

Week 13:

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- Nov. 9:       **Argentina & the Cold War**
- Davila, "Argentina: Between Peronism & Military Rule,"

- Nov. 11:      **Argentina & Cold War Historiography**
- Davila, "Argentina: The Terrorist State,"
  - Discussion 12

Week 14:

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- Nov. 16:      **Turkey & the Cold War**
- Hale, "Turkey and the Cold War, 1945-63"
  - Hale, "Turkey and the Cold War, 1964-90"

- Nov. 18:      **Turkey & Cold War Historiography**
- Sayari, "Political Violence and Terrorism in Turkey, 1976-80"
  - Discussion 13
  - Test 4 is due Sunday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> by 23:59!

Week 15:

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**No Class! Thanksgiving Break!**

Week 16:

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Course Conclusion

- Nov. 30:      **Writing & Consultation Day!**
- Rewrite eligible drafts are due by 17:00 on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019!

- Dec. 2:       **Writing Day!**

**Final Research Paper Drafts are due no later than 8:00 AM on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020!**