

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**CHINA AND THE COLD WAR, 1945-1989**  
**SPRING 2015**

**Course Instructor: Stephen Halsey**  
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**Office Hours: T 10:45am-1:45pm and by appointment**  
**Office Location: Ashe 608**  
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**Course Number: HIS 511**

**Course Description**

This research seminar examines the origins, events, and liquidation of the Cold War in East Asia, focusing in particular on the historical role of the People's Republic of China. Assigned readings and lectures will develop three principal themes: the geographic, military, and political centrality of East Asia to the Cold War; the role of international political economy in defining the conflict; and the importance of ideology in shaping the perception of national interests. In the first section of the course, we will discuss the dissolution of the Yalta System in Asia during the Chinese civil war, the subsequent growth of Soviet-American rivalry in areas such as Korea and the Taiwan Straits, and the reemergence of Japan as a global economic and political actor. We then appraise China's deepening ideological and political rift with the Soviet Union during the 1960s and its strategic realignment with the United States during the Nixon presidency. During weeks nine and ten, we will explore American involvement in the Vietnam War, focusing in particular on the ways that it influenced the complex web of relationships with regional allies and opponents. In the final part of the class, we will describe the normalization of Sino-American relations in the late 1970s, the unpredicted conclusion of the Cold War in the 1980s, and its implications for East Asia in the twenty-first century.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

- Students will demonstrate a breadth of understanding of historical information and narratives. Students must demonstrate an understanding of historical scholarship
- Students will develop their ability to conduct research based on primary documents and construct an original historical argument
- Students will learn to critically analyze the thesis and argument of historiographic works and identify ideological biases
- Students will develop an understanding of the basic narrative and major interpretations of the Cold War in East Asia

**Course Requirements**

Students will choose an academic monograph on the Cold War in East Asia from the approved list of specialized readings and write a **review** (20%) of at most **five pages** in length. Your critique will be due at the beginning of class on the day that we discuss your selected topic, although in all cases students will submit the paper between weeks three and eleven. You will also be asked to describe your analysis of the book to your classmates in the form of a short (10-15 minutes) presentation. More specific instructions on the paper will be provided in the form of a handout in class. In addition, students will submit a **research or historiography paper of 12-15 pages** (40%) by **April 30th, at 3:30pm**. Since this course is a seminar, **class participation** will constitute 40% of the final grade.

**Student Presentations:** Students are encouraged to present their book reviews using Powerpoint software and may desire to practice their talk several times before delivering it to the class. While presentations are not graded, the quality of the student's performance will influence their class participation grade. In addition, each student will present the findings of their research or historiography paper during the final week of class. Two days prior to their presentation, students will email their classmates and instructor a rough draft of their final paper or at a minimum a detailed outline including their central research question, thesis statement, and a description of their argument. Each student will have fifteen minutes to describe the conclusions of their research, and seminar participants will then have an opportunity to ask questions and offer comments on the presenter's work. **Failure to submit a draft on time results in failure of the final paper.**

#### **Course texts on reserve in Richter Library**

Chen Jian, *Mao's China and the Cold War*.

Bruce Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun*.

William C. Kirby, Robert Ross, and Gong Li, eds., *Normalization of US-China Relations: An International History*.

Walter LaFeber, *The Clash: US-Japanese Relations Throughout History*.

Marilyn Young, *The Vietnam Wars, 1945-1990*.

Additional course readings are available for download in pdf format on the course website.

#### **Late Policy**

All work is due at the beginning of class in hard copy form on the date specified in the syllabus. Course papers will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade for each day that they are late, and extensions will be granted only under exceptional circumstances. **Please note that students must complete ALL assignments in order to pass this course; failure to do so will result in failure of the course.**

#### **Attendance Policy**

You are required to attend each class session and participate in every discussion. Missing more than two class sessions without a viable medical excuse will result in a failing grade for class participation.

#### **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will result in **automatic failure of the course** and referral to the University Honor Council. Please do not commit academic suicide by violating the university's rules.

#### **Course Schedule**

##### **Week One**

January 15 Course Introduction: China's Role in the Cold War

Readings:

Chen, *Mao's China*, 1-16

Akira Iriye, *Cold War in Asia*, 1-60

##### **Week Two**

January 22 The Yalta System

Readings:

Iriye, *Cold War*, 61-172

**Week Three**

January 29 The “Loss” of China

## Readings:

Chen, *Mao's China*, 17-49  
Christensen, *Useful Adversaries*, 11-137

## Specialized Readings:

Michael Sheng, *Battling Western Imperialism*  
Odd Arne Westad, *Cold War and Revolution*  
Nancy Tucker, *Patterns in the Dust*  
John Service, *Lost Chance in China: Dispatches*  
Robert Newman, *Owen Lattimore and the “Loss” of China*  
Odd Arne Westad, *Decisive Encounters*  
Dorothy Borg, ed., *Uncertain Years*  
Lyman van Slyke, ed., *China White Paper*

**Week Four**

February 5 Containing Communist China: The American Reconstruction of Japan

## Readings:

LaFeber, *The Clash*, xvii-xxiii; 257-283  
Suzuki, *Pursuit of Power in Modern Japan*, 327-400  
Constitution of Japan (1947), 1-13

## Specialized Readings:

Michael Schaller, *American Occupation of Japan*  
Eiji Takamae, *Inside GHQ*  
Roger Buckley, *Occupation Diplomacy: Britain, US, Japan*  
Kyoko Inoue, *MacArthur's Japanese Constitution*  
Ray Moore, *Partners for Democracy*  
Richard Finn, *Winners in Peace*  
Aaron Forsberg, *America and the Japanese Miracle*  
Takeshi Matsuda, *Soft Power and its Perils*

**Week Five**

February 12 The Forgotten War: The United States and Korea

## Readings:

Cumings, *Korea's Place in the Sun*, 185-298.  
La Feber, *The Clash*, 283-295.  
Chen, *Mao's China*, 85-118

## Specialized Readings:

Bruce Cumings, *Origins of the Korean War*, vol. 1  
Chen Jian, *China's Road to the Korean War*  
Rosemary Foot, *A Substitute for Victory*  
Rosemary Foot, *The Wrong War*  
Sergei Goncharov, *Uncertain Partners, Stalin, Mao, and Korean War*  
Zhang Shuguang, *Mao's Military Romanticism*  
John Merrill, *Korea: Peninsular Origins of the War*  
William Stueck, *Korean War in World History*, esp. Kathryn Weathersby  
William Stueck, *Rethinking the Korean War*

**Week Six**

February 19 The Taiwan Straits Crises

## Readings:

Chen, *Mao's China*, 118-204, esp. 163-204  
 Christensen, *Useful Adversaries*, 194-241

## Specialized Readings:

Robert Accinelli, *Crisis and Commitment*  
 Zhang Shuguang, *Deterrence and Strategic Culture*  
 Thomas Stolper, *China, Taiwan, and the Offshore Islands*  
 Thomas Christensen, *Useful Adversaries*

**Week Seven**

February 26 The Sino-Soviet Split

## Readings:

Chen, *Mao's China*, 49-84  
 Rosemary Foot, *Practice of Power*, 114-42  
 Roderick MacFarquhar, *Origins of Cultural Revolution*, vol. 2, 255-292  
 Roderick MacFarquhar, *Origins of Cultural Revolution*, vol. 3, 121-134; 297-323; 349-380

## Specialized Readings:

Odd Arne Westad, *Brothers in Arms*  
 Gordon Chang, *Friends and Enemies*  
 VM Zubok, *Inside the Kremlin's Cold War*  
 John Garver, *Chinese-Soviet Relations, 1937-45*

**Week Eight**

March 5 March 19 The Vietnam War I: Entry into the Morass

## Readings:

Young, *Vietnam Wars*, 60-171  
 Chen, *Mao's China*, 205-237

## Specialized Readings:

Frederik Logevall, *Choosing War*  
 George Herring, *America's Longest War*  
 Zhai Qiang, *China and the Vietnam Wars*  
 IV Gaiduk, *Soviet Union and the Vietnam War*  
 IV Gaiduk, *Confronting Vietnam: Soviet Policy*  
 Michael Hunt, *Lyndon Johnson's War*  
 William Duiker, *Sacred War*  
 Lloyd Gardner, ed. *Search for Peace in Vietnam*

**Week Nine**

March 12 (Spring Break)

**Week Ten**

March 19 Visiting China Scholar, Professor Jeffrey Wasserstrom, UC-Irvine

You are required to attend Prof. Wasserstrom's lecture at 4:30pm in the student center. Details to follow.

**Week Eleven**

March 26 The Vietnam War II: The Withdrawal

Readings:

Young, *Vietnam Wars*, 232-330

Dallek, *Partners in Power*, 305-21; 418-31; 439-437; 451-456; 461-466

Specialized Readings:

Robert Brigham et al., *Argument Without End*

Tin Bui, *Following Ho Chi Minh: Memoirs of North Vietnamese Colonel*

Henry Kissinger, *Ending the Vietnam War*

Pierre Asselin, *A Bitter Peace*

Robert Ross, *The Indo-China Tangle*

Gabriel Kolko, *Anatomy of a War*

Robert McNamara, *In Retrospect*

**Week Twelve**

April 2 The Turning Point: The Sino-American Rapprochement

Readings:

Chen, *Mao's China*, 238-276

Kirby, *Normalization*, 1-89

Roderick MacFarquhar, *Mao's Last Revolution*, 308-323

**Week Thirteen**

April 9 The New Strategic Triangle: The Normalization of Sino-American Relations

Readings:

Kirby, *Normalization*, 90-174

Jean Garrison, *Making China Policy*, 47-70

Schaller, *The United States and China*, 185-208

**Week Fourteen**

April 16 The 1980s and the End of the Cold War

Readings:

Garrison, *Making China Policy*, 79-132

Chen, *Mao's China*, 277-284

La Feber, *The Clash*, 358-389

**Week Fifteen**

April 23 Student Presentations

Readings:

Student Drafts and Outlines