

**WOH 4203/LAH 3931/ASH 3931  
Empires, Nationalism and Revolution 1945-1994**

**Tuesday/Thursday 4/4-5  
117 Flint Hall**

Professor Luise White  
Office hours:  
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Tuesday 11:45-1:45 19 Keene-Flint  
Friday 2-3pm, 484 Grinter

**Objectives:** This class is designed to show students the history of some of the concepts we hear in the news and talk about daily. The class will show how terms like “the third world,” “terrorism,” “liberal democracy,” and “free and fair elections” have a linked point of origin in the history of the end of colonialism and that of the Cold War: both emerged in specific historical conditions after World War II. This class argues, as does our main text, that it is a mistake to see East and West as opposites, formed in inevitable conflict between free market democracies and state socialism; instead Soviet and US expansion in the decolonized world mirrored each other in both development projects and military might – the syllabus will follow the trajectory of military stalemate to military defeat, from the “loss” of China to the Korean war, the Cuban missile crisis, the war in Vietnam, the war in the Ogaden, to US involvement in Central America and the defeat of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. We will also look at some of the political developments by which third world peoples tried to evade Cold War loyalties and ties to super-powers: race, ethnicity, religion, the non-aligned movement, and various local socialisms to show how these too cannot be fully understood without the rubric of the Cold War.

**Readings:** The following books are required: Odd Arne Westad, *The Global Cold War*; Robert McMahon, *The Cold War: A Short History*; Todd Shephard, *Voices of Decolonization*; Graham Greene, *The Quiet American*. All are in paperback and available at campus bookstores and on line. I have assigned newsreel footage from You Tube of various events. These are to give you a feel for the times and should not be substituted for the readings.

**Requirements:** There will be a midterm (33%), a final (33%), and a 5 page paper (33%) – this will not be a research paper and I’d like to have several options that cater to the various sections of this course, so I won’t have paper topics for a few weeks. Please note that I do not change the date of the final for any reason.

**Attendance:** I will take attendance. I allow students to miss five classes without a medical or legal documentation: after that you are at risk to fail, as is consistent with university guidelines.  
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

**Grades:** Consistent with UF policy you will be graded on your understanding of the materials presented in the readings and lectures and your ability to construct a clear and well-grounded argument:  
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**Students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities requesting accommodation for exams should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor; she will sign this and you can return it to the Disability Resource Center; it will allow you to take exams there, with extra time. If you need this service, please make sure you get the procedure up and running early in the semester. The Disability Resource Center website is [www.dso.ufl.drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.drc/)

**Honor code:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” This website details which behaviors constitute violations of the honor code.

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

**Counseling:** It is suggested that I give you the phone number and website for the Counseling and Wellness Center. The phone is 392-1575 and the website is

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>

**Evaluations:** Students are requested to give feedback on a course and the quality of instruction therein during the last two or three weeks of the semester by completing on line evaluations. Students will be informed when this website is open to them: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Students can see the summary results of these assessments at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

### **Class Schedule:**

Week 1: August 25, 27: Welcome and introduction

Week 2: September 1, 3: the Cold War: politics and policies  
McMahon, *The Cold War*

Week 3: September 8, 10: the Cold War: genealogies and policies  
Westad, *Global Cold War*, 8-72  
Shepard, *Voices of Decolonization*, 49-52, 54-55, 143-45

Week 4: September 15, 17: anti-colonial nationalism  
Westad, *Global Cold War*, 73-109  
Shepard, *Voices of Decolonization*, 55-62, 67-70, 124-129  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zg4OGtIxu3Y>

Week 5: September 22, 24: the creation of the third world  
Westad, *Global Cold War*, 110-56  
Shepard, *Voices of Decolonization*, 113-19, 130-38  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3EsoNdvJd8>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2iuATJtcj9k>

Week 6: September 29, October 1: Algeria and Cuba  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 158-180  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9Gcw1hqVuw>  
Shephard, *Voices of Decolonization*, 96-112  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lUrNPhkyNU>

Week 7: October 8: nationalism and modernization  
No class October 6  
Graham Greene, *The Quiet American*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpkGSjHHrc0>

Week 8: October 13, 15: Vietnam  
**Midterm: October 13**  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 180-206

Week 9: October 20, 22: Southern Africa  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 207-249  
Shephard, *Voices of Decolonization*, 138-40.

Week 10: October 27, 29: Ethiopia  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 250-287  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDnljbluKSY>

Week 11: November 3, 5: the Islamist challenge  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 288-330  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RH8Cd44buZ4>

Week 12: November 10, 12: Ronald Reagan and anti-communist intervention  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 331-63  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbLD2JyFAIE>

Week 13: November 17: the USSR and the invasion of Afghanistan  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 299-330  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B565SrNkghw>  
No class November 19

Week 14: No class this week: **Thanksgiving**

Week 15: December 1, 3: the end of the Cold War  
**Papers due December 1 at the start of class**  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 364-395

Week 16: December 8: the legacy of the Cold War  
Westad, *The Global Cold War*, 396-407

**Final exam: Friday December 18 in our classroom 4<sup>th</sup> period**