

HI385: History of the Cold War
Summer 2022, Session I
Course Meeting Times: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 2:00-3:15pm
Modality: Online Synchronous
Zoom Link: <https://bac.zoom.us/j/91943509854>



Atomic weapons test at Bikini Atoll, 1946

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Instructor: Dr. Daniel Hutchinson
Office: Room 308C, Robert Stowe Hall
Virtual Office Hours: MW 10:00-11:30 & 1:30-4:30; TR 3:30-4:30; and by appointment
Scheduling Appointment: <https://hutchinson.appointlet.com>
Office Phone: 704-461-5019
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TEXTS:

Cold War, a Jeremy Issacs production for Turner Original Productions; series producer Martin Smith (Burbank, CA: Warner Brothers, 1998). [available via Canvas]

Selections from the *Cambridge History of the Cold War* (Cambridge University Press, 2010) [available via Canvas]

Additional readings and media will also be placed on the course website.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the origins, evolution, and impact of the Cold War on world history, spanning from 1945 to 1992. In particular, the course focuses on the political, social, cultural, and military dimensions of this global conflict, particularly in the United States and the Soviet

Union. The course will examine this period's notable political and diplomatic controversies and assess the profound impact of the Cold War on American culture.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- For students to acquire an understanding of the notable personalities, ideas, and events that characterize the history of the Cold War.
- For students to improve their ability to critically interpret and analyze the past, and to comprehend how past events influence contemporary and future events.
- To fulfill the educational mission of Belmont Abbey College: to enable students to "lead lives of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and to others."

COURSE POLICIES:

- **Class Format:** The format of this class is a synchronous online course. This means that students are expected to regularly attend and actively participate in class sessions held over Zoom, and complete online coursework outside of class for deepening content knowledge and skill acquisition. Announcements, instructional materials, and assessment will be facilitated by Canvas, and live class sessions will occur via Zoom.
- **Belmont Abbey College Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to regularly attend and actively participate in class sessions. If you believe you will be absent for a future class, please alert the instructor so proper arrangements can be made. Prolonged absences from class sessions or failure to turn in assignments (three consecutive absences/missed assignments; more than four total absences/missed assignments) will result in communication from the instructor, and if continued, penalties to the student's final grade.

Reasons for excused absences also include: recovery from vaccinations, deaths or serious illness in the family, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official college activities. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

- **Readings & Videos:** This course requires intensive engagement with weekly readings and videos. Students are expected to have read each assignment by the announced assigned time.
- **Late Assignments:** For each written assignment, there will be a one-week window in which assignments can be uploaded to Canvas. After that window is closed, late papers will not be accepted. The only exception to this policy is for students with valid, documented reasons. Papers must be turned in digitally to Canvas; hard copies or copies submitted via email will not be accepted.
- **Politeness and decorum:** because the content of this course deals with controversial material, both the student and the instructor are expected to act in a **civil manner** when

engaging in classroom discussion. In addition, students are asked to refrain from actions that distract others during class.

- **Zoom Etiquette:** When logged into Zoom, when appropriate please keep webcam activated so to facilitate greater engagement and class participation. Muting your webcam for brief periods as needed is acceptable.

GRADING/EVALUATION:

The course grade is based on the following scale and assignments:

- **Episode Annotations: 40% of course grade**
- **Discussion Forums: 30% of course grade**
- **Mapping the Cold War Digital History Project: 20% of course grade – June 30**
- **Class Participation: 10% of course grade**

Grade Scale

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| • A: 100-93 | • B-: 82-80 | • D+:69-68 |
| • A-: 92-90 | • C+: 79-78 | • D: 67-63 |
| • B+: 89-88 | • C: 77-73 | • D-: 62-60 |
| • B: 87-83 | • C-: 72-70 | • F: 60-0 |

Reading Annotations: Each class session you will be assigned to watch an episode of the CNN's *Cold War* documentary series, or another related video lecture. Accompanying that episode will be a transcript of the episode. Using an app called Hypothesis, you and your classmates will collectively annotate the transcript with comments, analysis, questions, explications, or media. You'll share with your classmates your impressions of the source's message, audience, intent, and the larger historical context. Then we'll discuss in class our collective analysis of the episode and its depiction of the Cold War.

Canvas Discussion Boards: Accompanying episodes from CNN's *Cold War* will be readings from the *Cambridge History of the Cold War*. Based on a discussion prompt focused on the readings and episodes, students will provide a 250-500 word response on their assigned item, and post two additional comments, totaling some 50-100 words in length, to other student postings.

Mapping the Cold War Digital Project: to conclude the semester students will craft a geographic narrative of a Cold War topic of their choice, using the application StoryMap.JS. This narrative will allow students to craft in-depth projects employing primary source research. Training and instructions on using StoryMap.JS will be included in class lectures. More details will be posted on Canvas.

Class Engagement & Participation: Success in this class requires active engagement and participation. All class sessions will feature activities, discussions, and explorations of important topics. Your presence and contributions to these activities will be measured weekly and contribute to your overall grade for the class.

Academic Dishonesty & Belmont Abbey College Policy:

In accordance with the moral and academic standards of Belmont Abbey College, academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism (the appropriation of passages from the writing of another as one's own), collusion (improper collaboration with another in preparation of notes, term papers, or other written work), cheating (giving or receiving, offering or soliciting information, or using illicit material in an examination or quiz), or fabrication of sources used in a paper and included in its bibliography. It also includes appropriating another's ideas, theories, or interpretation as one's own without proper attribution. Stern disciplinary action will be taken against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty, with penalties ranging from a failing grade for a course assignment or a failing grade for the course.

Services For Students With Special Learning Needs:

Belmont Abbey College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may refer you to Mrs. Kimberly Stallings, Accessibility Services Coordinator. If any accommodations are approved by her office, please make arrangements with me as soon as possible to ensure that they are implemented in a timely fashion.

Contact information for Mrs. Kimberly Stallings, Accessibility Services Coordinator – KimberlyStallings@bac.edu; 704-461-6228.

Office location – Abbott Vincent Taylor Library, Lower Level, Room L1

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY:

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice. All changes will be announced, either in class or via the course website.

COURSE CONTENT AND OUTLINE:

This is a general outline that is subject to change.

Week 1:

05/31 1) Introduction & Syllabus

Assignment - Annotation 1: Syllabus Annotation w/ Hypothesis

2) Origins of the Cold War in Europe

Assignment - Annotation 2: "Comrades," *CNN Cold War*

06/02 **1) Origins of the Cold War in Europe (continued)**

Assignment – Annotation 3: “Iron Curtain,” *CNN Cold War*

2) Cold War in Asia: 1945-1953

Assignment – Annotation 4: “Korea,” *CNN Cold War*

By 6/5 Assignment – Discussion Forum 1

Week 2:

06/07 **1) Red Scares and Soviet Thaws: Domestic Politics in the US & USSR**

Assignment - **Choose either:**

Annotation 5a: “Reds,” *CNN Cold War*

Annotation 5b: “After Stalin,” *CNN Cold War*

2) On the Brink: 1955-1963

Assignment – Annotation 6: “Cuba,” *CNN Cold War*

06/09 **1) The Vietnam War: 1954-1968**

Assignment – Annotation 7: “Vietnam,” *CNN Cold War*

2) Countercultures in the East and West: 1960-1968

Assignment - **Choose either:**

Annotation 8a: “Make Love, Not War,” *CNN Cold War*

Annotation 8b: “Red Spring,” *CNN Cold War*

By 6/12 Assignment – Discussion Forum 2

Week 3

6/14 **1) China and the Cold War (1949-1972)**

Assignment – Annotation 9: “China,” *CNN Cold War*

2) Détente (1972-1979)

Assignment – Annotation 10: “Détente,” *CNN Cold War*

6/16

***** NO CLASS *****

1) Cold War and the Third World (1968-1990)

Assignment - ***Choose either:***

Annotation 11a: “Good Guys, Bad Guys,” *CNN Cold War*

Annotation 11b: “Backyard,” *CNN Cold War*

Annotation 11c: “Soldiers of God,” *CNN Cold War*

By 6/19

Assignment – Discussion Forum 3

Week 4

6/21

1) The Second Cold War (1980-1989)

Annotation 12: “Star Wars,” *CNN Cold War*

2) Collapse of the Soviet Union & the Eastern Bloc (1980-1992)

Annotation 13: “The Wall Comes Down,” *CNN Cold War*

6/23

1) A New World Order (1992-2001)

Assignment – ***Choose either:***

Annotation 14a: “Conclusions,” *CNN Cold War*

Annotation 14b: “Tank Man,” *PBS Frontline*

Annotation 14c: “America and the West: 1990-2001,” Dr. Hutchinson

By 6/26

Assignment – Discussion Forum 4

Week 5

6/28

Cold War 3.0, or World War III?

Annotation 15: “Putin’s Revenge, pt. 2,” *PBS Frontline*

Annotation 16: “The Unraveling: America and the West, 2001-2022”

6/30

Mapping the Cold War Digital History Projects

Students will briefly share and describe their StoryMap.JS projects exploring their research on a notable moment or personality from the Cold War.