

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

PSC 350
13:00-13:50, MWF
Prof. Nicolai Petro
224 Washburn Hall
874-2290

Fall 2017
Chafee Social Sciences Building
Prof. Marc Hutchison
223 Washburn Hall
874-4054

From Cold War to Cold Peace

This course provides essential background for understanding the diplomatic and military history of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. We intend to make this a “lively lecture course.” Through active portrayals of both the Soviet and American positions we will highlight the main issues in contention and encourage an appreciation of the constraints felt by both sides as they sought to reconcile their differences, while avoiding war.

Course Requirements:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Midterm | (mid-late October) | 40% |
| 2. Final Exam | (TBA) | 40% |
| 3. Participation in the Sakai Class Forums | | 20% |

The first thing you should do is sign up for our class web site on Sakai. Once you are signed up, you will be able to participate in class discussions at your convenience. Each topic is open for only two weeks, so participate often and in a timely manner. **Note: Your contributions to the online discussion forum will be the basis for your class participation grade.**

All late work is typically penalized 1/3 of a letter grade for each half day of tardiness. Please do not ask if you can submit work late. You can, but after one week the highest grade that it can receive is an “F.”

Required Readings (these books have been ordered through the URI bookstore).

1. Edward H. Judge and John W. Langdon, *The Cold War: A History Through Documents* (N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2011)
2. Melvyn P. Leffler. *For the Soul of Mankind: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Cold War* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2008)
ISBN-10: 0374531420; **ISBN-13:** 978-0374531423
3. Vladislav Zubok, *A Failed Empire: The Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2007)
ISBN-10: 0807830984; **ISBN-13:** 978-0807830987
4. Various readings available on [Sakai](#) → [Resources](#)

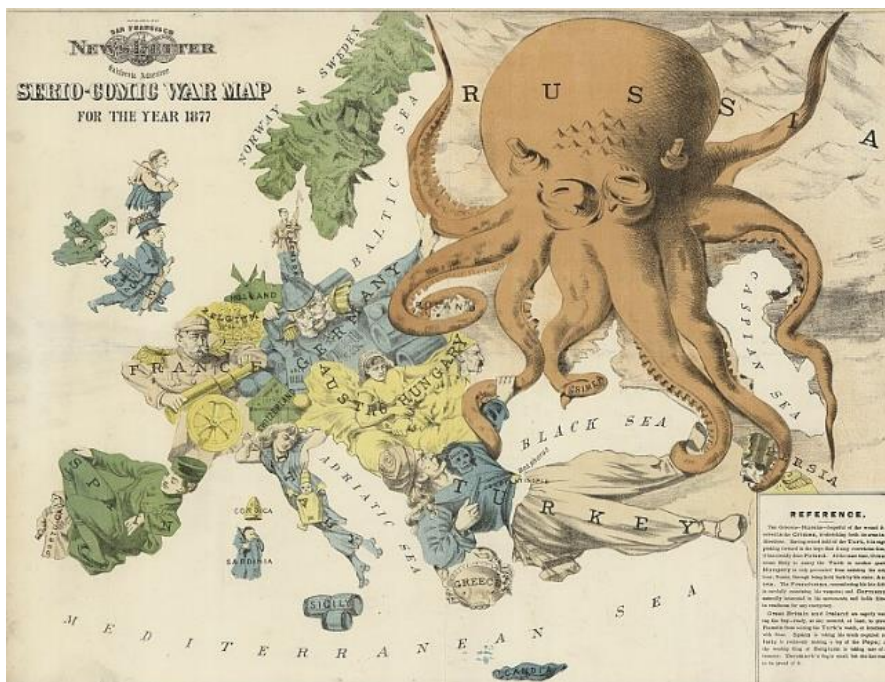
Additional Readings (on Reserve at the URI Library and *italicized* in the schedule).

- Nicolai N. Petro and Alvin Z. Rubinstein, *Russian Foreign Policy: From Empire to Nation-State* (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997) [DK266.45 P48 1996].
- Aleksandr Fursenko and Timothy Naftali, *One Hell of a Gamble.: Khrushchev, Castro and Kennedy* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1997. [E841 F86 1997]
- Vladislav Zubok and Constantine Pleshakov, *Inside the Kremlin's Cold War* (Harvard Univ. Press, 1996). [DK267 Z78 1996]

The URI Library subscribes to several online databases. Among the most valuable for this course are: Academic Search Premier (EBSCOhost), ArticleFirst (FirstSearch), CIAO (Columbia International Affairs Online), JSTOR, and PAIS International (CSA). These can all be accessed through the class' Sakai web site.

Important Dates to Note:

September 6	Classes begin
October 9	No class (Columbus Day)
November 13	No class (Veteran's Day)
November 23-November 26	No class (Thanksgiving recess)
December 11	Last day of class

CLASS SCHEDULE**1. SEEDS OF CONFLICT: INTRODUCTION TO THE SOVIET AND AMERICAN MINDSETS**

Zubok, 1. Soviet People and Stalin between War and Peace, 1945

Sakai → Resources

Foglesong, “Remaking Russia in America’s Image.”

2. ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR, 1939-1948

Judge and Langdon, items # 1-5, 9

Leffler, I Origins of the Cold War, 1945-48

Zubok, 2. Stalin’s Road to the Cold War, 1945-1948

Petro and Rubinstein, pp.18-54; Hyland, chpts. 1,2

3. THE GERMAN QUESTION AND THE DEBATE OVER SOVIET INTENTIONS

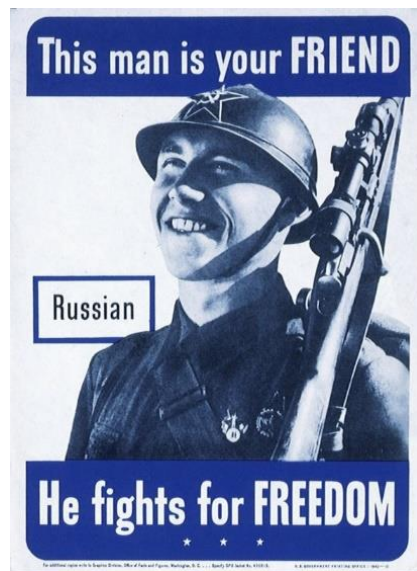
Judge and Langdon, items # 7, 8, 14
 Leffler, I Origins of the Cold War, 1945-48
 Zubok, 3. Stalemate in Germany, 1945-1953
Petro and Rubinstein, pp. 60-62, 161-165
Hyland, chapters 3 & 4

4. CRISES IN ASIA AND NSC-68

Judge and Langdon, items # 10, 16-18, 22
 Powaski, chpt. 4
Petro and Rubinstein, pp. 62-68, 84-89, 191-194
Hyland, chpts. 5 & 6

5. REVOLTS IN EASTERN EUROPE

Judge and Langdon, items # 11, 15, 21, 23, 29, 30
 Leffler, II The Chance for Peace, 1953-54
 Zubok, 6. Soviet Home Front: First Cracks, 1953-1968
Petro and Rubinstein, pp. 61-62, 70-80
Hyland, chpts. 7 & 8



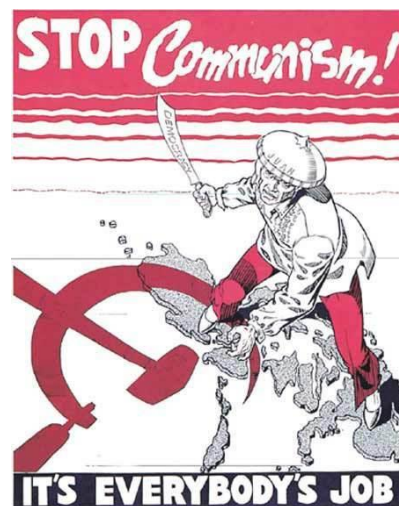
Review & Midterm Exam (date TBA)

6. CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS (PART I)

Zubok, 5. Nuclear Education of Khrushchev, 1953-1963
 Judge and Langdon, items # 34, 36
 Leffler, III Retreat from Armageddon, 1962-65
Petro and Rubinstein, pp. 140-141, 229-234
Hyland, chpt. 9

7. CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS (PART II)

Judge and Langdon, items # 41
Sakai → Resources the “Avalon Project” documents
 Leffler, III Retreat from Armageddon, 1962-65
Hyland, chpt. 10.



8. VIETNAM AND THE COMPETITION FOR THE THIRD WORLD

Judge and Langdon, items # 25, 26, 28, 37, 46-48
 Zubok, 4. Kremlin Politics and Peaceful Coexistence, 1953-1957
Petro and Rubinstein, pp. 207-218, 223-227
Sakai → Resources “Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara”

9. RISE AND FALL OF DÉTENTE

Judge and Langdon, items # 50-54, 61-63, 66, 69

Leffler, IV. The Erosion of Détente, 1975-80

Zubok, 7. Brezhnev and Road to Detente; 8. Détente's Decline and Soviet Overreach

Petro and Rubinstein, pp. 265-274pp. 287-294

10. REAGAN AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE USSR

Judge and Langdon, items # 70-80, 82, 83, 85-90

Leffler, V. The End of the Cold War, 1985-90

Zubok, 9. Old Guard's Exit; 10. Gorbachev and the End of Soviet Power

11. OLD TENSIONS IN THE NEW WORLD ORDER

Sakai→Resources the NATO Expansion Debate (subfolder)

Sakai→Resources Petro, "Russian Foreign Policy, 2000-2011"

Sakai→Resources Foglesong, "Dark Pictures are Easy to Paint"

Sakai→Resources Lieven, "Against Russophobia."

12. ESCALATING TENSIONS AND THE NEW COLD WAR

Sakai→Resources readings for this section are in four subfolders:

- Blame Russia
- Blame America
- Blame Everyone
- Can We Start Over?

Review & preparations for the Final Exam

