HISTORY 3290
The United States from World War II to the War on Terror

Prof. David S. Churchill
361 University College
Office Hours: Monday 10:30am to 12pm or by appointment.
David.Churchill@umanitoba.ca

Course Description
The United States is a nation that has been continuously at war for nearly eighty years. Beginning with World War II (WWII), the US has engaged in a series of active, proxy, administrative, and conceptual wars. As such, this course will approach war not simply as an active, armed conflict between, or even within, nation states, but rather as a way of understanding administrative mobilization, responses to social problems, and conflict. This course will explore the ways that the history of US warfare has not only reshaped US society but has had significant and lasting global impact. Moreover, we will examine the ways that the idea of war became the standard for bureaucratic response as well as a way of interpreting and understanding contentious domestic politics and dissent.

Academic Integrity
All written work must be original and written in student’s own words. The University’s regulations re: plagiarism, cheating and impersonation may be found in the section on “Academic Integrity” of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar, and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation at http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html
The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

Pay close attention to due dates. Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Papers are due in class, hard copy only, on the date indicated.

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Required Readings:


Ta-Nehisi Coates, *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy*


Assignments

Assignment 1: due October 16th
This assignment requires students to read three articles from the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, or *Wall Street Journal* and examine how these articles cover a specific war and present war to its readers. This is not a descriptive exercise but rather a textual analysis of historical events, persons, and the legitimacy of the conflict itself. Pay close attention to the language used and the types of details and sources that appear in the article. Students can write on: WWII, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, War on Poverty, War on Drugs, Cultural Wars, or War on Terror. Other topics must be cleared with instructor. Essay should be 1200-1500 words (4-5 pages).

Assignment 2: due November 29th
This assignment is a historical cultural analysis of the depiction and representation of war in popular media. Students can choose a film, television program, novel, or work of fine art, and discuss the ways that these cultural works relate to and/or are informed by US wars. Again, students must avoid providing descriptions of these works. Instead, they should be contextualizing the work, discussing the perspective/viewpoint(s) of the work in relation to war. Students can write on a film, television program, novel, or work of fine art that deals with, is set during, or is an allegory for: WWII, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, War on Poverty, War on Drugs, Cultural Wars, and War on Terror. Other topics must be cleared with instructor. Essay should be 1200-1500 words (4-5 pages).

Research Essay Proposal: due January 24th
This assignment requires students to write a 150-200 word proposal for a research essay on a topic of their choosing – based on the themes of the course. Additionally, students will have to do a bibliography of at least 12 secondary sources and a list of at least 10 primary sources that they will be using in their essay. Students can write on: WWII, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, War on Poverty, War on Drugs, Cultural Wars, and War on Terror. Other topics must be

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cleared with instructor. Research proposal should be 150-200 words (½-1 page) with bibliography and a list of sources.

Assignment 4: due April 3. Students must write a research essay based on their Essay Proposal. A research essay is a sustained inquiry into a topic and requires students to utilize both primary and secondary sources. Essays should be 4500-5500 words (15-18 pages) in length and be written on: WWII, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, War on Poverty, War on Drugs, Cultural Wars, and War on Terror.

**Grade Breakdown**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Essay (4-5 pages)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>October 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media-Cultural Analysis (4-5 pages)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>November 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>January 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Research Paper (15-18 pages)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>April 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take-Home Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Grade Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exemplary</td>
<td>87 and above</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>80-86</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs Improvement</td>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Evaluative feedback will be provided prior to the voluntary withdrawal date of January 17, 2020.

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.

Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.
Class Dates and Themes
An outline of the weekly readings will be handed out in class and posted on UMlearn.

Week 1 Sept 4
  1) Introduction

Week 2 Sept 9
  The coming of War.
  Politics of neutrality and war preparation

Week 3 Sept 16
  Pearl Harbor
  The War in the Pacific
  Internment of US citizens of Japanese heritage

Week 4 Sept 23
  The War in Europe
  Home Front
  Domestic Mobilization

Week 5 Sept 30 – the University is closed October 5
  Social Change at Home
  Atomic Bomb and Nuclear War
  Victory Culture

Week 6 Oct 7
  The Cold War
  Anti-Communism at Home and Abroad

Week 7 Oct 14
  The Korean War
  Global Militarism
  US Military Cultures Abroad

Week 8 Oct 21
  Domestic Cold War
  The Cold War in Popular Culture
  The Cultural Cold War

Week 9 Oct 28
  WW II, the US Military, and the Origins of Civil Rights
  A second Civil War and a second Reconstruction?
  Organized Racism and White Flight

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Week 10 Nov 4
   Global Anti-Communism
   The Origins of Vietnam
   Vietnam War and US involvement

Nov 11-15 Remembrance Day and Fall Reading Break. No classes.

Week 11 Nov 18
   Vietnam War, Escalation and Expansion
   The War at Home
   Vietnam War in Popular Culture and Memory

Week 12 Nov 25
   The Other America and the Affluent Society
   The War on Poverty

Week 13 Dec 2
   Countercultures and Alternative Communities
   Feminism
   Homophiles and Gay Liberation,

HOLIDAY BREAK

Term 2

Week 1 Jan 6
   Backlash Against the 1960s
   New Right
   War on Crime I

Week 2 Jan 13
   Library session – preparing a research proposal
   Cities as War Zones

Week 3 Jan 20
   Roe vs Wade
   Christian Conservatism
   Gay Rights

Week 4 Jan 27
   Disco Sucks – Cultures of Racism and Homophobia
   Carter and Human Rights
   Politics of Peace
Week 5 Feb 3
  - Iran and Afghanistan
  - Reagan and the Cold War
  - Cold War in Central America

Week 6 Feb 10
  - Reagan and the Cold War
  - Reagan and the wars in Central America

Week 7 Feb 17-21 Louis Riel Day and Mid-term Break

Week 8 Feb 24
  - War on Crime II
  - War on Drugs

Week 9 Mar 2
  - Reagan’s Domestic Agenda and Culture Wars
  - Sex Wars
  - Cultural Politics of HIV AIDS

Week 10 Mar 9
  - Gulf War I
  - Militia Movement and Anti-Statism
  - Clinton and Genocidal Conflict

Week 11 Mar 16
  - 9/11
  - Afghanistan
  - Iraq

Week 12 Mar 23
  - War on Terror
  - Human Rights and Ethics of War
  - Obama’s Drone Wars

Week 13 Mar 30
  - Trump
  - White Nationalism

Week 14 Apr 6
  - Exam Review
Student Resources

Academic Resources
You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week. More information about scheduling, etc., TBA.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage (http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link: http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

Student Counseling Centre
Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counseling. http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html

Student Support Case Management
Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don’t know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html

University Health Service
Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/

Student Advocacy
Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy

UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)
UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our Instagram account www.instagram.com/umhisa_undergrad/ or by emailing umhisau@gmail.com.