**History 7-315**

**March-April 2019**

**Robert Givens**

**Office: 213 College Hall**

**Hours: M-Th., 3:10 – 4:45 (and by appointment)**

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**International Relations in the Contemporary Western World**

This course will examine international relations in the West from the eve of World War I to the beginning of the current century.  Although our focus will be diplomatic relations, domestic events always influence foreign policy.   Our study falls into three units - 1) The Failure of the New Diplomacy (1919-1941) 2) The Cold War (1945-1991) 3) Challenges to the Remaining Superpower (1991 - present)

# Required Texts: (all paperback)

Ambrose and Brinkley, *Rise to Globalism,* 9th revised edition

Bell, *Origins of The Second World War,* 3rd edition

Stent, *The Limits of Partnership: US Russian Relations in the Twenty-First Century*

Westad, *The Cold War A World History*

Documents on European Foreign Policy During the Interwar Period (handout)

**Available on line:**

Cold War International History Project: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=topics.home>

**On the Moodle site for this course:**

1. Keynes, *Economic Consequences of the Peace* (selections)
2. “A Fragile Stability,” 1922-29
3. Public Opinion and Appeasement
4. Background to Appeasement
5. Churchill, Iron Curtain Speech
6. Stalin’s Response to Churchill
7. Kennan, “Mr. X” article (“The Sources of Soviet Conduct”)
8. Little, “The CIA and the Cult of Covert Action in the Middle East”
9. Selections from the *Cambridge History of the Cold War*

**PROCEDURES AND GRADING:**

Except for a morning class on March 20, class will start at 12:45 and will end no later than 3:00.

I will expect everyone to do the reading assigned for each day before class.  Because we will be considering events in a number of countries, you will find it helpful to take notes on the assignments and bring them to class.

Your grade will be based on a short paper on the diplomacy of the 1930s (10%) due March 25, a midterm exam on March 26 (25%), a paper on *The Limits of Partnership* - due no later than April 9 (30%), and a final examination on April 10 (30%).  I plan to distribute topics for the term paper after the midterm. The remaining 5% of your grade will be determined by your performance in class. Each of you will present one of the documents for the period up to World War II and one of the chapters in Westad.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Cornell College is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to all students.  If you have a documented learning disability and will need any accommodation in this course, you **must** request the accommodation(s) from me **as early as possible, no later than the third day of the term.**  Additional information about the policies and procedures for accommodation of learning disabilities is available on the Cornell web site at: <http://cornellcollege.edu/academic_affairs/disabilities/>.

Cornell College expects all members of the Cornell community to act with academic integrity. An important aspect of academic integrity is respecting the work of others. A student is expected to explicitly acknowledge ideas, claims, observations, or data of others, unless generally known. When a piece of work is submitted for credit, a student is asserting that the submission is her or his work unless there is a citation of a specific source. If there is no appropriate acknowledgment of sources, whether intended or not, this may constitute a violation of the College's requirement for honesty in academic work and may be treated as a case of academic dishonesty. The procedures regarding how the College deals with cases of academic dishonesty appear in [*The Compass*](https://mail1.cornellcollege.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=39dde181bd544084a66a4816b1483616&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.cornellcollege.edu%2fstudent-affairs%2fcompass%2findex.shtml), our student handbook, under the heading "Academic Policies – Honesty in Academic Work."

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| **DATE** | **TOPIC** | **READING** | **DOCUMENTS FOR PRESENTATION** |
|  | **FAILURE OF THE NEW DIPLOMACY, 1919-1941** |  |  |
| Mon., March 18 1:00 | Features of Old Diplomacy: End to Traditional Diplomacy after 1914; Versailles and its Critics | Keynes, *Economic Consequences of the Peace* (Moodle) |  |
| Tues., March 19 12:45 | The Peace Settlement Beyond Europe; The Divided Left (Social Democracy vs. Communism); From Ruhr Crisis to Rapallo; Fascism in Italy | Documents on European Diplomacy from the Interwar Period (hereafter Documents) #1-5; Bell, chapters 1-3, 5 | #2, #5 |
| Wed., March 20  **9:30** | Hitler to Power in Germany; Great Britain and France in the 1930s | Bell, chapters 6-7; Documents #6-9; #11-12 | #6, #9, #11 |
| Wed., March 20  **1:00** | Economics and diplomacy in the 1930s; | Bell, chapters 9-10 |  |
| Thurs., March 21  12:45 | Strategy in the West; Soviet diplomacy; Strategy in the dictatorships; Hitler’s Policies through 1938; | Bell, chapters 8, 11-12; Documents, #10, 13-14, 15-17 | #10, #13-14,#15, #16 |
| Fri., March 22 | Advent of Munich Crisis Appeasement as a Policy; Origins of World War II and the Historians | Bell, chapters 13-15; Public Opinion and Appeasement (Moodle); Documents #18-25; Ambrose and Brinkley, chapter 1 | #18, #20, #22- #23 |
| Mon., March 25 | World War II and End to US Isolation; Diplomacy of World War II and Reconstruction; Review of events to 1941  **SHORT PAPER DUE** | Westad, chapters 2-4 | #24-#26 |
| Tues., March 26 | **MIDTERM EXAMINATION - Events to 1941** |  |  |

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| **DATE** | **TOPIC** | **READING** | **DOCUMENTS/CHAPTERS FOR PRESENTATION** |
|  | **COLD WAR, 1945-1991** |  |  |
| Wed., March 27 | Conflicting Analyses of Post War World | Ambrose and Brinkley, chapters 4-5; Westad, chapter 5  Documents: Churchill, Iron Curtain Speech; Stalin’s Response; (all Moodle) | Churchill  Stalin |
| Thurs., March 28 | Containment - Positions of the Superpowers Become Rigid | Documents: Kennan, “Mr. X” Article  Ambrose and Brinkley, chapters 6, 8-9; Westad, chapters 6-8 | Kennan |
| Fri., March 29 | From Missile Crisis to Morass (Kennedy-Johnson and the Communist Challenge) | Gaddis, “Grand Strategies in the Cold War” (Moodle)  Ambrose and Brinkley, chapter 10; Westad, chapters10-12 | Gaddis  Westad, chapter 10  Westad, chapter 11 |
| Mon., April 1 | From Détente to a New Confrontation | Ambrose and Brinkley, chapters 12-14; Westad, chapters 14-15 | Westad, chapter 14  Westad, chapter 15 |
| Tues., April 2 | Reagan and the End of the Cold War | Ambrose and Brinkley, chapters 15-16; Westad, chapters 18-20 | Westad, chapter 18  Westad, chapter 19 |
|  | **CHALLENGES TO THE REMAINING SUPERPOWER, 1991-present** |  |  |
| Wed., April 3 | Globalization and Power at the Century’s End | Ambrose and Brinkley, chapters 17-18; Westad, chapter 21 | Westad, chapter 21 |
| Thurs., April 4 | Bush and Clinton at the end of the Cold War; | Ambrose and Brinkley, chapters 19-20; Westad, chapter 22 and “The World the Cold War Made” |  |
| Fri., April 5 | Terrorism; The Challenge of Political Islam; A New Beginning to the US-Russian Relationship? | Westad, chapter 17; Stent, Prologue and chapters 1-3 | Westad, chapter 17  Stent |
| Mon., April 8 | US – Russian Conflicts of the 21st Century | Ambrose and Brinkley, chapter 21; Stent, chapters 4-9 |  |
| Tues., April 9 | **PAPER ON STENT DUE**  Failure of the Reset; Review | Stent, chapters 10-12 |  |
| Wed., April 10  9:00 | **FINAL EXAMINATION** |  |  |