

RECENT AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC HISTORY

HIST 4328

The University of Texas at Tyler

Text: To be determined by instructor

Evaluation and Grading:

Evaluation Weighting		Grade Determination
Quizzes or Paper	33%	A = 100% - 90%
Mid term Exam	33%	B = 89% - 80%
Final Exam	34%	C = 79% - 70%
		D = 69% - 65%
		F = 64% - 00%

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General Information

Recent American Diplomatic history is primarily a lecture/discussion course covering the period from immediately prior to World War I to the conclusion of the Twentieth century. A calendar of topics is provided in this syllabus.

The student learning outcomes for Recent American Diplomatic history are:

1. The student will describe the circumstances in Europe leading to World War I.
2. The student will discuss the major points of contention in the Versailles treaty.
3. The student will trace the rise of totalitarian governments in Europe and Asia.
4. The student will discuss the changing nature of American foreign policy from September 1939 to November 1941.
5. The student will describe the role and scope of the major wartime conferences.
6. The student will describe the major points of contention between the United States and the Soviet Union in terms of occupation and broader global issues.

7. The student will briefly describe the major international events considered arenas of the Cold War from 1947 to 1985.
8. The student will describe international achievements during the Nixon years.
9. The student will trace the events of the eighties resulting in the demise of the Soviet Union.

Course Calendar

Week 1 Course Overview and Review of 1890-1910

Week 2 International Rivalries

Nearing the End of the Colonial Race; Alliance system in Europe and the Armaments Race; Wilson Teaching Latin Americans to Elect Good Men

Week 3 World War I

Outbreak of the War and American Reaction; Issues of neutrality; Unrestricted submarine warfare; Zimmermann Note, Declaration of war, Conduct of the war

Week 4 Concluding the Peace

Wilson's War Objectives; Wilson's Fourteen Points; The Armistice; Versailles Conference and the Treaty of Versailles; Confirmation Controversy

Week 5 The Twenties

The League of Nations; Naval Disarmament Conference; concern for the status quo in Asia; Various conferences and immigration policy; Economic concerns and worldwide depression; Opening relations with the USSR; Relations with Latin America and the Far East

Week 6 The Gathering Storm and American Neutrality

Rise of Dictatorships; American Neutrality Acts; War in China; German expansion and non-aggression pacts; Invasion of Poland and declarations of war; American neutrality and sentiment; German conquest of Europe; American defensive measures; Lend-Lease; Asian situation and diplomatic efforts with Japan; Pearl Harbor

Week 7 World War II

American entry and priorities; Asia Theater; Dealing with neutrals; Cooperation with the USSR; Wartime conferences: Casablanca, Quebec, Moscow, Cairo, Teheran, Yalta, and Potsdam; VE Day; Concluding the war the Pacific

Week 8 Mid Term Exam

Week 9 Return Exams and Post War Environment

The United Nations; War settlements in Europe and cooperative efforts; Differences with the Soviets in occupied Europe

Week 10 Beginnings of the Cold War

George Kennan's "Long Telegram;" The Truman Doctrine and the policy of Containment; The Marshall Plan; Military alignments, NATO, and NSC 68; China policy since WWII; The Second Red Scare; War settlements with Japan

Week 11 Korea, Ike, and the New Look

The Korean War; Truman-McArthur Controversy; Republican policies in Asia; John Foster Dulles and Brinkmanship; 1955 Summit; Khrushchev, and Central Europe; the Middle East and Suez Crisis; the Eisenhower Doctrine; Khrushchev's 1959 Visit; the U-2 Incident; Eisenhower's Farewell Address

Week 12 Kennedy, Johnson and Southeast Asia

The Best and Brightest and the Flexible Response; The Cuban Revolution and the Bay of Pigs; Vienna Summit of 1961; the Berlin Wall; Cuban Missile Crisis and lessons learned; Southeast Asia to the Gulf of Tonkin incident; Gulf of Tonkin Resolution and American escalation; Opposition to the war and the Election of 1968; Nixon and Kissinger; Peace Talks, the Election of 1972, and the end

Week 13 Nixon and Detente

Arms Control Agreements; nuclear proliferation treaty, SALT I; Opening relations with China; Berlin and Helsinki Accords; Arab-Israeli Wars of 1967 and 1973; Oil and OPEC; Economic aspects of Nixon's foreign policy; Impact of Watergate

Week 14 Ford, Carter, and Early Reagan

Fall of South Vietnam, Ford years; Carter's posture; Dealing with Latin America: Nicaragua, Mexico, and Cuba; The Middle East and the Camp David Accord; Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; Iranian hostage crisis; Reagan's election; The Evil Empire and Star Wars; Ignoring the old men in the Kremlin; Dealing with Latin America revolutionaries and the festering Middle East

Week 15, Glasnost, Perestroika, the Wall Comes Tumbling Down, and ...

The Great Communicator's Second Term; Gorbachev and the thaw; Meetings and treaties; The Iran-Contra Affair and Oliver North; George Bush inaugurated and the Wall Comes Down, Noriega and Panama; Invasion of Kuwait; Desert Shield and Desert Storm; Peacekeeping in the Balkans and Africa

Week 16 Final Exam