

Semester at Sea, Course Syllabus
Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage: Spring 2017
Discipline: HIST 465
Course Number and Title: America's Pacific Wars: Korea and Vietnam
Division: Upper
Faculty Name: John Israel
Semester Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: Completion of three (3) history credits AND no fewer than 45 credits total.
The professor is willing to waive the prerequisites.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Diplomatic, ideological, political, cultural, and military aspects of war in the Pacific from Korea through Vietnam.

Within the greater Cold War endeavor, America fought two major conflicts in the second half of the 20th century. Both the Korean and Vietnam Wars resulted in tens of thousands of US troop deaths, and nearly four million total deaths. To this day, the United States—and most of the world—worries about North Korea, where a despotic regime has attained nuclear technology, and where human development exists at sub-industrial levels.

America's longest war—the Vietnam conflict—was also one of its most divisive. As U.S. troop levels swelled to more than a half million by 1968, American society split sharply over the morality and efficacy of the war effort. The war's inconclusiveness and unpopularity spawned not only a broad-based antiwar movement but also a reexamination of America's purpose as wrenching and far-reaching as any other since the Civil War.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Students will be encouraged to view historical events both from the top down and from the bottom up. They will be asked to see both the Korean and the Vietnam conflicts in the broader panorama of the United States' emergence as a Pacific Power and, more immediately, in the context of World War II and the Cold War. Through memoirs and oral history interviews, they will come to grips with the multifarious ways that individuals were affected by, and interacted with, historical events. Finally, they will have an opportunity to view the Vietnam War through the prism of personal experience in contemporary Vietnam.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: David Halberstam
TITLE: The Coldest Winter
PUBLISHER: Hyperion
ISBN #: 13: 978-0786888627
DATE/EDITION: 2008 paperback

AUTHOR: George Herring
TITLE: America's Longest War
PUBLISHER: McGraw Hill
ISBN #: 13: 978-0073513256
DATE/EDITION: 2013 paperback / 5th edition

AUTHOR: Christian G. Appy
TITLE: Patriots: The Vietnam War Remembered from All Sides
PUBLISHER: Penguin
ISBN #: 0 14 20.0449.9
DATE/EDITION: 2004 paperback

TOPICAL OUTLINE

Part I: From the Philippines to Korea

A1 – January 7: Introduction. America Becomes a Pacific Power: Context of the Korean War.

Reading: Halberstam, pp. 109-111. Stanley Karnow, *In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines*, chapter 4, "America Goes Global", pp. 78-105. Halberstam, *Introduction, Epilogue*, pp. 109-111

A2 – January 9: Origins of the Korean War

Reading: Halberstam, Part II, skim Part I

A3 – January 11: Washington Goes to War.

Reading: Halberstam, Part III

Honolulu – January 12

A4 – January 14: The Politics of Two Continents.

Reading: Halberstam, Part IV

A5 – January 17: From Pusan to Inchon

Reading: Halberstam, Parts V, VI

No class – January 19

A6 – January 20: Crossing the Parallel.

Reading: Halberstam, Part VII.

A7 – January 22: The Chinese Strike.

Reading: Halberstam, Part VIII. Appy: 508-511, 545-547, 534-535.

In Class Film: *They Chose China*

Kobe – January 24-28

A8 – January 29: Learning to Fight the Chinese.

Reading: Halberstam, Part IX. Discussion: See "Independent Field Assignment".

Shanghai – January 31-February 5

A9 – February 6: Dénouement, Legacy.

Reading: Halberstam, Part X, Epilogue, Afterward

Discussion: See "Independent Field Assignment".

Mid-term 1.

Part II: Vietnam and Beyond

A10 – February 8 : The Vietnam War – Foreshadow and Aftermath
Reading: Appy: xv-xvii, 35-54, 532-533
Documentary: Why Vietnam

Ho Chi Minh City – February 10-14

Field Class: War Remnants Museum/Agent Orange Film and Discussion with Film Maker

A11 – February 15: The US, France, & the 1st Indochina War.
Reading: Herring, Chapter 1
Documentary: Roots of a War.
Discussion: See “Independent Field Assignment”.

No Class – February 17

February 17, 5:00 p.m. Field Class Essay 1 due

A12 – February 18: Nation Building in South Vietnam.
Reading: Herring, Chapter 2. Appy: 54-62.
Documentary: America’s Mandarin (part 1).

Yangon – February 20-24

A13 – February 25: : Kennedy & Diem.
Reading: Herring, Chapter 3. Appy: 63-84, 90-98.
Documentary: America’s Mandarin (part 2)
Discussion: Reflections on Rangoon: Post-Colonial Development in Korea, Vietnam, and Burma.

A14 – February 27: Johnson’s Decisions for War, 1963-1965.
Reading: Herring, Chapter 4. Appy: 84-86, 112-127.
Documentary: LBJ Goes to War

Cochin – March 1-6

A15 – March 7: The United States at War, 1965-1967.
Reading: Herring, Chapter 5. Appy: 101-106, 128-141, 156-161, 167-176, 200-220.
Documentary: America Takes Charge 1965-1967.

No Class – March 9

A16 – March 10: Friends and Foes.
Reading: Appy: (friends) 51-59, 94-98, 417-422, 441-445, 475-480, 504-507, (foes) 186-187, 190-194, 247-250, 341-342, 534-535, 545-547
Documentary: America’s Enemy.

Port St. Louis – March 12

A17 – March 13: Tet & Mylai.
Reading: Herring, Chapter 6. Appy: 285-303, 343-353, 445-448. .
Documentary: Tet 1968.

No class – March 15

A18 – March 16 : The Anti-War Movement.

Reading: Appy: 142-155, 250-253, 262-278, 384-389, 413-417

Documentary: Cambodia & Laos

A19 – March 18: Painful Withdrawal.

Reading: Herring, Chapter 7. Appy: 307-324, 377-384, 393-412, 456-469.

Documentaries: Vietnamizing the Wars, Peace is at Hand, 1968-1973.

Cape Town – March 19-24

A20 – March 26: Vietnam in America.

Reading: Appy: 162-167, 177-186, 188-190, 195-199, 238-247, 253-261, 304-306, 328-330, 332-341, 354-370, 430-440, 489-492

Mid-term 2

A21 – March 28: The Postwar War (I)

Reading: Herring, Chapter 8, pp. 333-352. Appy: 493-506.

Documentary: Hearts and Minds (I)

No Class – March 29

Tema – March 31-April 3

Field Class Essay 2 due April 4, 9:00 a.m.

A22 – April 4: The Postwar War (II)

Documentary: Hearts and Minds (II)

A23 – April 6: Legacies.

Reading: Herring, Chapter 8, pp. 352-376.

Documentary: The End of the Tunnel

A24 – April 8: A War that Won't Go Away.

Reading: Herring, Chapter 8, pp. 377-380.

Appy: 221-237, 279-282, 330-331, 371-376, 379-382, 449-455, 480-483

Study Day – April 10

Casablanca – April 11-14

A25 – April 15:

Final Examination

Arrive Hamburg – April 19

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course.

Field Class and Assignment

The Field Class for this course will take place on Tuesday, 14 February in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

On February 14, our final day in Vietnam, we will spend the morning at the War Remnants Museum, where alleged American atrocities are documented and displayed. During the afternoon, we will view a film on Agent Orange – a chemical widely used by US forces during the Vietnam War – and will discuss its legacy with the film maker.

Your first assignment is to write an essay, ca. 500 words, reflecting upon your experience in the museum. How do you assess the exhibits in terms of content, presentation, and interpretation? What do you learn from the museum in terms of Hanoi's official view of Vietnam's recent history? As an American, how do you go about intellectually and emotionally processing what you have seen? (If you are a citizen of a country other than the United States, how do you think people in your own country should process a visit to the museum?) The essay should be submitted, either on paper or electronically, no later than 5 p.m., February 17.

Since your experience in the War Remnants Museum will precede the portion of our course that deals with the Vietnam War, a second assignment will be to record your further reflections in light of what you learned through course readings, films, and discussions and in travel and other experiences before and after your visit – including your thoughts on the legacy of Agent Orange. This essay, ca. 500-1,000 words, should be submitted, either on paper or electronically before 5:00 p.m., March 29.

Independent Field Assignment

Visits to China and Vietnam will present opportunities to get to know countries and people who were mortal enemies of the United States during the Korean and Vietnam wars. You should take advantage of your visits to gain additional perspectives on these wartime experiences in any way you can – by seeking out sites commemorating these conflicts, through discussions with people you encounter, or via general impressions gained in the course of travel. Among the questions you might ask: What changes with the passage of time and what does not? Come to the first class back on ship (A-9 for China, A-11 for Vietnam) to share experiences and impressions.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING SCALE

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-90%: B+	77-80%: C+	Less than 60%: F
93-97%: A	83-87%: B	70-77%: C	
90-93%: A-	80-83%: B-	60-70%: D	

COURSE GRADES: Mid-term 1: 20%, Mid-term 2: 20%, Field Class Essay Part 1: 15%, Field Class Essay Part 2, %15%, Final Examination: 30%. Grades may be adjusted upward or downward reflecting frequency and quality of participation in classroom discussions.

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes is mandatory, but it is at the instructor's discretion to assign a grade to the participation and attendance requirement. Remember to include information concerning the evaluation of Field Assignments and the Field Classes, which must constitute at least 20% of the total grade in a course.

Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation. A memo from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations pre-voyage as soon as possible, but no later than November 19, 2016 to academic@isevoyages.org.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS

AUTHOR:	Stanley Karnow
TITLE:	In Our Image
PUBLISHER:	Ballantine Books
ISBN #:	0-345-32816-7
DATE/EDITION:	1990. First Ballantine Books Edition

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

AUTHOR:	Stanley Karnow
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE:	Chapter 4: America Goes Global
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE:	In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines
DATE:	1989
PAGES:	78-105

FILMS

Korean War in Color	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBuAccDsxMc&t=324s
Why Vietnam	https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=why+vietnam
Vietnam – A Television History (1983)	

Hearts and Minds (1974)
They Chose China (2005)