History 201: The Historian’s Craft – The Cold War & Asia

Lectures: Tues. & Thurs., 11:00-12:15, Engineering 3032
Instructor: Charles Kim
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Section 1: Wed., 11:00-11:50, Humanities 2115
Section 2: Wed., 1:20-2:10, Humanities 2211
Section 3: Wed., 2:25-3:15, Humanities 2211
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Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the discipline of history. On the one hand, you will examine the ways in which historians create interpretations of the past (i.e., history books and articles) based on their study of works written by previous historians, as well as their research of historical documents. At the same time, however, even though history-writing is built upon the analysis of texts from the past, it should also hold some kinds of pertinence to issues of the present. How historians frame their work with respect to concerns of today will be another aspect of the discipline that you will think about. On the other hand, you will learn various methods of historical research, such as locating historical documents, posing a research question, and conveying your findings to others. Finally, since this is a course that fulfills the Comm-B requirement, you will also be working toward improving your skills at written and oral presentation.

History is always based in a specific context. Thus, as you learn about the “historian’s craft,” you will also learn about a particular set of interrelated global contexts, which I’ve placed under the heading of “the Cold War and Asia.” In particular, you will investigate some of the ways in which the Cold War affected people in North Korea and South Korea. Partitioned at the start of the Cold War – and still divided to this day – studying the Korean case is an excellent way to ground your study of the Cold War and Asia.

Course Objectives:
1) Learn ways in which the study of history has relevance for the present.

2) Learn how to identify a scholarly argument and assess its historiographical significance. This skill will be useful in both academic and non-academic contexts, such as the workplace.

3) Learn how to engage in original primary source research and analysis. Again, this skill has applications beyond academics.

4) Learn how to convey your research findings more effectively to others, through writing, discussion, and formal presentations.

5) Gain a critical understanding of the Global Cold War, how it played out on the Korean peninsula, with close attention to the actions of Koreans, Americans, and other parties.

Required Texts:
All readings will be available on our course page on Learn@UW under Content.

Course Requirements:

1) Attendance & class participation (lectures & disc. section): 20%
2) Assignments: 20%
3) Take-home essay examination (Oct. 8: 4-5 pages): 5%
4) Revision of take-home essay examination (Oct. 24: 4-5 pages): 10%
5) First presentation (Nov. 6-13; 5 min.): 5%
6) Powerpoint presentation, brief essay (2-3 pages), and Research Process Worksheet for first presentation(Nov. 14): 10%
7) Preliminary analysis of prim. source for group proj. (Dec. 3; 2-3 pages): 5%
8) Second presentation (Dec. 4-11, 5 min.): 10%
9) Group project presentation, incl. Powerpoint (Dec. 5-12): 15%

Course Regulations:

1) Because class participation is a significant portion of your final grade, attendance in lecture and discussion is mandatory. Unexcused absences, tardiness, and/or early departures will result in a poor participation grade –
and, possibly, failure in the class. In addition, failure to participate in
discussion in an active and regular manner will result in a poor grade for
participation. Get into the habit of reading the required readings and
giving yourself enough time to think and raise questions about them. This
is the basic level of preparation that we expect from you for each of
our meetings so that we can engage in informed and engaged
discussions.

In order to encourage reading (and, by extension, to facilitate better class
contributions), we will have several pop quizzes in lecture and/or
discussion sections. Your performance on these quizzes will be calculated
into your attendance and class participation grade. The lowest grade will be
dropped. There will be no make-up pop quizzes.

Finally, be sure to bring the assigned readings to every class meeting.

2) Submit all written assignments as an electronic file to Dropbox on the
course page at Learn@UW in one of the following formats: doc, docx, pdf,
rtf, or ppt. For some assignments, I will ask you to bring a hard copy to
class so that you can use them in in-class exercises.

3) The due date and time for all written assignments appear below. Since
Comm-B courses have a high volume of assignments, it is difficult for us to
accommodate late work. Any written assignment that is submitted after
the due date will receive a ten-point deduction for each late day.

For assignments, we will be looking at the scores of your top eight
assignments when we calculate your total score for class assignments. (To
put it differently, you may opt not to submit up to two weekly assignments
over the course of the semester).

4) Laptops and tablets may only be used during lecture for course-related
reasons, such as note-taking and referring to course readings. And, as a
courtesy to your fellow students, your TA, and myself, please turn off your
mobile phones before class starts so that we can maintain a focused
learning environment.

5) Plagiarism will not be tolerated in any assignment for this course. It’s
perfectly fine to draw on academic work done by others, as long as you cite
their work. However, it’s unacceptable to use other people’s work, while
giving the impression that it is your own original work. For more on what
constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, see the Writing Center’s
“Writer’s Handbook”:
Academic Accommodations for Students

Please let me know at the start of the semester if you have a need for an accommodation in his course. If you have any questions about this or require any assistance, feel free to contact me or the McBurney Disability Resource Center.

A Note on the Syllabus

I intend to stick closely to the contents of this syllabus, but, as we progress through the course, I may make some adjustments in readings and assignments. If I do so, it will be to improve the learning experience. I will do my best to make adjustments in as democratic a manner as possible, and to let you know ahead of time.

Course Schedule:

Week 1

Tues., 9/3 – Preliminaries

Wed., 9/4 – Introductions

Thurs., 9/5 – The Cold War & Asia: An Introduction

  Read: This syllabus. Make sure you understand the expectations and requirements for this course. It is a contract between you, me, the TA, and your classmates.


Assignment:

1. Based on the historical events that Wallerstein and Kwon refer to in their essays, create a timeline of the Cold War in Asia.

2. While Wallerstein provides an interpretation of the Cold War in Asia from the global perspective, Kwon provides one of how the Cold
War played out at the local level in Korea during the Korean War. Use their two essays to create a one-sentence definition of the Cold War in Asia.

*Bring hard copies of both assignments to class AND submit them as electronic files to Dropbox on the course page at Learn@UW before class starts.*

Fri., 9/6 – **Be sure to complete the online survey for the History Dept.**

**Week 2**

Tues., 9/10 – What is “Ideology”?


Assignment:

Review Althusser’s conception of ideology, then watch this youtube clip: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5zola5iDt4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5zola5iDt4).

How did this Apple ad campaign from a number of years ago interpellate viewers?

*Bring a hard copy to class and submit as electronic file to Dropbox before class starts.*

Wed., Sept. 11 – Marxism in Asia

Thurs., Sept. 12 – American Ideology: The Cold War Consensus


**Week 3**

**Tues., Sept. 17 – Korean Nationalists during the Colonial Era**


**Wed., Sept. 18 – Korean Nationalism: Primary Sources**


**Thurs., Sept. 19 – Liberation and the Division of Korea**


Access this reading as an E-Book through the online UW-Madison Libraries catalog.

*Assignment due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class. Prompt will be provided later.*

**Week 4**

**Tues., Sept. 24 – The Creation of Separate Korean States**


**Wed., Sept. 25 – Cold War Ideology: Primary Sources**
Thurs., Sept. 26 – The Cheju (Jeju) Massacre


Assignment due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class. Prompt will be provided later.

Week 5

Tues., Oct. 1 – The No Gun Ri Massacre (1)


Assignment due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class. Prompt will be provided later.

Wed., Oct 2 – No Gun Ri Massacre: Primary Sources

Thurs., Oct. 3 – The No Gun Ri Massacre (2)


Assignment (one-page synopsis of Bateman reading) due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class. Guidelines will be provided.
Week 6

Tues., Oct. 8 – No Class – Take-home essay examination

Submit in Dropbox by 5 pm

Wed., Oct. 9 – No Section

Thurs, Oct. 10 – Discuss Essays and Using Internet Sources

Week 7

Tues., Oct. 15 – The Korean War (1): Two Distinct Interpretations


*Assignment due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class. Prompt will be provided later.*

Wed., Oct. 16 – The Korean War in Film

Watch: *Welcome To Dongmakgol* (dir. Kwang-Hyun Park, 2005, 133 min.)

Thurs., Oct. 17 – The Korean War (2): Recent Syntheses


*Assignment* (one-page synopsis of Stueck reading) *due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class.*
Week 8

Tues., Oct. 22 – Using Primary Sources


Assignment due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class. Prompt will be provided later.

Wed., Oct. 23 – Primary Source Exercise (1)

Thurs., Oct. 24 – Locating Primary Sources (1)

Revised essay due in class and as electronic file in Dropbox.

Week 9

Tues., Oct. 29 – Locating Primary Sources (2)

Wed., Oct. 30 – Primary Source Exercise (2)

Assignment (primary source) due in section. Guidelines will be provided.

Thurs., Oct. 31 – On Presenting Your Work

Week 10

Tues., Nov. 5 – Postwar North Korea, 1953-1962


Wed., Nov. 6 – Presentations
Thurs., Nov. 7 – Postwar South Korea, 1953-1965


**Week 11**

Tues., Nov. 12 – South Korea, North Korea, and the Vietnam War


Wed., Nov. 13 – Presentations

Thurs., Nov. 14 – The “Second” Korean War

*Powerpoint presentation, 2-3 page essay, and Research Process Worksheet are due in class and on Dropbox before the start of class.*

**Week 12**

Tues., Nov. 19 – The Northern Limit Line


*We will assign topics for your group project in class.*

Wed., Nov. 20 – Finding Good Secondary Sources
Thurs., Nov. 21 – The Kwangju Movement (1)


**Week 13**

Tues., Nov. 26 – The Kwangju Movement (2)


Wed., Nov. 27 – No Section

**Week 14**

Tues., Dec. 3 – On Presenting Your Project

*Preliminary 2-3 page analysis of your primary source due in class and as an electronic file in Dropbox before the start of class.*

Wed., Dec. 4 – Second Presentation

Thurs., Dec. 5 – Group Project Presentations

**Week 15**

Tues., Dec. 10 – Group Project Presentations

Wed., Dec. 11 – Second Presentation

Thurs., Dec. 12 – Group Project Presentations

Fri., Dec. 13 - **Be sure to complete the online survey for the History Dept.**