History 706: Topics in Transnational History - Cold War Asia
Professors Shelly Chan and Charles Kim
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Spring 2020

Seminar: Thursdays 3:30-5:25 Humanities 5257

Office Hours: Shelly Chan shelly.chan@wisc.edu Humanities 4111, Thursdays 1-3
Charles Kim charles.kim@wisc.edu Humanities 4122, Thursdays 10-12

Course Description:

This seminar examines how recent scholarship has expanded and challenged foundational narratives about the Cold War through a focus on Asia. As much of Asia underwent significant transformation during the twentieth century, our course learning objective is to explore “Cold War Asia” in the following ways:

- as a social process extending beyond the realms of great power politics, foreign policies, and state actors;
- as a unit of spatial and temporal analysis for the study of empires, nations, revolutions, knowledge, memory, culture, and identity;
- as a critical lens to view systemic, inter-Asian, and global dimensions of change in the long twentieth century.

Requirements

1) Attendance, participation, and leading discussion (25%): Students will sign up for two different roles: 1. give a 10-minute quick summary of the arguments of the readings; and 2. organize discussion questions contributed by other members of the seminar. Attendance is required for each seminar meeting.

2) Weekly postings (25%): A post of 250-500 words is due on Canvas on Thursdays at 9am. Each post should contain a response to the readings as a whole and suggest two questions for discussion. Read all the other posts by members of the seminar before coming to the meeting. No need to post for the weeks that you lead discussion.
3) Historiographic paper, 15-20 pages (50%): Write an analytical essay about 3-4 assigned texts and 3-4 others of your choice in consultation with one of the instructors.

- Consult an instructor about your final paper topic before spring break.

- A proposal (1-2 pages) and an annotated bibliography (6-8 sources) is due before class on March 26.

- Presentations in the final meeting on April 30.

- Final paper is due by email to both instructors on Thursday, May 7.

Note: The credit standard for this 3-credit course is met by an expectation of a total of 135 hours of student engagement with the course’s learning activities (at least 45 hours per credit or 9 hours per week), which include regularly scheduled meeting times (group seminar meetings of 115 minutes per week), dedicated online time, reading, writing, field trips, individual consultations with the instructor, and other student work as described in the syllabus.

Schedule

Jan. 23: Introduction


Jan. 30: Concepts and Framings


**I. Origins**

**Feb. 6: Globalizing the Cold War**


**Feb. 13: From Discourse to Reality**


**II. The Other Cold Wars**

**Feb. 20: The Korean War**


Note: Talk by Monica Kim, Tuesday February 18, 4-5:30, Curti Lounge (Humanities 5233).

**Feb. 27: Bandung and the Non-Aligned Movement**

Christopher J. Lee, “Between a Moment and an Era: The Origins and Afterlives of Bandung.” In *Making a World after Empire: The Bandung Moment and*


**March 5: Mao’s Cold War**


**March 12: Migration and Diplomacy**


**March 19 - Spring Break**

**March 26 - The Cultural Cold War**

Heonik Kwon, *The Other Cold War*, “Cold War Culture in Perspective,” 139-152. [Available on JSTOR.]


Sangjoon Lee, “The Asia Foundation’s Motion-Picture Project and the Cultural Cold War in Asia.” *Film History*, vol. 29, no. 2 (Summer 2017), pp. 108-137.

Sangjoon Lee, “Destination Hong Kong: The Geopolitics of South Korean...

**April 2 - Margins and Frontiers**


**IV. Are We Post-Cold War?**

**April 9 - Local Memories/Global Cold War**


**April 16 - Redress**


**April 23 - What Cold War in Asia?**


**April 30 - Presentations**