

Florida International University
Department of History

EUH 5905 – U02
Fall 2016

DECOLONIZATION AND THE GLOBAL COLD WAR

Professor Terrence G. Peterson



Tuesdays, 2:00-4:45PM
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2:00-5:00pm or by appointment

From the 1940s through the 1960s, a ‘ring of fire burn[ed] all along the tropics.’ The end of empires and the global struggle between East and West dominated the middle of the Twentieth Century, but the relationship between these two historical processes – and indeed, the boundaries of each – are still highly contested by historians. This course aims to introduce graduate students to the recent historiographies of Decolonization and the Cold War. We will examine a variety of topics ranging from the global structural shifts implicated in decolonization to new postwar internationalisms to the Cold War’s manifestations outside of Europe. In the process, we will interrogate how the “transnational turn” has pushed the analytic limits of the categories of ‘Cold War’ and ‘Decolonization’ and reshaped how historians understand the interplay between local and global politics in the second half of the twentieth century.

This course is open to graduate students working in all eras and regions.

Readings

The books for this course are available for purchase in the campus bookstore. When possible, I have also put them on 2-hour reserve at Green library. Articles and excerpted chapters will be available in .pdf on blackboard. It is highly recommended that you bring these materials to seminar.

Course Work

Participation (40%)

Active participation is the heart of graduate seminar. I expect all students complete the readings and reflect on their colleagues' discussion questions prior to seminar, and to come to class every week prepared to contribute actively to the conversation.

Each week, two students will be designated to lead discussion. These students will meet in advance to write 6 to 7 broad discussion questions on theoretical, methodological, historiographical, or argumentative issues from that week's readings. These discussion questions will be circulated by Sunday night before seminar by midnight. On the day of seminar, the discussion leaders will provide a ten-minute introduction situating the week's readings in the broader literature. (I highly recommend you use this introduction as the foundation for your review essay – see below).

Papers (60%)

For this seminar, you will write three 6- to 8-page papers, each worth 20% of your final grade.

Two of the papers will critically and comparatively analyze the course readings (two books, or one book and two articles), with the aim of examining the larger themes of the course as well as the methodologies, sources, or assumptions of the authors.

The third paper should take the form of a *New York Review of Books* essay. Choose one week's readings and one to three relatively new books on related topics. Review these books and use them to reflect on a larger historiographical issue or insight. To get a sense of this style of essay, browse the *NYRB* website: <https://www.nybooks.com/>. *This paper is due the week we discuss the topic you have chosen.*

Papers must be submitted in written form and through TurnItIn on Blackboard. You may write these papers in any order and on any set of readings you prefer, but they must be submitted by the due dates listed below in *both* formats. Meeting submission dates is an important professional skill that graduate students need to cultivate, and I therefore do not offer extensions except in very exceptional circumstances.

INTRODUCTION

Week 1 (1/10) – Course Introduction

Week 2 (1/17) – Decolonization and the Cold War as Global-Historical Processes

Martin Thomas & Andrew Thompson, “Empire and Globalisation: from ‘High Imperialism’ to Decolonisation,” *The International History Review* 36, No. 1 (2013), 142-170.

Akira Iriye, “Historicizing the Cold War,” in Immerman and Goedde, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of the Cold War* (Oxford University Press, 2013), pages 15-31.

Charles S. Maier, “The Cold War as an Era of Imperial Rivalry,” in Pons and Romero, eds., *Reinterpreting the End of the Cold War: Issues, Interpretations, Periodizations* (Frank Cass, 2005), pages 13-20.

PART I: DECOLONIZATION

Week 3 (1/24) – Decolonization as a Structural Shift

Martin Shipway, *Decolonization and its Impact: A Comparative Approach to the End of Colonial Empires* (Blackwell, 2008). ISBN 9780631199687.

William Roger Louis and Ronald Robinson, “The Imperialism of Decolonization,” in James D. Le Sueur, ed., *The Decolonization Reader* (Routledge, 2003), 49-79.

Week 4 (1/31) – Reframing Empire

Frederick Cooper, *Citizenship between Empire and Nation: Remaking France and French Africa, 1945-1960* (Princeton University Press, 2014). ISBN 978-0691171456.

Nicholas J. White, *Decolonization: The British Experience since 1945* (Routledge, 2014): Introduction and Chapter 2.

Week 5 (2/7) – Decolonization and Global Reordering

First Paper due Friday 2/10

Matthew Connelly, *A Diplomatic Revolution: Algeria’s fight for Independence and the Origins of the Post-Cold War Era* (Oxford University Press, 2002). ISBN 978-0195170955.

Todd Shepard, *The Invention of Decolonization: The Algerian War and the Remaking of France* (Cornell University Press, 2006): Introduction and Chapter 2.

PART II: FORGING THE COLD WAR OUTSIDE OF EUROPE

Week 6 (2/14) – Cold War Historiography at a Crossroads?

Odd Arne Westad, *The Global Cold War* (Cambridge University Press, 2007). ISBN 978-0521703147. Introduction and Chapters 1 and 3.

Anders Stephanson, “Cold War Degree Zero,” in Isaac and Bell, eds., *Uncertain Empire: American History and the Idea of the Cold War* (Oxford University Press, 2012), pages 19-50.

Federico Romero, “Cold War historiography at the crossroads,” *Cold War History* 14, No. 4 (2015): 685-703

Pierre Grosser “Looking for the core of the Cold War, and finding a mirage?” *Cold War History* 15, No. 2 (2015): 245-252

Week 7 (2/21) – From Decolonization to the Cold War

Mark Atwood Lawrence, *Assuming the Burden: Europe and the American Commitment to War in Vietnam* (University of California Press, 2005). ISBN 978-0520251625.

Matthew Connelly, “Taking Off the Cold War Lens: Visions of North-South Conflict during the Algerian War for Independence,” *The American Historical Review* 105, No. 3 (2000): 739-769

Week 8 (2/28) – Making the ‘Cold War’

Masuda Hajimu, *Cold War Crucible: The Korean Conflict and the Postwar World* (Harvard University Press, 2015). ISBN 978-0674598478.

Cary Fraser, “Decolonization and the Cold War,” in Immerman and Goedde, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of the Cold War* (Oxford University Press, 2013), pages 469-485.

PART III: NEW INTERNATIONALISMS

Week 9 (3/7) – New International Organizations

Mark Mazower, *No Enchanted Palace: The End of Empire and the Ideological Origins of the United Nations* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009). ISBN 978-0691157955.

Susan Pedersen, “Getting Out of Iraq – in 1932: The League of Nations and the Road to Normative Statehood,” *American Historical Review* 115.4 (2010), 975-1000.

Week 10 (3/14) – Spring Break (No Class)

Week 11 (3/21) – The Rise of Non-Governmentality

Second Paper due Friday 3/24

Gregory Mann, *From Empires to NGOs in the West African Sahel: The Road to Nongovernmentality* (Cambridge University Press, 2015). ISBN 978-1107602526.

Erez Manela, “A Pox on Your Narrative: Writing Disease Control into Cold War History,” *Diplomatic History* 34, No. 2 (April 2010), 299-323

Week 12 (3/28) – Cold War Developmentalism

Bradley Simpson, *Economists with Guns: Authoritarian Development and U.S.-Indonesian Relations, 1960-1968* (Stanford University Press, 2010). ISBN 978-0804771825.

Michael Mahoney, “Estado Novo, Homem Novo (New State, New Man): Colonial and Anti-Colonial Development Ideologies in Mozambique, 1930-1977,” in David C. Engerman et al., eds., *Staging Growth: Modernization, Development, and the Global Cold War* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2003), pages 165-197.

PART IV: THE COLD WAR IN THE THIRD WORLD

Week 13 (4/4) – South-South Relations in the Cold War

Jeffrey James Byrne, *Mecca of Revolution: Algeria, Decolonization, and the Third World Order* (Oxford University Press, 2016). ISBN 978-0199899142.

Gerard McCann, ‘From Diaspora to Third Worldism and the United Nations: India and the Politics of Decolonizing Africa’, *Past and Present* ccxviii (2013), 258-80

Week 14 (4/11) – The Cold War and Africa

Sergey Mazov, *A Distant Front in the Cold War: The USSR in West Africa and the Congo, 1956-1964* (Stanford University Press, 2010). ISBN 978-1107602526.

Frank Gerits, “‘When the Bull Elephants Fight’: Kwame Nkrumah, Non-Alignment, and Pan-Africanism as an Interventionist Ideology in the Global Cold War (1957–66),” *The International History Review* 37, No. 5 (2015), 951-969.

Week 15 (4/18) – The Latin American Cold Wars

Tanya Harmer, *Allende’s Chile and the Inter-American Cold War* (University of North Carolina Press, 2014). ISBN 978-1469613901.

Greg Grandin, "What was Containment? Short and Long Answers from the Americas," in Robert J. McMahon, ed., *The Cold War in the Third World* (Oxford University Press, 2013), pages 27-47.

Finals Week (4/25) – No Class Meeting

Third Paper due Tuesday, 4/25