Pundits never tire of proclaiming that we are entering a “new Cold War.” Like all historical analogies, this one demands close attention to the original. The Cold War was not just a confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, but a geopolitical force-field within which the world developed for nearly five decades. This course explores the Cold War as a global process, probing its political and military history as well as the social and cultural impact of the confrontation between capitalism and communism. We will investigate the origins of the conflict, the formation of opposing blocs, the interplay between periods of tension and détente, and the relationship between the center of the conflict in the North Atlantic/European arena and its global periphery - as well as the Cold War’s sudden and unforeseen end. Curiosity about Cold War history and a willingness to explore its drama and complexity are the only prerequisites for this course. No prior knowledge of the subject is assumed.
REQUIREMENTS:

Each week students will attend two lectures and one discussion section (“recitation”). If you cannot attend a lecture or recitation, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. Please complete the assigned readings as early in the week as possible – you will get more out of the lectures that way. This means allowing yourself sufficient time not just to read but to think about what you’ve read. Bear in mind that active participation in recitations means asking good questions as well as proposing good answers. I am happy to take questions during lectures too. Recitations will explore the assigned readings - especially the historical documents - as well as the lectures. Students will write two short papers (due Sept. 16 and October 26), take an in-class exam (Oct. 7), and complete a take-home final exam (handed out Dec. 2, due Dec. 11).

GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation in recitations</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three-page paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five-page paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take-home final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Students are expected to abide by the University of Pennsylvania Code of Academic Integrity, which can be found at: http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai_codeofacademicintegrity.html

REQUIRED TEXTS (available at the Penn Book Center, 34th and Sansom Streets):

John Le Carré, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (2001 [1963])

Readings marked [C] can be found on the course’s Canvas site.

HELPFUL REFERENCE WORKS (available in the Van Pelt reference area, ground floor):

LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE

Week One:  The Cold War as History

August 26:  Course Introduction - Why the Cold War is a Hot Topic

Readings:  Judge and Langdon, 1-7
          Aleksandr Filippov, Новейшая история России 1945-2006 гг. Книга для учителя [The Contemporary History of Russia, 1945-2006: A Textbook] (2007), excerpts on the Cold War, translated by Benjamin Nathans [this is the current Russian government’s officially sponsored high-school textbook on the post-WWII period of Soviet/Russian history] [C]

Week Two:  Blaming vs. Explaining

August 31:  The Problem of Origins
September 2:  The War Inside the War

Readings:  Judge and Langdon, 7-27
          The Nazi-Soviet Pact, August 23, 1939, in Ronald Suny, ed., The Soviet Experiment (2003), 298-303 [C]
          The Atlantic Charter [August 14, 1941], in McCauley, ed., Origins of the Cold War, 122-3 [C]
Week Three:  From Under the Rubble

September 7:   no class - Labor Day
September 9:  1945 - One Europe or Two?

Readings:  Judge and Langdon, 28-59
Judge and Langdon, Documents 3, 4, 5A-B
“Churchill on Meeting Stalin, October 1944” and “Churchill, Roosevelt, and
Stalin at Yalta, 6 February 1944,” in Westad and Hanhimäki, eds., The Cold
War: A History in Documents, 39-40, 42-44 [BB]

Week Four:  Cold War Keywords

September 14:  no class – Rosh Hashanah
September 16:  Totalitarianism and Imperialism

*** 3-page paper due in class on Sept. 16 ***

Readings:  Vladimir Lenin, Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism (1916) [C]
Joseph Stalin, Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR (1952) [C]
Georgii Malenkov, “Speech to the Supreme Soviet” (August 8, 1953) [C]
The above three documents excerpted in Robert V. Daniels, ed., A
Documentary History of Communism and the World (1994), 6-9, 125-6, 154-5
George F. Kennan, “The Sources of Soviet Conduct” (1947) in Judge and
Langdon, Doc. 9
NSC 68 (1950), in Judge and Langdon, Doc. 21
[Full text for the curious: http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/nsc-hst/nsc-68.htm]

Week Five:  Hearts and Minds

September 21:  Psychological Warfare
September 23:  no class – Yom Kippur

(1950), 11-66 [C]
George F. Kennan, Memoirs, 1950-1963 (1972), 90-104 [C]

Week Six:  Divided Countries

September 28:  Home Fronts
September 30:  Our Germans….and Theirs

Readings:  Judge and Langdon, 60-73
Mary Dudziak, Cold War Civil Rights (2002), 3-46 [C]
McCarthy on “Communists” in the U.S. Government, in Judge and Langdon,
Doc.19
Joseph Clark’s letter of resignation from the American Communist Party (1957), in Daniels, ed., *A Documentary History of Communism and the World*, 174-77 [C]


Film: “Red Nightmare,” a 29-minute movie produced in 1962 by the U.S. Department of Defense.  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHv-83x58B8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHv-83x58B8)

**Week Seven:  Culture and Consumption**

October 5:      Sputnik and Dishwashers
October 7:      *** In-class exam ***


Khrushchev and Nixon: The Kitchen Debate  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CvQOuNecy4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CvQOuNecy4)

**Week Eight:  Decolonization and Proxy Wars (I)**

October 12:  Korea Divided
October 14:  The Superpowers and China

Readings: Judge and Langdon, 74-99 and Document 45


Start reading Le Carré, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*
Week Nine:  Crises and Turning Points

October 19:  Berlin: “Showplace of the Cold War”
October 21:  The Cuban Missile Crisis

Readings:  Judge and Langdon, 100-156
The Berlin Crisis 1961, in Judge and Langdon, Doc. 40
Kennedy’s Berlin Speech, June 1963, in Judge and Langdon, Doc. 43
Loreta Medina, ed., The Cuban Missile Crisis, 11-38, 53-69, 81-87, 111-18
(chronology) [C]
For “Top Secret” audio recordings of Kennedy and his advisers deliberating on
the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962, photographs of missile sites, etc.,
browse at:  http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nsa/cuba_mis_cri/index.htm
Continue reading Le Carré, The Spy Who Came in from the Cold

Week Ten:  Keeping the Cold War Cool?

October 26:  Nuclear Weapons and Mutual Assured Destruction
October 28:  Espionage and Intelligence

*** 5-page paper due in class on Oct. 26 ***

Readings:  Suri, Power and Protest, 7-43
Dr. Strangelove [original title: Red Alert] (excerpt from the 1964 novel by Peter
George), in Westad and Hanhimäki, eds., The Cold War: A History in
Documents, 442-44 [C]
Documents on espionage and covert operations in Westad and Hanhimäki, eds.,
The Cold War: A History in Documents, 452-61, 464-70, 478-80 [C]
Judge and Langdon, Docs. 23, 38, 44, 50
Finish reading Le Carré, The Spy Who Came in from the Cold

Film:  Stanley Kubrick, Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love
the Bomb (1964)

Week Eleven:  Decolonization and Proxy Wars (II)

November 2:  Creating the “Third World”
November 4:  The Indochina Wars

Readings:  Judge and Langdon, 157-91 and Documents 46,47,48
Odd Arne Westad, The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the
Making of Our Times, 110-157 [C]
Week Twelve: Stagnation or Stability?

November 9: The Great Disruption
November 11: Convergence and Globalization

Readings: Judge and Langdon, 192-222
Suri, *Power and Protest*, 164-265
Anatoly Dobrynin, *In Confidence: Moscow’s Ambassador to America’s Six Cold War Presidents* (1995), 191-203, 265-79, 342-52 [C]
Henry Kissinger, *White House Years* (1979), 112-62, 522-34 [C]
The Helsinki Final Act, 1975, in Judge and Langdon, Doc. 62

Week Thirteen: Re-Starting, and Ending, the Cold War

November 16: The “Second Cold War,” 1975-85
November 18: Gorbachev, Reagan, and “The Turn”

Readings: Judge and Langdon, 223-51
Judge and Langdon, Docs. 79 and 80

Week Fourteen: “Not with a Bang, But with a Whimper”

November 23: 1989: Annus mirabilis
Nov. 24: Thursday recitations
Nov. 25: Friday recitations

**Week Fifteen: Lessons and Legacies**

November 30: The Soviet Implosion  
December 2: The Cold War and the Contemporary World

**Readings:**  
Judge and Langdon, 252-76  
Vladimir Putin, Speech in Moscow following Russia’s annexation of Crimea, March 18, 2014 [C]  

*** TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM HANDED OUT IN CLASS ON DEC. 2 - DUE BY NOON ON FRIDAY DEC. 11 ***