

W&M in Washington

Spring 2014

US Foreign Relations – Then and Now

Taught by Professor Hiroshi Kitamura

The purpose of this semester is to enrich our knowledge on US foreign relations from multiple viewpoints. We will investigate the people and processes that shaped and influenced American power from international and inter-disciplinary perspectives. The chronological focus will be 1945 to the present. We will examine U.S. diplomacy and policymaking in relation to their "foreign" counterparts. We will explore state agendas in relation to societal ones. We will touch upon politics, war, business, technology, culture, religion, social interactions, and popular protest.

Washington Program Internship

- *6 credits: INTR 499*

Students will work at a wide variety of institutions that deal with US foreign relations policy. Examples include **Senate Foreign Relations Committee, House Foreign Affairs Committee, Departments of State and Defense, United Nations Foundation, Asia Foundation, Nuclear Energy Institute, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Council on Foreign Relations**, and many more. The academic work associated will be international and transnational by nature. The courses will offer useful background and complementary information that should assist students' efforts to work in their specific internship sites. This course will be thematically diverse and interdisciplinary.

The Nuclear World

- *3 credits: HIST 319 (Possible cross-listing with INRL)*

This course will explore the emergence of nuclear technology and its widespread impact on global politics, business, and culture from the Second World War to the present day. We begin with the invention of the atomic bomb during World War II. Then, we will explore the diplomatic, military, social, and cultural ramifications of a dangerous nuclear arms race that pushed the world towards the brink of destruction. The course will investigate the perspectives of various groups and individuals, including scientists, policymakers, journalists, artists, activists and victims of atomic blasts. In addition to analyzing American attitudes and strategies, we will investigate how people in Japan, France, China, USSR, among other societies reacted to this dangerous creation. Our texts include diaries, letters, government documents, films, paintings, cartoons, and key secondary sources.

Asia and the Cold War

- *3 credits: HIST 490C (Possible cross-listing with INRL)*

This colloquium will explore the conflicts, alliances, and cultural formations that shaped a larger "Cold War experience" in East and Southeast Asia. More specifically, we will examine the relationships involving Japan, China, Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Indonesia, as well as the looming presence of the United States and Soviet Union around them. Topics to be covered include politics, diplomacy, social protest, diaspora, media, popular culture, and globalization.