The Year of Revolt: 1968 and the Cold War
Th 6.00-8.30 pm, Gilman 75
AS 100.497 – Winter 2018

Instructor: Dr. Victoria Harms
Email: vharms1@jhu.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays, 10 am - 12 pm, 342 Gilman Hall

The shorthand “1968” stands for an entire decade of tremendous change all around the world. ’68 is usually associated with rebels and revolutions, protests and demonstrations, love and peace, race riots, assassinations, military interventions, war and deep social and generational divisions. In this class we will discuss the iconic moments and events of this decade as well as the incremental changes that fundamentally changed the post-war order and the Cold War in East and West. Additionally, we will address the legacies and memories of 1968 to assess how with hindsight societies in Europe and the U.S. seek to create cohesion and see benefits in the changes or distance themselves from the turmoil of the sixties.

Students are expected to engage with recent academic and non-academic literature on the topic, newspaper clippings, documentary and feature films. This is a discussion-based class.

Learning objectives:
✓ Analyzing historical narratives
✓ Assessing secondary literature
✓ Analyzing and interpreting primary sources
✓ Understanding concepts such as race, gender, class, sexual orientation, etc.
✓ Comparative history

General Reading:
(recommended)

This syllabus serves as a contract between you and me that explains what I expect of you, and what you may expect of me. By enrolling in this class, you accept the terms laid out below. Please read them carefully. If at any time I need to make changes to the syllabus, I will provide as much advanced notice as possible.
Assignments:

**Participation**

Participation, not just attendance, is key. Make sure you come to class prepared and on time. You are expected to engage with the assigned material as well as with your fellow students during discussion sessions and group work. Common rules of courtesy apply.

**Reading Notes**

For each class, you are expected to upload a reading note to blackboard. The reading note is to state in your own words the topic, research question, and main argument of the assigned reading for that class. You find a blank form to complete this assignment on blackboard.

**Essay I** (5 pages max.)

You may choose a subject for discussion in your first essay (for instance, feminism and gender emancipation in the U.S., wild strikes in France, the anti-Semitic purges in Poland, the “Spiegel affair” in West Germany, etc.). You are expected to base your analysis on at least two primary sources. You have to introduce a research question, a thesis and a well-argued, well-structured argument highlighting the relevance of your case study.

Please inform the instructor of your choice of topic by November 2 and submit a preliminary list of secondary literature and primary sources you wish to consult for this assignment.

**Deadline: November 10, 2018, at 11.59 pm**

**Essay II** (10 pages max.)

In the second essay, you are asked to compare “68” in two countries of your choice. What did the two countries have in common, how did they differ? Who were the main actors driving events in the respective countries? What were the grievances of protestors, what were the changes effected in the short- and long-term? Make sure to state your research questions and thesis and explain your choice of countries (why are they relevant and in how far are they representative?)

Please inform the instructor of your choice of topic by November 30 and submit a preliminary list of secondary literature and primary sources you wish to consult for this assignment.

**Deadline: December 12, 2018, at 11.59 pm**
Grading:
✓ 25% Participation
✓ 25% Reading Notes
✓ 25% Essay I (self-chosen topic)
✓ 25% Essay II (comparison)

All Written Assignments:

- Margins 1” all around, 12 pt. font size, font: Times (New Roman), Arial, Calibri, Cambria or similar.
- Submit via blackboard.
- Add page numbers
- List of references (separate page)
- Add ONLY your university ID to enhance blind reviewing

Papers in this class will be graded blindly. This is a way for me to be as fair and transparent as possible in grading your work. Please mark all your exams with your ID number (not your JHED), rather than your name.


In addition to the formal requirements, the essays are graded based on the primary and secondary sources consulted, clarity of argument, style of writing, and organization (introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, and conclusion).

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SCHEDULE

Sept 6: Introduction
We will visit the Eisenhower library to take a look at the current exhibition “The Spirit of ‘68”. Be prepared to move between buildings.

Sept 13: 1968 – What about it?
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Sept 20: The U.S. & the UK

Sept 27: Independent Study (no class)
The Battle of Algiers (1966), directed by Gillo Pontecorvo, 120 mins.

Oct 4: France
**Oct 11: West Germany (PICK TWO)**


**Oct 18: Two Germanies**


**Oct 25: Czechoslovakia**


**Nov 1: Poland**


** Nov 2: Topic for Essay I is due

Nov 8: Yugoslavia, Hungary & Vietnam


** Deadline Essay I on November 10, 2018

Nov 15: The UK


Nov 22: Thanksgiving break

Nov 29: Memory and Aftereffect


** Nov 30: Choice of Two Countries for Essay II is due

Dec 6: Legacies (PICK TWO)


** Deadline Essay II on December 12, 2018.

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General policies

Absences
Absences are excused for illness, religious observance, participation in certain university activities, and other circumstances described in the university’s policies and must be explained to your TA at least 48 hours before class.

Academic Integrity
The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. See Ethics Board Web Site (http://ethics.jhu.edu) for more information.

Accommodations
Accommodations will be made for those who need them. Please come talk with me in the first two weeks of the semester to discuss your needs. Any student with a disability who may need accommodations in this class must obtain an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720, studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu.

Communication
I read and respond to email during regular business hours, 9-5, Monday thru Friday. Please use proper formatting and address when writing your email. The best way to reach me is to come to my office hours.

Mental Health
The University is aware that many students experience anxiety, depression, and other emotional challenges. If you would like to speak to a professional counselor, please visit the campus Counseling Center. Information is available on the Counseling Center's website: https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/counselingcenter/

Screen Policy
Laptops, electronic readers, and cell phones are both a boon and a distraction to higher education. Current research suggests that most of us learn better through longhand note taking. Computers are not forbidden in this class, you will in fact need them for some in-class assignments. It is your choice how to make the best use of them. Social media, texting, chatting, email, and other non-class related activities are prohibited during class time. Make sure all of your devices are silenced.