Freshman Seminar US-USSR Cold War 100.130 Tuesdays 1:30-4  Prof. Brooks.
brooksjp@jhu.edu  Office hours on Zoom.

- Updated 8/12/2020
- 8/31 - Classes will begin
- 9/7 – Labor Day, classes will not meet
- 10/22 & 23 – Fall break days, classes will not meet
- 11/23-27 – Thanksgiving break week, classes will not meet
- 12/9 – Last day of classes
- 12/10 & 11 – Reading period
- 12/14-12/22 – Final examination period
- Tuesday December 8 will run on Thursday class schedule

This class will be taught online. There will be no face-to-face interactions with the professor. There will be two or three live tutorial sessions involving small groups of students. One session will be held 9-30-10:30 a.m. or 10-10:30 a.m. Eastern Standard US to accommodate those outside our time zone. I will schedule this on a day suitable for those outside our time zone. The other tutorial sessions or session may be held during class time or after class. If students who are abroad are unable to acquire one of the assigned texts, I can try to find an available substitute. Office hours by appointment by email.

Wk 1: (9/1): Russia's WWII and path to Cold War.
Read before Class: Brooks, Thank You, 159-232; Zubok and Pleshakov, 1-53; watch e-reserves Fall of Berlin scene selections 1-7, 17, 30-32 (USSR 1949); We will discuss the images of Stalin, the hero and heroine, and of the invasion in three groups.

Wk2 (9/8): USA in the early Cold War.
Kennedy, 351-372, 427-433; Gaddis, 1-48, Westad, 1-159; watch: Casablanca (1942) (scenes 1-3); Sands of Iwo Jima (US, 1950) (chapters, 1-2). Also watch the big three Crimea conference at Yalta 1945: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hglbQ7xA9SI. Discussion groups will compare the beginnings of the two American films (Casablanca and Sands) with Fall of Berlin. Journal 1. 300 words. How do Westad, Gaddis, and Zubok/Pleshakov explain the origins of the Cold War?

Wk 3 (9/15): Khrushchev and Nixon: two Men, Two world wars, two Cold Wars
Taubman, to 207; Farrell, to 103.
Watch Eisenhower's favorite movie High Noon (1952) (scenes 1 and 2); Khrushchev's Ballad of a Soldier (1950) (scenes 1 and 2). Journal 2: Compare the two leaders. How does each leader accommodate the demands of their time according to their biographers?

Wk 4 (9/22): The Berlin Blockade and the Korean War
Farrell 104-259; Westad, 159-233, (recommended, 233-61); e-reserves, Naimark. Journal 3: What might Farrell have learned from Westad about the Korean War and what might Westad have learned from Naimark about the Berlin Blockade? Watch: The Bridges at Toko-ri (1954) scenes 1-6, 13-16; Journal 3 and discussion: Is this an
anti-war movie? Watch classic trailer for *North by North West* (1959) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fx0QuZJVTFE)

**Week 5 (9/29)** USA: Cold-War culture, nuclear fear, and Vietnam War:
Farrell, 260-371; Westad, 233-365; Containment, and Cuban missile crisis, Movie clips *Seven Year Itch* (1955), scenes 5-8; and official trailer for *The Seventh Seal* (1959) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtkFei4wRjE; scenes 1-3
Consider nuclear fear: watch official trailer for *On the Beach* (1959) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Awm50kQeeI.

**Take home Quiz 1** covers weeks 2 through 5. Discussion: Brooks, “Stalin’s Ghost,”

**Week 6 (10/6): USSR: Cold War Culture and 1950s to early 60s:**
Movie: *Ballad of a Soldier*, scenes, 1-3; **First paper due:** What do Farrell, Taubman, and Westad consider most important in the formation of the Cold War as an international system? (Compare and contrast). Taubman, 208-480; fear of invasion and treason,

**Week 7: (10/13)** the Geopolitics of the Khrushchev and early Brezhnev:

**Week 8 (10/20):** the Thaw, Dissidence, and rebellion US Style; Taubman, 580-619; Farrell, 371-534; Westad, 395-423; watch original utube trailer for *The Wild One* (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieK8cxbTSRA) **Journal 4**

**Week 9 (10/27)** The Popular culture of film in the American Cold War
Watch: *The Spy Who came in from the Cold* (1965), scenes 1-2; Westad, 423-500; e-reserves David Caute; Lary May; Elaine May, 1-18, 174-197;

**Week 10 (11/3)** Critical and uncritical American Cold War Culture

**Week 11 (11/10):** The Soviet Decline and the counter culture:

**Week 12 (11/17)** The Collapse of the Soviet Union: Gorbachev, Reagan, and Bush
Westad, 579-631; Taubman, 620-651; Farrell, 534-558; Archie Brown, 218-313; Watch: Mikhail Gorbachev meets with Margaret Thatcher 8 December 1987 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cf5QOhHMkBE; Reagan and Gorbachev’s Relationship Warmed Cold War Tensions
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei2YPdry0-8
*Repentence* (1987) Russian trailer English subtitled
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oPR9JLL72-4 and English trailer
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3zeZtvfAIA **Journal 5**

THANKSGIVING BREAK: 11/23-27
Week 13 (12/1) From Reagan to Trump and Brezhnev to Putin: a new Cold War?

**Take home QUIZ 2.** E-Reserves, Alexievich; Gessen, Archie Brown, 313-403. Film Clips: *Independence Day*. Watch original trailer 1996. **Take home quiz 2:** Watch utube: Bush and Gorbachev Summit - 1990 | Today in History | 31 May 16

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy1OxNo81wQ

Mikhail Gorbachev: on Afghanistan; November 2011. Utube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2-lOzo3UQo

*Leviathan* official trailer, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpawdA34HNk

**US-USSR Cold War 100.215 BOOKS** available in bookstore ALL REQUIRED


**E-RESERVES**


Alexievich, Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets *Random House, 2017*, pp 3-77


---------Thank You, Comrade Stalin, 195-247, 295-305;

Brooks and Zhuk, Chapter 7, Oxford Handbook of Twentieth Century Russia, Oxford University Press, (2013)


**Movies:** TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR STREAMING ON E-RESERVES IF POSSIBLE:

**American, British:** Blazing Saddles (1974); The Bridges at Toko-ri (1954); Casablanca (1942); Sands of Iwo Jima (US, 1950); The Seventh Seal (1958, Swedish); The Spy Who came in from the Cold (1965); High Noon (1952); Independence Day (1996); North by Northwest (1959); On the beach (1959); Seven Year Itch (1955).

**Russian:** Andrei Rublev (1973); Ballad of a Soldier (1960); Fall of Berlin (Mosfilm 1949); Irony of Fate (1975); Ivan's Childhood (1963); Ivan Vasilievich: Back to the Future (1973); Leviathan (2014); Repentance (1987); Stalker (1979); Window to Paris (1993).


**ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES**

There will be no final and no midterm. There will be 2 quizzes for 25%; 25% will be based on journal entries comprised of 300 words of analysis of the assigned readings for the week. All journals are due at noon before class on Thursdays. There will be in addition 2 short papers of 1250 words each. No quoting permitted in either journals or papers. The papers count for 50% of grade, journals and quizzes for 25% each. Approved forms of notation must be used in journal entries and papers. Entries must have page numbers and should be in double spaced times roman 12 point type. Pages should be numbered. Late papers or journals not in the proper format will not be accepted. All citations should follow one of the approved forms given in online through our library:

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/16/ch14/ch14_toc.html