

HIST 4091
PROBLEMS IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY
THE THIRD WORLD
University of Georgia
Fall 2004

Instructor: Dr. Larry Grubbs
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Room: 230 LeConte Hall
Time: 2:00-3:15 P.M.
Office Hours: 12:00-12:20; 3:20-4:00 T/R

Course Description

This course explores the efforts of the United States since World War II to secure its perceived global interests, often through "nation building" and economic development, in the so-called Third World (Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and much of Asia). The impact of the Cold War and American visions of progress are central to this history. The emphasis is on the ideological, economic and cultural dimensions of American intervention in these relatively poor regions, which have been known to the West as "underdeveloped." This is a reading and writing intensive course, and requires students to participate in class discussions. Though it demands considerable effort, the course has the potential to profoundly enrich your understanding of the historical roots of present American foreign policy and the era of globalization. A central theme is the tenacity of Americans' belief in the capacity of the United States to remake other areas of the world in its own image, a faith that has generated controversy and deeply influenced peoples around the world.

Required Books

The following are required books available for purchase at the University Bookstore:

Graham Greene, *The Quiet American* (1955)
William J. Lederer and Eugene Burdick, *The Ugly American* (1958)
Michael Latham, *Modernization as Ideology: American Social Science and "Nation Building" in the Kennedy Era* (2000)
David Engerman, Nils Gilman, et.al. *Staging Growth: Modernization, Development, and the Global Cold War* (2003)
Mahmood Mamdani, *Good Muslim, Bad Muslim: America, the Cold War, and the Roots of Terror* (2004)

Other assigned readings will be available at the Main Library's Course Reserves (see course schedule for further information).

Grading

1. Research Paper (due Dec. 13)	35% of semester grade
2. Take-home Midterm Exam (due Oct. 12)	25% " "
3. Written assignments (throughout semester)	25% " "
4. Course participation (throughout semester)	15% " "

1. Research Papers

Each student will write an original research paper of between 12 and 15 pages on American relations with one particular country in the "Third World" after 1945. The paper, which will discuss and analyze U.S. attempts to promote development, encourage "nation building," as well as pertinent cultural issues, will require use of primary and secondary sources. Detailed instructions and suggestions will be issued early in the semester. There will be class sessions devoted to helping students select an interesting and meaningful topic, learn to use the library to find books, articles, and documents, and write effectively. The paper topics and the process of developing them are integral to the course as a whole, and good papers will directly build on ideas, issues and themes from our collective readings and discussions.

2. Take-home Midterm Exam

The exam, due October 12, will be graded and returned before the deadline for withdrawals. It will require careful consideration of all of the readings and lectures up to that point in the course. It must be typed, although it will be graded for content only (and not for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage). Detailed instructions will be provided the week before the due date.

3. Written assignments

There will be a number of short formal and informal written assignments throughout the semester (both before and after the midterm exam). These include informal (not graded for grammar, spelling, etc.) worksheets that will be posted on the course WebCT site; formal one-page summaries of some of the assigned readings; and assignments related to the development of research topics. The worksheets and formal summaries will assist in reading comprehension and should facilitate enhanced in-class discussion. After a library workshop at the Main Library, there will be a bibliography assignment due on September 16. A formal proposal for the research topic is due September 23. An outline and bibliography will be due on October 26. First drafts are due November 23. All assignments will be issued in class (usually posted on WebCT as well) in specific terms.

4. Course participation

Attendance is required and will be taken for all class sessions, and an excessive number of absences, late arrivals, and early departures will have a detrimental effect on your grade. To facilitate discussion, students will occasionally discuss assigned readings in groups, and all students are required to be prepared to contribute to all class discussions. We will need at least two volunteers to turn their first draft in early, on November 16, to provide the basis for a peer-review workshop on writing. In the final days of the semester, groups will collaborate on discussion of the last collective readings of the course. They will also present their major research conclusions in oral presentations that will enable us to take stock collectively after a semester of wrestling with such issues.

NOTE: Students are encouraged to see me during office hours (12:00-12:20 and 3:20-4:00 T/R) to discuss the readings, research topics and strategies, and anything else.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

The University's policy on these matters is available on the web at:

www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm

Plagiarism is a severe transgression that cannot be tolerated under any circumstances. We will discuss the problem of plagiarism and how it can be avoided in class, and students are encouraged to contact me if you remain uncertain about "gray areas" while writing.

Course Schedule

Note: All assignments and dates are subject to change. Readings other than those books at the bookstore are available on Course Reserve at Main Library. In some cases, specific articles or chapters are available on electronic reserve via GIL, the University library catalog.

Introduction: The Third World and the early Cold War

Thursday, August 19

Course Introduction

Tuesday, August 24

Harry Truman, Inaugural Address, January 20, 1949, available on WebCT; lecture: Cold War and decolonization

Thursday, August 26

Michael Adas, "Modernization Theory and the American Revival of the Scientific and Technological Standards of Social Achievement and Human Worth," in *Staging Growth*, pp. 25-45

Culture and the Cold War in the Third World

Tuesday, August 31

Laura Belmonte, "Selling Capitalism: Modernization and U.S. Overseas Propaganda, 1945-1959," in *Staging Growth*, pp. 107-121; Andrew Rotter, "Feeding Beggars: Class, Caste, and Status in Indo-U.S. Relations, 1947-1964," in Christian G. Appy, ed., *Cold War Constructions: The Political Culture of United States Imperialism, 1945-1966* (2000), pp. 67-85

Thursday, September 2

Andrew Rotter, "Race - Americans and Indians, at Home and in Africa," and "Gender: The Upright and the Passive," in Rotter, *Comrades at Odds: The United States and India, 1947-1964* (2000), pp. 150-219

Tuesday, September 7

Penny M. Von Eschen, "Who's the Real Ambassador? Exploding Racial Cold War Ideology," in Christian G. Appy, ed., *Cold War Constructions*, pp. 110-131; Christina Klein, "Musicals and Modernization: Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*," in *Staging Growth*, pp. 129-159

Thursday, September 9

Library Workshop at Main Library

Development and "Nation Building"

Tuesday, September 14

Nils Gilman, "Modernization Theory, The Highest Stage of American Intellectual History," pp. 47-75 in *Staging Growth*; Gilman, "Modernization Theory as a Foreign Policy Doctrine: The MIT Center for International Studies," in *Mandarins of the Future: Modernization Theory in Cold War America* (2003), pp. 155-202

Thursday, September 16

BIBLIOGRAPHY ASSIGNMENT DUE

Mark H. Haefele, "Walt Rostow's Stages of Economic Growth: Ideas and Action," 81-97 and David C. Engerman, "West Meets East: The Center for International Studies and Indian Economic Development," pp. 199-217, in *Staging Growth*

Nation Building and the Road to Vietnam

Tuesday, September 21

Graham Greene, *The Quiet American* (all)

Thursday, September 23

Greene, continued; **RESEARCH PROPOSALS DUE**

Tuesday, September 28

Lederer and Burdick, *The Ugly American* (all)

Thursday, September 30

No class

Tuesday, October 5

Ugly American, continued; Jonathan Nashel, "The Road to Vietnam: Modernization Theory in Fact and Fiction," in *Cold War Constructions*, pp. 132-154, available on electronic reserve via GIL; Mark Bradley, "Slouching Toward Bethlehem: Culture, Diplomacy, and the Origins of the Cold War in Vietnam," in *Cold War Constructions*, pp. 11-34

Thursday, October 7

Michael Latham, "Modernization at War: Counterinsurgency and the Strategic Hamlet Program in Vietnam," in *Modernization as Ideology*

Tuesday, October 12

MIDTERM EXAM DUE; Discussion of research papers

The 1960s as the "Decade of Development"

Thursday, October 14

John F. Kennedy, "Special Message to the Congress on Foreign Aid," March 22, 1961, in *Public Papers of the President: John F. Kennedy, 1961*, pp. 203-212, available on electronic reserve at GIL; Michael Latham, "Modernity, Anticommunism, and the Alliance for Progress," in *Modernization as Ideology*

Tuesday, October 19

Michael Latham, "Modernization for Peace: The Peace Corps, Community Development, and America's Mission," in *Modernization as Ideology*; Douglas Little, "Modernizing the Middle East: From Reform to Revolution in Iraq, Libya, and Iran," in *American Orientalism: The United States and the Middle East since 1945* (2002), pp. 193-228
America, Muslims, and the Middle East during the Cold War and after

Thursday, October 21

Nick Cullather, "Damming Afghanistan: Modernization in a Buffer State," *Journal of American History* vol. 89 (September 2002), pp. 512-537, available on electronic reserve on GIL; Douglas Little, "Gideon's Band in the Holy Land: We're Not in Kansas Anymore," pp. 1-8 in *American Orientalism*

Tuesday, October 26

RESEARCH OUTLINE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Film - *Orientalism* featuring Edward Said

Thursday, October 28

Fall Break - No class

Tuesday, November 2

Douglas Little, "Orientalism, American Style: The Middle East in the Mind of America," in *American Orientalism*, pp. 9-42; Mahmood Mamdani, *Good Muslim, Bad Muslim*, through p. 118

Thursday, November 4

Mamdani, pp. 119-260

New Development(s): The Green Revolution, the World Bank, and Beyond

Tuesday, November 9

Nick Cullather, "Miracles of Modernization: The Green Revolution and the Apotheosis of Technology," *Diplomatic History* 28:2 (April 2004), pp. 227-254, available on electronic reserve via GIL; Arturo Escobar, "The Dispersion of Power: Tales of Food and Hunger," in *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World* (1995), pp. 102-153

Thursday, November 11

Discussion of plagiarism and historical writing

Tuesday, November 16

Nils Gilman, "The Collapse of Modernization Theory," and "The Postmodern Turn and the Aftermath of Modernization Theory," in *Mandarins of the Future*, pp. 203-76

Thursday, November 18

Katherine A.S. Sibley, "Foreign Aid," in Alexander DeConde, ed., *Encyclopedia of American Foreign Policy* (2002); Peer review workshop on first drafts

Tuesday, November 23

FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE; Lecture: the World Bank, IMF, and debt crisis in the Third World

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving - no class

Tuesday, November 30

Discussion of websites on IMF, World Bank, United Nations Development Programme and United States Agency for International Development

Thursday, December 2

Oral presentations of research

Tuesday, December 7

Oral presentations of research

Thursday, December 9

Oral presentations of research

Monday, December 13 - FINAL PAPER DUE