



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Code: UPHPGD-30-1 **Title:** International History 1890-2000: The Century of the Superpowers

Version: 8

Level: 1

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Module type: Standard

Owning Faculty: Social Sciences and Humanities

Field: History

Faculty Committee approval: QSC **Date:** 27th January 2010

Approved for Delivery by:

(indicate name of affiliated institution if module will only be delivered by them)

Valid from: September 2010

Discontinued from:

Contributes towards: History BA (Hons) and validated combinations

Pre-requisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Entry requirements:

(if the module is offered as CPD or stand alone, indicate the entry requirements)

Excluded combinations: None

Learning outcomes:

Upon completing the module the successful student should:

1. have a detailed knowledge of several of the key themes and events in International History in the period 1890-2000 (assessed through all components and elements of assessment);
2. engage critically with different perspectives on these major themes and events International History in the period 1890-2000 (assessed through all components and elements of assessment);
3. to understand the advantages of learning in groups and the benefits of group support (assessed through Component B - Element 4);
4. be able to synthesise secondary and primary sources and address key problems in interpretation (assessed through all components and elements of assessment);
5. be able to use appropriate evidence to support conclusions and to communicate thinking on the issues raised during the module in a variety of ways:
 - (1) orally during assessed seminars - (assessed through Component B - Element 3);
 - (2) in writing under controlled conditions (assessed through Component A - Element 1);
 - (3) in writing under uncontrolled conditions (assessed through Component B – Elements 1 and 2).

Syllabus outline:

The module is divided into eight connected blocks:

1. The United States and Russia during the late 19th century (social, political, economic development).
2. The respective relations of the United States and Russia with Europe, most notably Britain, Germany and France before the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.
3. The United States' entry into the First World War in 1917 and her deliberate retreat into isolation in 1919; the Russian Revolution and the subsequent forced isolation of the Soviet Union, 1917-1921.
4. Inter-war social and economic developments in the United States and the Soviet Union.
5. American and Soviet reactions to the rise of fascism in Europe in the 1930s.
6. The respective roles of the United States and the Soviet Union during World War II (partners in the Grand Alliance against Hitler).
7. The development of the Cold War, up to the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962, and its impact on Soviet-American relations.

8. The involvement of the United States in Vietnam compared and contrasted with the involvement of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan; the collapse of the Soviet Union; post-Cold War International Relations

Teaching and learning methods:

The module will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars and tutorials. Students will be encouraged to contribute and, on occasions, lead the seminars through presentations. Students in their seminar groups and in the tutorial situation will be encouraged to recognise and describe their responsibilities as learners, to identify the resources and essential networks that they can call on both within and outside of the university, and to recognise the value of PDP and gain knowledge of the PDP processes.

Reading Strategy:

Key books will be placed in the short-loan collection and students will be given guidance on what books to buy (if they should choose to do so). Students will be supplied with detailed reading lists for each topic studied via Blackboard. Students will be encouraged to use electronic resources (in particular JSTOR) to access journal articles. Students will be expected to read widely and make full use of the library and associated electronic resources. Reading lists will be updated annually.

Indicative Reading List:

Boyle, P (1993), *American-Soviet Relations: From the Russian Revolution to the Fall of Communism* London: Routledge

Gorodetsky, G (ed) (1994), *Soviet Foreign Policy in Perspective, 1917-1991: A Retrospective* London: Frank Cass

Kennedy-Pipe, C (1999), *Russia and the World, 1917-1991* London: Arnold

Kimball, W (1995), *America Unbound: World War II and the Making of a Superpower* New York: St Martin's Press

Iriye, A (1993), *Cambridge History of American Foreign Relations Volume III: The Globalizing of America, 1913-1945* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Link, A S and Leary, W M (1970), *The Diplomacy of World Power: The United States, 1889-1920* London: Arnold

Martel, G (ed) (1994), *American Foreign Relations Reconsidered, 1890-1993* London: Routledge

Merrill, D and Paterson, T G (eds) (2000), *Major Problems in American Foreign Relations: Volume II: Since 1914* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 5th edition

Roberts, G (1999), *The Soviet Union in World Politics: Coexistence, Revolution and Cold War* London: Routledge

Young, J W and Kent, J (2004), *International Relations since 1945: A Global History* Oxford: Oxford University Press

Relevant journals:

Contemporary British History, Contemporary European History, Diplomacy and Statecraft, Diplomatic History, eJournal of International History, English Historical Review, European History Quarterly, Historical Journal, History, International History Review, Journal of Contemporary History, Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History, Journal of Modern History, Journal of Strategic Studies, Review of International Studies, War and Society, War in History.

Assessment

Please state which element of assessment should be recorded as the final assessment for the purposes of submitting data on non-submissions to HEFCE. (For further information please contact Academic Registry.)

Weighting between components A and B (standard modules only) A: 50% B: 50%

ATTEMPT 1

First Assessment Opportunity

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Component A – FINAL ASSESSMENT

Description of each element

Element weighting

1. Exam (3 hours)

50%

Component B

Description of each element

Element weighting

1. Essay (2000 words)
2. Essay (2000 words)
3. Individual Seminar Presentation (15 minutes)

20%

20%

10%

Second Assessment Opportunity (Resit) (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

Component A

Description of each element

Element weighting

1. Exam (3 hours)

FINAL

50%

Component B

Description of each element

Element weighting

1. Essay (2250 words)
2. Essay (2250 words)

25%

25%

EXCEPTIONAL SECOND ATTEMPT (Retake): Attendance at taught classes is required.

Specification confirmed byDate
(Associate Dean/Programme Director)