

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: HIST - 382 Contemporary World Issues

Department: International Relations

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



| Course Summary | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Course Code | Course Title | Recommended Credit Hours |
| HIST - 382 | Contemporary World Issues | 3 |
| Semester Offered | Contact Hours | Prerequisites |
| Spring | 42 | Nothing |
| Department | Level of Course | Language of Instruction |
| International Relations | Upper Division | English |

Course Description

Beginning of the Cold War, Stalemate in Europe, Conflict in Asia, Revolution in the Third World, United Nations, Terrorism, Nuclear Weapons, End of the Cold War

Instructor

Christos Iacovou, Ph.D.

Course Aims and Objectives

The course aims at providing a background on the most controversial issues related to the contemporary history, that directly affected the evolution of international politics after the WWII. It will start by examining the concept of the balance of power and how its breakdown led to World War II. The focus will then turn to the Cold War that was the bitter legacy of WWII. The Students will look at the major conflicts of the period, and at how US – Soviet relations influenced their course. The emergence of institutions and alliances will be examined and the course will also address the challenges of the new world system that is emerging in the post-Cold War era.

Teaching Methods

Lectures, discussions, assigned readings, projects, & video films.

Course Teaching Hours

42 hours. The course is delivered during the fall semester in 14-weeks (4 hours/week).

Evaluation and Grading

1 test: 20%
Final Exam: 50%
Final project: 30%

Readings and Resources

Required Textbooks

J. Smith, *The Cold War – 1945 – 1991*, (1998), M. Chamberlain, *Decolonization. The fall of the European Powers*, (1996), A. Guelke, *The Age of Terrorism and the International Political System*, (1998)