

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>HIS108</u>	<u>Vietnam</u>			<u>3</u>
Course Number	Course Title			Credits
<u>0/week</u>	<u>0/week</u>	<u>0/week</u>	<u>0/week</u>	<u>15 weeks</u>
Class or Lecture	Laboratory Work Hours	Laboratory, Shop, Studio or Clinic	Work Experience	Semester Length
<u>Not Applicable</u>			<u>Yes</u>	
Performance on an Examination/Demonstration			Telecourse	

Required Materials:

Reference Humanities Division booklist.

Catalog Description:

The Vietnam War from its French colonial roots to the evacuation of U. S. troops in 1975. The course deals not only with the war and its political context but also with basic themes in Vietnamese, French, and American history and culture that helped shape military and political outcomes.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

Latest Review: Fall 2004

Course Coordinator:

I. General Objectives:

The student will develop an appreciation of image and sound as historical artifacts to supplement written documents and primary-secondary readings as historical sources.

The student will develop knowledge and understanding of the causes, issues, and consequences of the Vietnam War and its place in U.S. and world history as well as its impact beyond 1975.

II. Specific Objectives:

The student will understand and appreciate:

1. The historical underpinnings behind French/U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia: colonialism, third-world nationalism and Cold War rivalries among the greatest powers.
2. Key facets to Vietnamese history and culture essential to understanding Vietnamese actions in war and diplomacy.
3. Political decisions spanning six Presidential Administrations that led to escalating U.S. involvement.
4. The failures of diplomacy intended to avoid military conflict.
5. U. S. military strategies employed to prosecute the war and why they failed.
6. Major international political, economic and strategic developments in Europe (and elsewhere) that impacted the final outcome.
7. The role of the Peace Movement and public opinion in the final withdrawal of U.S. troops.
8. A wide variety of contemporary experiences, images, assumptions, beliefs and retrospective views about this war.
9. The long term effects of the Vietnam War on Southeast Asia, the U.S. and the world.
10. The implications of the "lessons of Vietnam" for present international conflicts.

III. Sequence of Topics:

<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1	Roots of War
2	The First Vietnam War, 1946 - 54
3	The Diem Era, 1954 - 63
4	L. B. J. Goes to War, 1964-65
5	Americanization of the War, 1965 - 67
6	The Enemy, 1954 - 67
7	Tet, 1968
8	Vietnamization of the War, 1969 - 73
9	Cambodia and Laos
10	Peace at Hand, 1968 - 73
11	The American Homefront
12	The End of the War, 1973 - 75
13 - 14	Heritage
15	Time allowed for Summation, Testing, etc.

IV. Evaluation:

1. The student will complete three examinations, featuring essay style questions. The last exam will be summative in nature.
2. Exams will be based on text readings and the viewing of videotapes over television and also in the college library.
3. The student will write a book review of about 5 - 6 pages. The student should read at least three books on the same topic and write a review that uses at least two books as bibliographic background.