Instructor: Dr. Orsag  
Phone/Email: 402/681-3081/mark.orsag@doane.edu

Course Description: This course provides an overview of the history of Vietnam, of the Vietnam War, and of 1960s America. Students will be introduced to the various movements for cultural, political and social change in the United States during the 1950s and 1960s, will examine the history of Vietnam, and will approach the years of U.S. engagement and conflict in Southeast Asia from multiple and interdisciplinary perspectives.

Course Objectives: Students will gain an understanding of the history of the Vietnam War in both its Vietnamese and American contexts, focusing on changes both at home and abroad. Examination of topics such as imperialism, anti-war protests, and political developments in Vietnam and the United States before and during the war will allow students to demonstrate an understanding of a complex period in U.S. and world history, and how the Vietnam War and the events of the 1960s continue to influence contemporary events.

Required Texts: There are two required texts for this course. It is your responsibility to complete all assigned readings. The books below are available for purchase at the Doane College Bookstore.


COURSE ASSIGNMENTS, POLICIES, AND GRADING

Course Format and Assignments: The format of this class will be a combination of lectures, film and discussions

- Grading Breakdown:
  - Participation: 25%
  - Exam One: 35%
  - Final Exam: 40%
  - Total: 100%

The course schedule is subject to change. I will make sure to provide you with as much notice as possible should any changes occur, but it is your responsibility to keep up to date with the course schedule as well.

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: Introduction

Week 2: Imperialism and nationalism
Assignment: Vietnam Chapter 2 and 3

Week 3: Vietnam’s war for independence
Assignment: America’s Longest War: Chapter 1

WEEK 4: The Post-War United States
Assignment: America Divided: Chapter 1-3 inclusive.

WEEK 5: The United States: The early 1960s
Assignment: America Divided: Chapters 4-6 inclusive
September 16: Vietnam: 1954-1964
Assignment: America’s Longest War: Chapters 2 and 3; America Divided: Chapter 7
Exam Review

WEEK 6: Vietnam: 1965-1967
Assignment: America’s Longest War: Chapter 5

The United States: 1965-1967
Assignment: America’s Longest War: Chapters 8-11 inclusive
EXAM ONE

1968-1970
Assignment: America’s Longest War, CHs 6-7.
WEEK 7
The Military wind-down in Vietnam 1971-1974 America's Longest War, Ch 8
FINAL EXAM REVIEW!

WEEK 8
The War at Home
Assignment: America Divided: Chs 12-finish
FINAL EXAM

GRADING STANDARDS

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<th>Grading</th>
<th>A: 95-100</th>
<th>B+: 87-89</th>
<th>C+: 77-79</th>
<th>D+: 67-69</th>
<th>F: 59 or below for quizzes</th>
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<td>B: 84-86</td>
<td>C: 74-76</td>
<td>D: 64-66</td>
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a 50.