



GLOBAL HISTORY A.Y. 2025-26

Dr. Raimondo Neironi

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FINAL DEBATE

(18 December 2025)

What

The debate will consist of **two rounds**, lasting one hour each.

When

Each student has a maximum of **three minutes** to speak: 1.5 minutes per student for the first and second rounds.

The final debate starts at **09:00 a.m.** The lecturer should be contacted by email if anyone cannot arrive at the classroom by the appointed time.

How

Each student must choose **only one question** listed below from each round. The order of appearance will be decided by the lecturer on the day of the final debate. It will be different for the first and second rounds.

Each student will be asked: 'Which question have you chosen to answer?'

To ensure all students stay within their allocated time limits, the lecturer will use a **stopwatch** during their performances.

Questions

1st Round (9:00-10:00 a.m.)

- Is Cold War bipolarism the best tool to explain global history after 1945?
- What role did the United Nations play in promoting international peace and stability during the Cold War?
- Did the Global South provide an alternative to Western capitalism?
- Which achievements of the United States (US) and the Soviet Union (USSR) stand out during the period of détente?
- What were the key weaknesses that led to the collapse of the USSR at the end of the 1980s?
- What is the legacy of the Cold War on today's international relations?



2nd Round (10:05-11:00 a.m.)

- Which causes led to the emergence of the People's Republic of China as an international player since 1949?
- Did Maoism represent a real alternative to Soviet Communism?
- By and large, what were the consequences of decolonization in Asia and Africa?
- Why did China choose to embrace capitalism after 1978, and why is it referred to as a 'socialist market economy' model?
- How did the relationship between the US and Japan evolve in the 1980s?

Please note that

- *Global History* is a **history course** and that you shall answer questions accordingly (that is: do not refer to our present times unless asked so by the question).
- Each student is required to participate in this task by presenting a **critical** argument on the discussion topics, drawing on what he or she has learned throughout the course and in the previously assessed individual and group presentations.