

Global History

Course Introduction
A.Y. 2026-2027

Raimondo Neironi, University of Rome, Tor Vergata

Rome, 10 September 2026



General Assessment for Attending Students

Lectures

9 from September to October
+ Guest Lecture (Dr. A. Leonardi) October 5

Group Presentations

October 7 - 13 (TBD)

Individual Presentations

September 23 - October 1 (TBD)

Final Debate

October 15-16



Data	Week	Day	Time	Hours	Typology
10-Sep	1	Thursday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	4	Lecture
			14-16 p.m.		Lecture
14-Sep	2	Monday	14-16 p.m.	2	Lecture
16-Sep		Wednesday	9-11 a.m.	2	Lecture
21-Sep	3	Monday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Lecture
22-Sep		Tuesday	14-16 p.m.	2	Lecture
23-Sep		Wednesday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Lecture
28-Sep	4	Monday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	4	Individual
			14 p.m.-16 p.m.		Individual
29-Sep		Tuesday	14-16 p.m.	2	Individual
30-Sep		Wednesday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Individual
01-Oct		Thursday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Individual
05-Oct	5	Monday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Dr Leonardi
06-Oct		Tuesday	14-16 p.m.	2	Lecture
07-Oct		Wednesday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Group
08-Oct		Thursday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Group
12-Oct	6	Monday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Group
13-Oct		Tuesday	14-16 p.m.	2	Group
14-Oct		Wednesday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Lecture
15-Oct		Thursday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Final Debate
16-Oct		Friday	11 a.m.-13 p.m.	2	Final Debate

Value of the Assessment

Individual
Presentations

40%

Group
Presentations

35%

Final
Debate

25%

* *Plus:* Each student will be asked to participate **actively** during the lectures



Assessment for Non-attending Students

- Oral Examination (100%)
- Aim: Discussing important aspects of a specific topic containing in the readings
- Readings: one **academic article** and a **monograph**
 1. Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, London and New York: Verso Book, 2016
 2. The Academic paper will be chosen from the same list that I will provide to the class representative for the individual presentations.

Both the academic paper and the monograph **must be read** in their entirety

I mean: No change to either the programme or the topics covered in the paper/book may be agreed upon in advance



Course Schedule

- Week 1 Course introduction and the meaning of the Cold War in the post-1945 political and economic order. Focus on the United Nations
- Week 2 Decolonisation, "Third World", the US, and the USSR
- Week 3 Asia, Africa at the time of *détente*
- Week 4 China's economic reform and opening-up, Japan's emerging economic power and the effects on bipolarism
- Week 5 The end of the Cold War and the reconstruction of the post-Soviet space
- Week 6 The ascendancy of China as an economic and normative power (until 2006)



Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will

- delve into the main historical, political, economic, and social aspects of the Cold War era
- grasp the role of the Third World under bipolar order
- understand in depth East, South-East Asia and Africa, two major geographical areas of the world
- acquire familiarity with the key historiographical debates surrounding the Cold War
- analyse academic writings about history and construct arguments about the Cold War and the rise of China



Individual Presentations

Your presentation must address a list of required questions

Fifty academic papers to be chosen from a list available on a *Google Drive* folder managed by the lecturer

The lecturer will send the class representative the list of readings, as well as instructions and tips, via email by September 13

One student only presents one reading.

Should more than one student go for the same reading, you will need to sort it out together, by changing your choices

Each presentation will last **15 minutes**, plus 5 minutes of Q&A (**BUT** The duration of the Q&A will depend on how many students decide to take the exam as attending students)



Group Presentations

Your presentation must address a list of required questions

One topic, more groups. This year the topic is the **role of science, technology, and propaganda in the Cold War**

On Monday, October 5, the guest lecturer (Prof. Alessandro Leonardi) will make a presentation on the **Chinese developmental state during the Cold War**

One group presents one specific topic. No similar topic between different groups will be allowed

Each presentation will last 15 minutes, plus 5 minutes of Q&A

The lecturer will send the class representative **instructions** and **tips** for a good group presentation via email by **September 24**



Assessment Criteria for Oral Presentations

Knowledge and Understanding

Did your presentation demonstrate a thorough understanding of the relevant subject matter?

Argument and Reasoning

Was your response to the questions well argued and clearly reasoned?

Did you demonstrate the ability to think critically and analytically?

Presentational skills

Was the presentation well designed and clearly structured?

Was the presentation appropriately tailored to the audience and situation?

TIMING!



Final Debate

Is a contest discussion where you learn how to think critically

The list includes five questions to answer in class, plus three additional questions

Each student will have **5 minutes max** to answer the questions. Moreover, **additional 3 minutes max** will be granted to reply to a particular topic emerged during the debate

Reading notes will be allowed during the debate. However, I encourage each student to take a look at the notebooks **only if necessary**. I will take into account this aspect too on the occasion of the assessment

The Global History is a history course, accordingly you must answer questions from an historical perspective. Do not refer to our present times **unless asked so by the question**

The list of questions for preparing the final debate will be sent out by **October 12**



The Cold War

The main keywords of this course

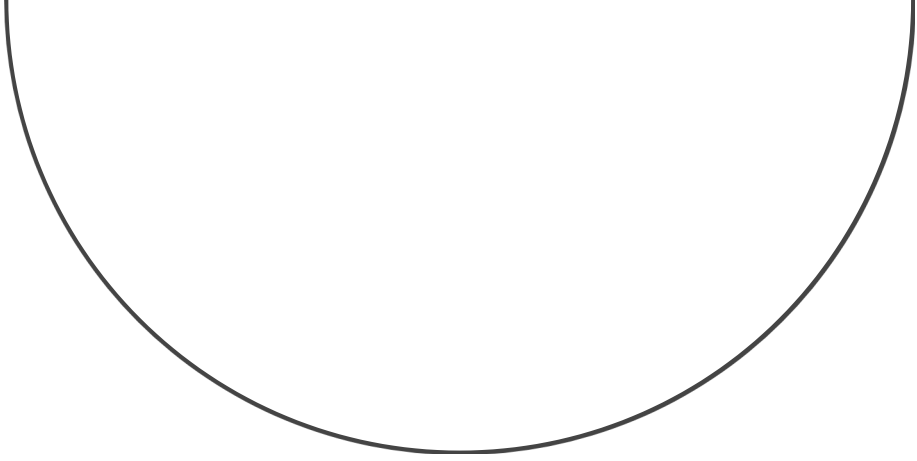
Bipolarism

Communist
alliance within

The role of
Asia and Africa*

** Europe won't be the
subject of this course*





**To book an appointment or ask specific questions about
any aspect of the course, please reach me out at**

raimondo.neironi@gmail.com

