

HIS2371/4371 examiner's guidelines spring 2019

This is a hjemmeeksam based on the contents of the lecture but with free access to any resources students might require in writing their paper. The only major challenge is the timeframe but with three days that would also seem generous, provided of course, students have indeed been attending the lecture.

All exam papers will be expected to show that the respective student followed the lectures and read the pensum in its entirety.

Students are expected to appropriate the question, i.e. to render it operational by identifying what argumentative thrust they want to give it, which examples and sets of facts and processes they require to do so, and how to conceptualise their paper. They will know which parts of the literature they must draw on but will also show awareness of its limitations and show their ability to reflect critically on their sources.

The exam is not only about empirical detail (which can be obtained anywhere in a home exam anyway) but also about conceptual abilities such as selecting and structuring information, crafting a coherent narrative, producing a periodisation, formulating a clear and consistent argument, and generally showing the intellectual prowess we expect from our students.

The most important parameters for evaluation will therefore be (1) the clarity and the quality of the argument (but not necessarily whether or not the reader agrees with it as long as it is sound); (2) the structure of the paper; (3) its formal presentation (language, prose style, references, readability); and (4) the degree of critical thinking shown in the paper.

Expectations to Master students taking the HIS4371 exam will be higher on each of the four counts.

An A-graded paper will be perfect on all of the above counts. F will be awarded to assignments that fail to meet minimum requirements on all counts: no discernible structure, no grasp of the literature, factual mistakes, and formal disaster.

1. Is the concept of the "Cold War" still viable, and what are the pros and cons of applying it to the latter half of the twentieth century?

Pensumdekning:

Amrith, Sunil, and Glenda Sluga, "New Histories of the United Nations", *Journal of World History*, 19 (2008), no. 3, 251-274.

Eschen, Penny von, "Localizing the Transnational in the Cold War", in: Richard Immermann and Petra Goedde, *The Oxford Handbook of the Cold War*, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2013, pp.451-468

Evans, Martin, "Colonial Fantasies Shattered", in: Dan Stone (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Postwar European History*, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2012, pp.480-501

Fraser, Cary, "Decolonization and the Cold War", in: Richard Immermann and Petra Goedde, *The Oxford Handbook of the Cold War*, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2013, pp.469-485

Grant, Matthew, and Benjamin Ziemann, "Introduction. The Cold War as an imaginary war", in: Grant/Ziemann (eds.), *Understanding the Imaginary War: Culture, Thought and Nuclear Conflict, 1945-90*, Manchester: Manchester University Press 2016, pp. 1-29

Hobsbawm, Eric J., *Age of Extremes. The Short Twentieth Century 1914-1991*, London: Abacus, 1995, 1-17.

Irye, Akira, "Historicizing the Cold War", in: Richard Immermann and Petra Goedde, *The Oxford Handbook of the Cold War*, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2013, pp.15-31

Judt, Tony, "Downhill All the Way", *New York Review of Books*, 25.5.1995.

Ludlow, N. Piers, "European Integration and the Cold War", in: Melvyn P. Leffler/Odd Arne Westad (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Cold War, Vol. 2, Crises and Détente*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010, pp.179-197

Kratoska, Paul H., and Ken'ichi Goto, "Japanese occupation of Southeast Asia, 1941-1945", in: J. B. Bosworth and Joseph A. Maiolo (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Second World War, Volume II: Politics and Ideology*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2015, pp.533-57

Mazower, Mark, *Dark Continent. Europe's Twentieth Century*, London: Penguin, 2000, 259-293

Orwell, George, "You and the Atom Bomb", *The Tribune*, 19 October 1945, reprint in: George Orwell, *The Collected Essays, Journalism and Letters of George Orwell*, vol. IV. *In Front of Your Nose, 1945-1950*, eds. Sonia Orwell and Ian Angus, London: Secker & Warburg, 1968, pp.6-10.

Tisdall, Simon, "The new cold war", *The Guardian*, 19.11.2014, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/nov/19/new-cold-war-back-to-bad-old-days-russia-west-putin-ukraine>.

Wade, Rex A., *The Russian Revolution, 1917*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 3rd ed., 2017, 1-26.

Westad, Odd Arne, *The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2005, 207-249, 331-395.

2. The East-West divide has long been a staple in twentieth-century historiography. Is the 'global-south/north' pattern an alternative or rather a supplement?

Entire pensum

3. The Age of what? Which epithet would you apply to the twentieth century and for what reasons?

Entire pensum