Sensorveiledning for HIS4424, fall 2018

HIS4424

Question: Was Robert Buzzanco correct to wonder "What happened to the New Left?" in 1999? What of the older "Williams school" of US imperial history remained in the historiography of US foreign relations at that time that you have read for this course?

Students in HIS4424 were asked to read all the required texts for HIS2424. In addition they were assigned to read a set of highly interpretive works on the history of US foreign relations, starting (in terms of date of publication) with excerpts from the classic 1959 revisionist work *The Tragedy of American Diplomacy* by William A. Williams. Students in HIS4424 have attended class meetings of HIS2424 and have been exposed to all discussions and lectures for that course. However, their examination question focuses on the special readings assigned only to them. They may draw on the readings for HIS2424 in this examination to support points they make, but they should be assessed primarily on how well they analyze the special readings assigned only to them.

The body of the examination essay should be organized analytically rather than narratively. It should include both strong and clear paragraph-by-paragraph organization, with good topic sentences. It should feature a rich array of specific information and references to the required readings. Formal citations of the kind and quality expected in a paper are not as mandatory here, but more specific references will make a stronger examination. It is essential that the examination draw on the required readings and not on outside sources. Use of outside sources should add no value to the examination or the student's score, only the student's use of required readings counts. An excellent essay will provide rich, abundant specific support for a clearly stated thesis and will be strongly analytical and highly organized. A good essay will provide substantial specific support for a clear thesis and will be largely analytical. A satisfactory essay will provide a moderately high level of support for a fairly clear view and will be partly analytical in form. An adequate essay will provide only a partly clear thesis and will offer some, but less-than-satisfactory specific support and will provide a weak analytical structure.