

The History of Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control; The History of the Twentieth-Century United States (Foreign and Domestic)

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Language of supervision: English

I am a historian of US foreign relations, specializing in US Cold War nuclear strategy and arms control policy. I am happy to supervise students on a broad range of topics, including the history of nuclear weapons, arms control, and disarmament, as well as most aspects of twentieth-century US foreign relations and domestic politics.

Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control

My work on US-Soviet arms control falls into a broader trend in recent historical and political science research on nuclear weapons, which has sought to problematize the link between nuclear-strategic theory and states' international behavior. In sum, researchers have discovered that canonical works of international relations relating to the allegedly revolutionary impact of nuclear weapons do not necessarily hold up when tested against the historical evidence.

As such, I am happy to supervise theses on the following topics:

- The evolution of US and Soviet nuclear strategy (developments in nuclear posture, doctrine, employment plans).
- US and Soviet arms control policy (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, Strategic Arms Reduction Talks, Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty).
- The history of nuclear nonproliferation, including US attempts to prevent states from acquiring nuclear weapons and the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) more broadly.
- The history of nuclear disarmament, including grassroots anti-nuclear movements.

This is not an exhaustive list. Please be in touch if you have an idea for an assignment relating to the history of nuclear weapons.

The Twentieth-Century United States (Foreign and Domestic)

In addition, I am also available to provide guidance on US domestic politics or foreign policy topics that fall outside the regional remits of the other members of the department who are supervising master's dissertations this year. These could include, but are not limited to:

- US policy toward Latin America, the Asia-Pacific, Africa, non-Scandinavian European states.
- US entry to and participation in the First and Second World Wars.
- US Cold War strategy, including the end of the Cold War.
- The Progressive Era.
- The New Deal.
- Civil Rights.
- Ronald Reagan and neoliberalism.

This is a broad and non-exhaustive list, so feel free to reach out to discuss your assignment ideas.