

HISTORY 319--THE VIETNAM WARS

Department of History
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Fall 1994

Mr. McCoy

I. COURSE PROCEDURES:-

Class Meetings: Lectures by Mr. McCoy on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 2:30 to 3:45 pm. In addition, students will attend a one-hour discussion section each week conducted by Teaching Assistants for this course.

Office Hours: For Mr. McCoy, in Room 5131 Humanities, Monday, 4:00-6:00 pm and other hours by appointment (TEL: 263-1855). Messages may be left in mailbox No. 5026.

For Mr. Dreux Montgomery, in Humanities office (Room 5269), Friday, 2:30-4:30 pm and other hours by appointment (TEL: 263-1868). Messages may be left in mailbox No. 4055.

For Ms. Tina Chen, in Humanities office (Room 5260), Tuesday, 9:00-10:00 am, Wednesday 3:45-4:30 pm, and other hours by appointment (TEL: 263-2386). Messages may be left in mailbox No. 5042.

Readings: Reflecting the controversy surrounding the subject, there is no single text for the study of the Vietnam Wars. Instead, the syllabus covers each topic with journal articles and book extracts, divided into "Required" and "Background" readings. To follow the lectures and their unfamiliar material, students should read selections from the "required" materials before the relevant lecture. In preparing essays on subjects related to the lecture topics, consult the "background" readings for bibliographic references. These readings are available from several sources:

a.) **Textbook--Required:**

George McT. Kahin, *Intervention*.

James Gibson, *The Perfect War*.

Stanley Karnow, *Vietnam: A History*.

b.) **Textbooks--Strongly Recommended:**

Alfred W. McCoy, *The Politics of Heroin*.

Neil Sheehan, *Bright Shining Lie*.

Ngo Vinh Long, *Before the Revolution*

c.) **Xeroxed Course Pack:**

The Letters & Sciences Copy Center in Room 1650, Humanities Building is selling a photocopied course-pack with most of the required readings. Note: Readings found in the course-pack are marked with an asterick (*).

d.) **Libraries:**

The Reserve Room in *H.C. White Library* has most of the required and many of the background readings on reserve.

The *Memorial Library* has, with few exceptions, all the books and journal articles cited in the syllabus.

Grading: Students shall complete three pieces of written work. In mid-October students shall take a mid term examination, comprising a take-home exam and an in-class quiz. On November 28th, students shall submit a 2,500 word research essay with full footnotes and bibliographic references. During examination week, students shall take a two-hour final examination. Final grade shall be computed as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| --mid term take-home examination: | 25% |
| --research essay: | 30% |
| --discussion section mark: | 20% |
| --final examination: | 25% |

Course Requirements: For each of these assignments, there are different requirements for both the amount and form of work to be done:

a.) *Mid term take-home examination:* Select two questions from a list distributed in the lecture on Monday, October 17th, and turn in a five-page typed essay, with full endnote citations, at the start of class on Monday, October 24th.

b.) *Research Essay:* Following format instructions under Paragraph VI below, complete a 15 page research essay on one of the topics listed in Paragraph IV. During the week of November 7th, students should submit a one-page outline summarizing an argument and meet with their TA individually to discuss it. Essays should combine primary and secondary sources, specifically a minimum of 6 references to journal articles and books (at least two not found on the syllabus) for all essays and at least 6 articles from the *New York Times* for topics after 1945. The essay must be submitted in the lecture hall at 2:25 pm, on Monday, November 28th.

c.) *Discussion Section Mark:* Based on your attendance and participation, the instructor will assign you a mark for your performance in the discussion section.

d.) *Final Examination:* The examination will be held on Saturday, December 17, at 7:45 am at a place to be announced. In the space of two hours, students will answer two questions to be selected from a longer list.

e.) *Film:* The 13-part PBS television documentary by Stanley Karnow will be shown after the Monday lecture each week. Since this film was broadcast as a companion to our textbook, it is well worth viewing.

II. READINGS FOR DISCUSSION & LECTURES [*Reading in Course Pack]:-

WEEK I (September 7): Introduction

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 9-59.

WEEK 2 (September 12): French Conquest of The Last Dynasty

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 68-100.

WEEK 3 (September 19): Colonialism & National Resistance

Chesneaux, Jean, "Stages in the Development of the Vietnam National Movement, 1862-1940," *Past and Present* 7 (1955), pp. 63-75. *

Ngo Vinh Long, *Before the Revolution: The Vietnamese Peasants Under the French* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1991), pp. 162-75, 178-204.*

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 109-138.

WEEK 4 (September 26): WWII & Rise of the Communist Party

Duiker, W.J. "Building the United Front: The Rise of Communism in Vietnam," in, Joseph J. Zasloff & MacAlister Brown, **Communism in Indochina: New Perspectives** (Lexington: Lexington Book Co., 1975), pp. 3-26.*

Huynh Kim Khanh, "The Vietnamese August Revolution Reinterpreted," **Journal of Asian Studies** 30:4 (1971), pp. 761-782.*

Marr, David, "World War II and the Vietnamese Revolution," in, Alfred W. McCoy, ed., **Southeast Asia Under Japanese Occupation** (New Haven: Yale University, Southeast Asia Studies, 1980), pp. 104-131.*

Nguyen Khac Vien, **Tradition and Revolution in Vietnam** (Berkeley: Indochina Resource Center, 1975), pp. 15-52.*

WEEK 5 (October 3): The First Indochina War, 1946-1954

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 146-175, 184-221.

WEEK 6 (October 10): Rise of the Diem Regime

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 66-92, 93-121.

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 229-256.

WEEK 7 (October 17): Downfall of President Diem

McCoy, Alfred W., **The Politics of Heroin** (New York: Lawrence Hill, 1991), pp. 127-161.*

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 122-81.

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 293-327.

WEEK 8 (October 24): Origins of US Intervention

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War** (New York: Randon House, 1986), pp. 319-56.

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 236-259, 306-331.

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 264-285, 335-363.

WEEK 9 (October 31): LBJ's War

Herring, George C., "**Cold Blood**": **LBJ's Conduct of Limited War in Vietnam**" (Colorado: The Harmon Memorial Lectures in Military History, US Air Force Academy, 1990), pp. 1-34.*

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 347-401.

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 372-402, 411-441.

WEEK 10 (November 7): The Battle for the Villages of Vietnam

Gibson, James William, *The Perfect War* (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 270-315.

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 450-487.

Marr, David G., "The Rise and Fall of 'Counterinsurgency': 1961-1964," in, Noam Chomsky & Howard Zinn, eds., *The Pentagon Papers Volume Five* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1972), pp. 202-210.*

WEEK 11 (November 14): Tet Offensive and the War at Home

Gibson, James William, *The Perfect War* (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 93-154, 319-334.

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 536-581.

WEEK 12 (November 21): Nixon's War, 1969-1972

Gibson, James William, *The Perfect War* (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 402-432.

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 592-627.

Lewy, Guenter, *America in Vietnam* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1978), pp. 190-222.*

WEEK 13 (November 28): Second Indochina War--Laos & Cambodia

Gibson, James William, *The Perfect War* (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 382-402.

Alfred W. McCoy, *The Politics of Heroin* (New York: Lawrence Hill Books, 1991), 283-343.*

Shawcross, William, *Sideshow: Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1979), pp. 19-35, 112-149, 280-299.*

WEEK 14 (December 5): Defeat in Vietnam

Karnow, Stanley, *Vietnam: A History* (New York: Penguin, 1991), pp. 638-684.

Shawcross, William, *Sideshow: Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1979), pp. 310-364. [Available in Reserve Room.]

WEEK 15 (December 12): The Legacy of the Vietnam War

Duiker, William, "China and Vietnam and the Struggle for Indochina," in, Joseph J. Zasloff, ed., **Postwar Indochina: Old Enemies and New Allies** (Washington, D.C.: Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State, 1988), pp. 147-192.*

Levy, David W., **The Debate Over Vietnam** (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991), pp. 169-183.*

Studlar, Gayln and Desser, David, "Rambo's Rewriting of the Vietnam War," in, Douglas Allen and Ngo Vinh Long, eds., **Coming to Terms: Indochina, the United States, and the War** (Boulder: Westview, 1991), pp. 275-88.*

III. BACKGROUND READINGS FOR ESSAYS:**WEEK 1 (September 7): The Historic Vietnamese State**

Adams, J. & Hancock, N., "Land and Economy in Traditional Vietnam," **Journal of Southeast Asian Studies** 1:2 (1970), pp. 90-98.

Buttinger, Joseph, **Vietnam: A Political History** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 19-54.

Bayard, Donn, "The Roots of Indochinese Civilization," **Pacific Affairs** 51:1 (1980), pp. 89-114.

Bellwood, Peter, **Man's Conquest of the Pacific: The Prehistory of Southeast Asia and Oceania** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1979), pp. 153-232.

Coedes, G., **The Making of Southeast Asia** (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1966), pp. 39-74, 77-87, 204-217.

Cotter, Michael G., "Towards a Social History of the Vietnamese Southward Movement," **Journal of Southeast Asian History** 9:1 (1968).*

Duncanson, Dennis J., "Vietnam as a Nation State," **Modern Asian Studies** 3:2 (1969), pp. 117-129.

McAlister, John & Mus, Paul, **The Vietnamese and Their Revolution** (New York: Harper & Row, 1970), pp. 44-54.

Heine-Geldern, Robert, **Conceptions of State and Kingship in Southeast Asia** (Ithaca: Cornell University, 1956), pp. 1-13.

Shiraishi, Masaya, "State, Villagers, and Vagabonds: Vietnamese Rural Society and the Phan Ba Vanh Rebellion," in, Andrew Turton & Shigeharu Tanabe, eds., **History and Peasant Consciousness** (Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology, 1984), pp. 345-400.

Smith, R.B., "The Cycle of Confucianism in Vietnam," in, Walter F. Vella, ed., **Aspects of Vietnamese History** (Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 1973), pp. 1-29.

Smith, R.B. "England and Vietnam in the 16th Centuries: An Essay in Historical Comparison," in, C.D. Cowan & O.W. Wolters, eds., **Southeast Asian History and Historiography** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1976), pp. 227-245.

Taylor, Keith, "The Rise of Dai Viet and the Establishment of Thanh Long," in, Kenneth R. Hall & John K. Whitmore, eds., **Explorations in Early Southeast Asian History: The Origins of Southeast Asian Statecraft** (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1976), pp. 149-191.

Taylor, Keith, **The Birth of Vietnam** (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983), pp. 296-301.

Wheatley, Paul, "Urban Genesis in Mainland Southeast Asia," in, R.B. Smith & W. Watson, eds., **Early Southeast Asia: Essays in Archeology, History and Historical Geography** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1979), pp. 288-303.

Woodside, Alexander, **Vietnam and the Chinese Model** (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971), pp. 7-59.

WEEK 2 (September 12): French Conquest of The Last Dynasty

Buttinger, Joseph, **Vietnam: A Political History** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 75-98.

Chandran, J., **The Burma-Yunnan Railway: Anglo-French Rivalry in Mainland Southeast Asia and South China, 1895-1902** (Athens: Ohio University, 1971), pp. 1-10.

Osborne, Milton, **The French Presence in Cochinchina & Cambodia: Rule and Response (1859-1905)** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1969), pp. 3-56, 131-155.

Osborne, Milton, **River Road to China: The Mekong River Expedition, 1866-73** (New York: Liveright, 1975).

Woodside, Alexander, **Vietnam and the Chinese Model** (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971), pp. 234-94.

Steinberg, David Joel, ed., **In Search of Southeast Asia** (Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 1987), pp. 69-75, 128-138.*

Truong Buu Lam, **Patterns of Vietnamese Response to Foreign Intervention: 1858-1900** (New Haven: Yale University, Southeast Asia Studies, 1967), pp. 1-34.

WEEK 3 (September 19): Colonialism and National Resistance

Background Readings--Colonialism :

Gunn, Geoffrey, "Montagnard Manipulation in Colonial Indochina," **Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars** 19, no. 3 (1987).

Gunn, Geoffrey, "Shamans and Rebels: The Bat Chai (Meo) Rebellion of Northern Laos and Northwestern Vietnam, 1918-1921," **Journal of the Siam Society** 74 (1986), pp. 107-121.

Hickey, Gerald, **Sons of the Mountains: An Ethnohistory of the Vietnamese Central Highlands to 1954** (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1982), pp. 190-206, 260-290.

Hue-Tam Ho Tai, **Millenarianism and Peasant Politics in Vietnam** (Cambridge: Harvard University, 1983), chapters 1, 4, 5, 6, 7.

McAlister, John & Mus, Paul, **The Vietnamese and Their Revolution** (New York: Harper & Row, 1970), pp. 78-92.

McAlister, John T., **Vietnam: The Origins of Revolution** (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1969), pp. 66-82.

McCoy, Alfred W., **The Politics of Heroin** (New York: Lawrence Hill, 1991), pp. 77-113.

Murray, Martin, **The Development of Capitalism in Colonial Indochina, 1870-1940** (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1980), pp. 45-95, 163-189, 254-311.

Popkin, Samuel L., **The Rational Peasant: The Political Economy of Rural Society in Vietnam** (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979), pp. 184-242.

Sansom, Robert L., **The Economics of Insurgency in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam** (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1970), pp. 18-52.

Smith, R.B., "An Introduction to Caodaism: 1. Origins and Early History," **Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies**, 3:2 (1969), pp. 131-50.

Werner, Jayne Susan, **Peasant Politics and Religious Sectarianism: Peasant and Priest in the Cao Dai in Viet Nam** (New Haven: Yale University, Southeast Asia Studies, 1981), pp. 4-41.

Background Readings--Nationalism:

Anderson, Benedict, **Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism** (London: Verso, 1983), pp. 11-16, 104-128.*

Cook, Megan, **The Constitutionalist Party in Cochinchina: The Years of Decline, 1930-1942** (Melbourne: Monash Papers on Southeast Asia, 1977), pp. 1-40, 76-112, 149-167.

Duiker, W.J., "Phan Boi Chau: Asian Revolutionary in a Changing World," **Journal of Asian Studies** 31:1 (1971), pp. 77-88.

Duiker, W.J., **The Rise of Nationalism in Vietnam, 1900-1941** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1976), pp. 103-165, 177-188.

McAlister, John T., **Vietnam: The Origins of Revolution** (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1969), pp. 56-65, 83-106.

Marr, David, "Vietnamese Historical Resentment," in Anthony Reid and David Marr, eds., **Perceptions of the Past in Southeast Asia** (Singapore: Heinemann, 1979), pp. 313-339.

Marr, David, **Vietnamese Anticolonialism 1885-1925** (Berkeley: University of California, 1971), chapters 2, 3, 8.

Osborne, Milton, "The Faithful Few: The Politics of Collaboration in Cochinchina in the 1920s," in, Walter F. Vella, ed., **Aspects of Vietnamese History** (Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 1973), pp. 160-190.

Smith, R.B., "The Development of Opposition to French Rule in Southern Vietnam, 1880-1940," **Past and Present** 54 (1972), pp. 94-129.

Smith, R.B., "The Vietnamese Elite of French Cochinchina, 1943," **Modern Asian Studies** 6:4 (1972), pp. 459-482.

Smith, R.B., "Bui Quang Chieu and the Constitutionalist Party in French Cochinchina, 1917-30," **Modern Asian Studies** 3:2 (1969), pp. 131-50.

Steinberg, David J., **In Search of Southeast Asia: A Modern History** (Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 1987), p. 301-312.

WEEK 4 (September 26): Rise of the Communist Party

Duiker, W.J., **The Communist Road to Power in Vietnam** (Boulder: Westview Press, 1981), pp. 7-55.

Fall, Bernard B., "North Vietnam: A Profile," in, Robert O. Tilman, ed., **Man, State, and Society in Contemporary Southeast Asia** (New York: Praeger, 1969), pp. 382-392.

Huynh Kim Khanh, **Vietnamese Communism 1925-1945** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982), pp. 35-89, 142-188.

Marr, David G., **Vietnamese Tradition on Trial 1920-1945** (Berkeley: University of California, 1981), pp. 368-412.

Paige, Jeffrey, **Agrarian Revolution: Social Movements and Export Agriculture in the Underdeveloped World** (New York: Free Press, 1975), pp. 278-333.

Scott, James C., **The Moral Economy of the Peasant: Rebellion and Subsistence in Southeast Asia** (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1976), pp. 114-156.

White, Christine Pelzer, "The Vietnamese Revolutionary Alliance: Intellectuals, Workers and Peasants," in, John W. Lewis, ed., **Peasant Rebellion & Communist Revolution** (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1974), pp. 77-95.

Woodside, Alexander, **Community and Revolution in Modern Vietnam** (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1976), pp. 160-200.

WEEK 5 (October 3): World War II

Duiker, W.J., **The Communist Road to Power in Vietnam** (Boulder: Westview Press, 1981), pp. 57-125.

Hammer, Ellen J., **The Struggle for Indochina, 1940-1955** (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1954), pp. 94-174.

Huynh Kim Khanh, **Vietnamese Communism 1925-1945** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982), pp. 232-338.

McAlister, John T., **Vietnam: The Origins of Revolution** (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1969), pp. 109-315.

Patti, Archimedes, **Why Vietnam?: Prelude to America's Albatross** (Berkeley: University of California, 1980).

Smith, R.B., "The Japanese Period in Indochina and the Coup of 9 March 1945," **Journal of Southeast Asian Studies** 9:2 (1978), pp. 268-301.

Smith, R.B., "The Work of the Provisional Government of Vietnam, August-December 1945," **Modern Asian Studies** 12:4 (1978), pp. 459-482.

Truong Buu Lam, "Japan and the Disruption of the Vietnamese Nationalist Movement," in, Walter F. Vella, ed., **Aspects of Vietnamese History** (Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 1973), pp. 237-270.

Woodside, Alexander, **Community and Revolution in Modern Vietnam** (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1976), pp. 201-245.

WEEK 6 (October 10): The First Indochina War, 1946-54

Adams, Nina S., "Patrons, Clients and Revolutionaries: The Lao Search for Independence, 1945-1954," in, Nina S. Adams & Alfred McCoy, eds., **Laos: War and Revolution** (New York: Harper & Row, 1970), pp. 100-120.

Bodard, Lucien, **The Quicksand War: Prelude to Vietnam** (Boston: Atlantic Little Brown, 1967), pp. 3-66, 69-132.

Buttinger, Joseph, **Vietnam: A Political History** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 277-383.

Fall, Bernard, **Hell in a Very Small Place: The Siege of Dien Bien Phu** (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1967).

Fall, Bernard, B., **Street Without Joy** (Harrisburg: Stackpole, 1961), pp. 32-106, 312-329.

Fall, Bernard B., **Viet-Nam Witness 1953-1966** (New York: Praeger, 1966), pp. 30-40.

Fall, Bernard B., **The Two Vietnams: A Political and Military Analysis** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 104-168, 169-200, 203-223.

Fall, Bernard, "The Political-Religious Sects of Viet-Nam," **Pacific Affairs** 28:3 (1955), pp. 235-53.

Hammer, Ellen J., **The Struggle for Indochina, 1940-1955** (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1954), pp. 175-291, 292-364.

Hue-Tam Ho Tai, **Millenarianism and Peasant Politics in Vietnam** (Cambridge: Harvard University, 1983), chaps. 8, 9, 10.

Kelly, George A., **Lost Soldiers: The French Army & Empire in Crisis** (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1965), pp. 54-75, 91-104.

McAlister, J.T., "Mountain Minorities and the Viet Minh: A Key to the Indochina War," in, Peter Kunstadter, ed., **Southeast Asian Tribes Minorities and Nations** (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1967), Vol. II, pp. 771-844.

Moss, George D., **Vietnam: An American Ordeal** (Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1990), pp. 32-70.

Roy, Jules, **The Battle of Dien Bien Phu** (New York: Harper & Row, 1963), pp. 1-34, 162-249.

Werner, Jayne Susan, **Peasant Politics and Religious Sectarianism: Peasant and Priest in the Cao Dai in Vietnam** (New Haven: Yale University, Southeast Asia Studies, 1981), pp. 42-55.

Wolf, Eric, **Peasant Wars of the Twentieth Century** (New York: Harper & Row, 1968), pp. 159-207.

Background Reading--North Vietnam's Social Revolution:-

Elliott, David W.P., "Political Integration in North Vietnam: The Cooperativization Period," in, Joseph J. Zasloff & Mac Alister Brown, **Communism in Indochina: New Perspectives** (Lexington: Lexington Books, 1975), pp. 165-193.

Fall, Bernard B., **The Two Vietnams: A Political and Military Analysis** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 130-200.

Hoang Van Chi, **From Colonialism to Communism: A Case History of North Vietnam** (London: Pall Mall Press, 1964), pp. 163-220.

Moise, E.E., "Land Reform and Land Reform Errors in North Vietnam," **Pacific Affairs** 49:1 (1976), pp. 70-92.

Nguyen Khac Vien, **Tradition and Revolution in Vietnam** (Berkeley: Indochina Resource Center, 1975), pp. 75-126.

Porter, D.G., "The Myth of the Bloodbath: North Vietnam's Land Reform Reconsidered," **Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars** 5:2 (1973), pp. 2-15.

WEEK 7 (October 17): The Diem Regime

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 69-127.

Duncanson, Dennis J., **Government and Revolution in Vietnam** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1968), pp. 204-271.

Fall, Bernard B., **The Two Vietnams: A Political and Military Analysis** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 224-233.

Fall, Bernard B., **Viet-Nam Witness 1953-1966** (New York: Praeger, 1966), pp. 141-159, 169-189.

Halberstam, David, **The Making of a Quagmire** (New York: Random House, 1964), pp. 40-77, 194-265, 277-299.

Jumper, Roy, "Mandarin Bureaucracy and Politics in South Vietnam," **Pacific Affairs** 30 (1957), pp. 47-58.

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War** (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 69-89.

Jumper, Roy, "Mandarin Bureaucracy and Politics in South Vietnam," **Pacific Affairs** 30 (1957), pp. 47-58.

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 93-181.

Lansdale, Edward G., **In the Midst of Wars: An American's Mission to Southeast Asia** (New York: Harper & Row, 1972), pp. 126-153, 184-201, 282-312.

Sansom, Robert L., **The Economics of Insurgency in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam** (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1970), pp. 53-74.

Smith, Hedrick, "The Overthrow of Ngo Dinh Diem: May-November 1963," in, *The New York Times*, **The Pentagon Papers** (New York: Quadrangle Books, 1971), pp. 166-196.

Trullinger, James W., **Village at War: An Account of Revolution in Vietnam** (New York: Longman, 1980).

Warner, Dennis, **The Last Confucian** (New York: MacMillan, 1963), pp. 65-118.

Weinstein, Franklin B., **Vietnam's Unheld Elections: The Failure to Carry Out the 1956 Reunification Elections and the Effect on Hanoi's Present Outlook** (Ithaca: Cornell University, 1966).

WEEK 8 (October 24): Origins of US Intervention

Charlton, Michael & Moncrieff, Anthony, **Many Reasons Why: The American Involvement in Vietnam** (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1979), pp. 59-100.

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 161-74.

Fall, Bernard B., **The Two Vietnams: A Political and Military Analysis** (New York: Praeger, 1968), pp. 338-414.

Fall, Bernard B., **Viet-Nam Witness 1953-1966** (New York: Praeger, 1966), pp. 295-349.

Greenstein, Fred I. and Immerman, Richard I., "What did Eisenhower Tell Kennedy about Indochina? The Politics of Misperception," **Journal of American History** 79 (1992), pp. 568-87.

Hatcher, Patrick L., **The Suicide of An Elite: American Internationalists and Vietnam** (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1990), pp. 169-89.

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 182-259.

Kolko, Gabriel, **Anatomy of a War** (New York: Pantheon, 1985), pp. 111-59.

Levy, David W., **The Debate Over Vietnam** (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991), pp. 1-45.

Lewy, Guenther, **America in Vietnam: The Origins of American Commitment to Southeast Asia** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1987), pp. 3-41.

Rotter, Andrew, **The Path to Vietnam: Origins of American Commitment to Southeast Asia** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1987).

Spector, Ronald, **Advice and Support: The Early Years, 1941-1960** (Washington, DC: US Army Center for Military History, 1985), pp. 77-122, 219-380.

Stoessinger, John G. "A Greek Tragedy in Five Acts: Vietnam," in, **Why Nations Go To War** (4th ed.), pp. 84-115.

WEEK 9 (October 31): LBJ's War

Appy, Christian G., **Working Class War: American Combat Soldiers and Vietnam** (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993), pp. 11-250.

Charlton, Michael & Moncrieff, Anthony, **Many Reasons Why: The American Involvement in Vietnam** (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1979), pp. 101-32.

Clodfelter, Mark, **The Limits of Air Power: The American Bombing of North Vietnam** (New York: Free Press, 1989), pp. 39-146.

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 175-223.

Coleman, J.D., **Pleiku: The Dawn of Helicopter Warfare in Vietnam** (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1988)

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War** (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 93-154.

Hallin, Daniel C., **The "Uncensored War": The Media and Vietnam** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986).

Kahin, George McT., **Intervention** (New York: Anchor Books, 1986), pp. 236-401.

Kolko, Gabriel, **Anatomy of a War** (New York: Pantheon, 1985), pp. 163-263.

Summers, Harry G., **On Strategy: A Critical Analysis of the Vietnam War** (Novata, CA: Presidio Press, 1982).

WEEK 10 (November 7): The Battle for the Villages

- Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 175-192.
- Fitzgerald, Frances, **Fire in the Lake** (Boston: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1972), pp. 176-196.
- Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War** (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 155-224.
- Hickey, Gerald, **Village in Vietnam** (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1964).
- McNeill, Ian, **The Team: Australian Army Advisers in Vietnam 1962-1972** (St. Lucia: University of Queensland Press, 1984), pp. 375-411.
- Mangold, Tom & Penycate, John, **The Tunnels of Cu Chi** (New York: Random House, 1986), pp. 17-61, 66-78, 98-106, 161-177, 255-266.
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IV. MAJOR ESSAY QUESTIONS:-

- 1.) Analyze the role of Confucianism in traditional Vietnamese society. Did it facilitate Vietnam's later acceptance of Marxism?
- 2.) Analyze the nature of Vietnamese nationalism, discussing both its traditional roots and modern variations.
- 3.) Discuss the French economic impact upon Vietnam and its relation to the emergence of an anti-colonial movement.
- 4.) Analyze the factors underlying the emergence of the Indochina Communist Party as the dominant group within the nationalist movement by 1941.

- 5.) Discuss the impact of World War II upon the Vietnamese nationalist movement.
- 6.) Discuss the reasons for France's defeat in the First Indochina War (1946-1954).
- 7.) Analyze the role of the United States in the rise and fall of Ngo Dinh Diem. Why did he fail to become a credible alternative to the communist movement?
- 8.) Explain why President Johnson decided to commit US ground forces to Vietnam in 1965 and analyze the implications of this intervention upon the conduct of the war.
- 9.) Discuss the character of the Vietnamese village and explain why the US directed pacification policy failed there between 1959 and 1968.
- 10.) Discuss the nature of US political military strategy in Vietnam from 1965-1969 and explain its limitations.
- 11.) Analyze the US intelligence failure over the 1968 Tet offensive and discuss the impact of this battle on the war in Vietnam and the war at home in the United States.
- 12.) Analyze the US "Vietnamization" policy between 1969 and 1975, and explain the factors that inhibited its success.
- 13.) Compare and contrast the impact of US political and military policy upon Cambodia and Laos between 1968 and 1975.
- 14.) Explain the factors underlying North Vietnam's defeat of the Saigon government between 1972 and 1975.
- 15.) Analyze the changing quality of combat in Vietnam between 1965 and 1972, focusing on its impact upon the discipline within the US Army and upon the individual American soldier.
- 16.) Discuss the legacy of the Vietnam War for the conduct of US foreign policy from 1981 to 1992.

V. BASIC SKILLS FOR HISTORY COURSES:-

1.) Learning Basic Skills: Aside from some basic understanding of Vietnam's history, the main objective of this course is to teach certain basic research, writing, and analytical skills. In lectures and discussion sections, we will try to improve skills essential to success in most liberal arts courses.

a.) *Definitions:* Much of the conceptual content in liberal arts courses is encapsulated and conveyed through a limited number of basic terms that must be defined to be understood. Hence, we will seek to help you learn to identify such conceptual terms and define them.

b.) *Questions:* Most students approach the study of History as a pursuit of answers, while many professional historians often view their discipline as a search for better questions. This course will try to make students more aware of the nature and construction of historical questions.

c.) *Reading*: Faced with a mass of information, students must learn to read both intensively and extensively--summarizing key theses and skimming a range of sources for evidence.

d.) *Argument*: As you write, you must try to be self-conscious in the construction of your argument.

1.) *Thesis*: Define your question and form a thesis to answer it.

2.) *Evidence*: Learn the nature of appropriate evidence to defend your thesis.

3.) *Illustration*: Illustrate your evidence with specific examples appropriate in kind and quality to your thesis.

4.) *Correspondence*: Seek a close correspondence of thesis and evidence.

5.) *Comparison*: After learning to summarize individual arguments, students should learn to compare--both the theses of contradictory arguments and parallel historical cases.

VI. FORMAT FOR RESEARCH ESSAY:

1.) Prose:

a.) *Procedure*:

1.) By hand write out an outline of about 2 pages for a 10-page essay. Each projected paragraph in the essay should be a line in your outline.

2.) Write a first draft. If using a personal computer, there is a very real possibility that it will read like a long, chatty letter home, not a major research essay.

3.) Reading aloud to yourself, if necessary, edit the prose and produce a second draft.

b.) *Sentences*:

1.) Each sentence should be a complete sentence with subject, verb, and direct object.

2.) Vary your sentences--short, periodic sentences; simple compound sentences; compound sentences with clauses in apposition; and longer sentences communicating detail.

c.) *Paragraphs*:

1.) Start your paragraph with a periodic or compound sentence stating the basic message of this particular paragraph.

2.) Varying your sentence structure, elaborate and expand this theme into a fully developed paragraph.

3.) Within the paragraph, try to link your sentences so that they flow from one to another.

4.) Paragraphs should not be too long. If you need a crude guide, have 3 to a page, or 8 to 10 typed lines each.

d.) *Aspire to style*:

1.) There is a music--with melody and rhythm--to prose. Sensitize your mind's ear to the music of prose and try to make your own word music. Try to make your writing an expression of your inner voice.

2.) As in all forms of social discourse, there is an appropriate style for an academic essay.

a.) Use a formal voice--not ponderous, just formal.

b.) Avoid contractions (can't, didn't).

- c.) Avoid colloquialisms (e.g., "Colonialism in Southeast Asia was really heavy.")
- 3.) In short, adopt a tone or voice somewhere between the chatty colloquial and the ponderous.

2.) Argument:

a.) *Overall structure:* Every scientific report, whether natural or social, has 3 basic elements:

1.) *The Problem:* In your introduction, state the problem clearly.

a.) If necessary, you should give your definition of any key terms that require a specific usage (e.g., "revolution," if the question asks, for example, "Was the 1896 revolution in the Philippines a social revolution?")

b.) In stating your problem, refer to the literature in the syllabus, not something you have seen recently on CNN.

c.) A standard and often effective device is to identify two differing schools of thought about a single problem.

d.) Make sure you are examining the main point, not a minor side issue.

2.) *The Evidence:* In the middle part of your essay, you must present evidence--in logical order--to deal with the problem posed at the beginning of your essay. Be specific--give the reader brief narratives of an event, or provide some statistical evidence.

3.) *The Conclusion:* In the final page or two of your essay, reflect on the problem as stated in the introduction in light of the evidence you presented in the middle part of the essay. Stretch the data you present for clarity, but do not exaggerate or over-extend the usefulness of your data.

b.) *Level of Argument:* It is difficult to spell out in precise terms what I mean by "level of argument."

1.) To overstate the case, you should not deal with the question of "the impact of French colonialism in the Mekong Delta" by probing the problem of whether "the French made life in Vietnam happier for the natives."

2.) How do you define an appropriate question and level of analysis? Simple. You can sensitize yourself to the question by reading several sources with diverse viewpoints and approaches.

c.) *The Nature of History Questions:* In courses such as this one, history involves the study of change in large-scale human communities, societies and nations, over time. Most history essays ask you to understand or explain two aspects of change--events and their causes, or, simply, what happened and why it happened. Thus, most history questions ask you to explain elements of the following

1.) In a limited time period, explain the factors underlying a given event. Why did that event happen?

2.) Explain the impact that an event, such as a war or revolution, had upon a human community within a period succeeding the actual event.

3.) Over a longer period of time, explain how and why complex communities changed in a given way.

3.) Sources/Research:

a.) *Need to Read:*

1.) Like most essays, a history term paper is a distillation of its author's reading and reflections upon the subject at hand. The quality of an essay's expression and analysis reflects, subtly but ineluctably, the depth and diversity of its author's reading.

2.) Conversely, if you do not read, then you cannot have anything of any substance to say on a subject.

b.) *Basic Format:*

- 1.) Assuming 3 paragraphs per page, you should have one source note per paragraph.
- 2.) Every idea that is not your own and every major body of data you use in your essay should be sourced. In particular, quotations must be sourced.
- 3.) You may use end notes or footnotes in the following format:
Alfred W. McCoy, **Southeast Asia Since 1800** (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1989), pp. 34-5.
- 4.) For details, see, The University of Chicago Press, **A Manual of Style**.

c.) *How to Read for an Essay:*

- 1.) Using the course syllabus, begin with a general text to get an overview of the problem.
- 2.) Using the syllabus or textbook references, select more specific sources.
- 3.) As you read, begin forming ideas in your mind about:
 - (a) your overall hypothesis, and;
 - (b) the evidence you need or have found to support your argument.
- 4.) As you read, take notes, either on paper, or in the margin of a photocopy of the source. As you take notes, make sure you have the bibliographic information for your source: author, title, place of publication, publisher, and relevant pages.
- 5.) Towards the end of your reading, draw up an outline of the essay. If you are missing sources for the argument you would like to present, then do additional reading.