

HISTORY 319--THE VIETNAM WARS

Department of History
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Spring 1991

Mr. McCoy

I. COURSE PROCEDURES:-

Class Meetings: Lectures by Mr. McCoy on Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:25 to 3:40. In addition, students will attend a one-hour discussion section each week conducted by Mr. Hawley.

Office Hours: For Mr. McCoy, in Room 5131 Humanities, Monday 4:00-6:00 p.m. and other hours by appointment. For Mr. Hawley, Room 5269 Humanities, Wednesday 4:00-5:00 p.m. and Friday 3:15-4:15 p.m.(TEL: 256-0888).

Readings: Reflecting the controversy surrounding the subject, there is no single text for the study 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:**

Stanley Karnow, **Vietnam: A History** (written for the PBS documentary series being shown with the class).

b.) **Textbooks--Optional:**

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

George Moss, **Vietnam: An American Ordeal.**

Neil Sheehan, **Bright Shining Lie** (in University Bookstore under History 398.)

c.) **Xeroxed Course Pack:**

Insty-Prints (TEL: 255-0046) at No. 2, East Mifflin St., just off the Capital Square, is selling a photocopied course-pack with most of the required readings.

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 most books on the syllabus as well as the journal articles cited in the syllabus.

Skills Training: As explained in Part IV below, a major portion of the course will be devoted to teaching basic skills necessary for the study of history at the university level.

Grading: Students shall complete three pieces of written work. In mid-March students shall take a mid term examination, comprising a take-home exam and an in-class quiz. On April 16th, 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: **15%**
- mid term in-class quiz: **10%**
- research essay: **30%**
- discussion section mark: **20%**
- final examination: **25%**

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

a.) **Mid term take-home examination:** Selecting a single question from list distributed in the lecture on Monday, March 5th, turn in an eight page typed essay, with full endnote citations, at class on Wednesday, March 13th.

b.) **Mid term in-class quiz:** A longer list of possible definition questions (people, places and terms) will be distributed in class on Monday, March 4th, and a 20 minute in-class quiz based on this list will be given on March 11th.

c.) **Research Essay:** Following format instructions under Paragraph V below, complete a 15 page research essay on one of the topics listed in Paragraph III below. Students should meet with Mr. Hawley personally by March 8th to discuss their listings of sources and their brief outlines for the essay. Essays should combine primary and secondary sources, specifically a minimum of 12 references to journal articles and books (at least two not found on the syllabus) for all essays and at least 12 articles from the **New York Times** for topics after 1945. The essay must be turned in at the History Department office, 3211 Humanities, by 4:00 pm, Monday, April 15th.

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

e.) **Final Examination:** The examination will be held at 2:45 pm on May 16th at a place to be given later. In the space of two hours, students will answer two questions to be selected from a longer list. In the penultimate lecture, students will be asked to suggest examination questions which will be edited and distributed during the final lecture. Thus, the examination will require answers to two questions--one seen in advance and one unseen.

f.) **Film:** The 13-part PBS television documentary by Stanley Karnow will be shown after one of the lectures each week. Since this film was broadcast as a companion to our textbook, it is well worth viewing. Time and place to be announced.

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

WEEK 1 (January 23): The Historic Vietnamese State

Required Reading:-

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

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

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

Background Reading:-

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

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.

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, NY: 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, NY: 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).

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.

WEEK 2 (January 28): French Conquest of The Last Dynasty

Required Reading:-

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

Steinberg, David Joel, ed., **In Search of Southeast Asia** (New York: Praeger, 1971), pp. 68-72, 123-133.*

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

Background Reading:-

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

Osborne, Milton, **The French Presence in Cochinchina & Cambodia: Rule and Response (1859-1905)** (Ithaca, NY: 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).

Steinberg, David J., **In Search of Southeast Asia: A Modern History** (New York: Praeger, 1971), chapters 8, 15.

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

WEEK 3 (February 4): Economic & Social Impact of French Rule**Required Reading:-**

Gunn, Geoffrey, "Shamans and Rebels: The Bat Chai (Meo) Rebellion of Northern Laos and Northwestern Vietnam, 1981-1921," **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, CT: Yale University Press, 1982), pp. 190-206, 260-290.*

Ngo Vinh Long, **Before the Revolution: The Vietnamese Peasants Under the French** (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press 1973), pp. 4-141.*

Background Reading:-

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

Hue-Tam Ho Tai, **Millenarianism and Peasant Politics in Vietnam** (Cambridge, MA: 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.

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, MA: 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, 1981), pp. 4-41

WEEK 4 (February 18): Origins of Nationalist Resistance

Required Reading:-

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

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

McAlister, John T., **Vietnam: The Origins of Revolution** (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1969), pp. 57-65, 83-106.*

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.*

Background Reading:-

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, NY: Cornell University Press, 1976), pp. 103-165, 177-188.

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.

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** (New York: Praeger, 1971), chapter 28.

WEEK 5 (February 18): Rise of the Indochina Communist Party

Required Reading:-

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, MA: Lexington Book Co., 1975), pp. 3-26.*

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

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

Background Reading:-

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, NY: 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.

WEEK 6 (February 25): World War II in Vietnam

Required Reading:-

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

McAlister, John & Mus, Paul, **The Vietnamese and Their Revolution** (New York: Harper & Row, 1970), pp. 55-69.*

Marr, David, "World War II and the Vietnamese Revolution," in, Alfred W. McCoy, ed., **Southeast Asia Under Japanese Occupation** (New Haven: Yale University, 1980), pp. 125-158.*

Background Reading:-

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, NY: 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 7 (March 4): The First Indochina War, 1946-1952

Required Reading:-

Fall, Bernard, "The Political-Religious Sects of Viet-Nam," **Pacific Affairs** 28:3 (1955), pp. 235-53.* [Also found in, Bernard B.Fall, **Viet-Nam Witness 1953-1966** (New York: Praeger, 1966), pp. 141-159.]

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

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1983), pp. 135-160.

Background Reading:-

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

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

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

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, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1967), Vol. II, pp. 771-844.

McCoy, Alfred W., **The Politics of Heroin** (New York: Lawrence Hill, 1991), chapter 3.

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

WEEK 8 (March 11): Revolutionary Victory in North Vietnam

Required Reading:-

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

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1983), pp. 169-205.

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

Background Reading:-

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. 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, PA: Stackpole, 1961), pp. 32-106, 312-329.

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

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

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

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

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, MA: 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 9 (March 19): Rise & Fall of the Diem Regime

Required Reading:-

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 69-158.*

Hatcher, Patrick L., **The Suicide of An Elite: American Internationalist and Vietnam** (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1990), pp. 113-189.*

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1983), pp. 213-311.

Background Reading:-

Charlton, Michael & Moncrieff, Anthony, **Many Reasons Why: The American Involvement in Vietnam** (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1979), pp. 211-225.

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.

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War: Technowar in Vietnam** (Boston: Atlantic-Monthly Press, 1986), pp. 69-89.

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

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, MA: 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, NY: Cornell University, 1966).

WEEK 10 (April 1): The NLF vs. CIA--The Battle for the Villages

Required Reading:-

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 175-192, 205-240.*

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War: Technowar in Vietnam** (Boston: Atlantic-Monthly Press, 1986), pp. 225-315.*

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.*

Mus, Paul, "The Role of the Village in Vietnamese Politics," **Pacific Affairs** 22:3 (1949), pp. 265-72.*

Sheehan, Neil, **Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam** (New York: Random House, 1988) pp. 203-265.

Valentine, Douglas, **The Phoenix Program** (New York: William Morrow, 1990), 19-56, 73-88, 159-172, 303-326.*

Background Reading:-

Fitzgerald, Frances, **Fire in the Lake** (Boston: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1972), pp. 176-196.

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.

Nguyen Thi Dinh, **No Other Road To Take** (Ithaca, NY: Data Paper #102, Southeast Asia Program, Cornell University, 1972).

Osborne, Milton, **Strategic Hamlets in South Vietnam** (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, 1965), pp. 20-41.

Race, Jeffrey, **War Comes to Long An: Revolutionary Conflict in a Vietnamese Province** (Berkeley: University of California, 1972), pp. 3-43.

Sansom, Robert L., **The Economics of Insurgency in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam** (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1970), pp. 211-245.

Schell, Jonathan, **The Village of Ben Suc** (New York: Knopf, 1967).

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

WEEK 11 (April 8): U.S. Intervention in Vietnam, 1964-1968

Required Reading:-

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War: Technowar in Vietnam** (Boston: Atlantic-Monthly Press, 1986), pp. 93-224, 319-356.*

Sheehan, Neil, "The Covert War and Tonkin Gulf: February-August, 1964," in, *The New York Times*, **The Pentagon Papers** (New York: Quadrangle Books, 1971), pp. 244-278.*

Sheehan, Neil, **Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam** (New York: Random House, 1988) pp. 501-722.

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1983), pp. 357-426.

Background Reading:-

Duncanson, Dennis J., **Government and Revolution in Vietnam** (New York: Oxford University Press, 1968), pp. 342-379.

Fall, Bernard B., **Viet-Nam Witness 1953-1966** (New York: Praeger, 1966), pp. 190-196.

Fall, Bernard, B., **Street Without Joy** (Harrisburg, PA: Stackpole, 1961), pp. 343-368.

Fitzgerald, Frances, **Fire in the Lake: The Vietnamese and the Americans in Vietnam** (Boston: Little Brown, 1972), pp. 231-338.

McNeill, Ian, **The Team: Australian Army Advisers in Vietnam 1962-1972** (St. Lucia: University of Queensland Press, 1984), pp. 34-67.

Moss, George D., **Vietnam: An American Ordeal** (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990), pp. 176-288.

Race, Jeffrey, **War Comes to Long An: Revolutionary Conflict in a Vietnamese Province** (Berkeley: University of California, 1972), pp. 105-140.

Schochurek, Howard, "American Special Forces in Action in Viet Nam," **National Geographic** (January 1965), pp. 834-872.

Sheehan, Neil, "The Launching of the Ground War: March-July, 1965," in, *The New York Times*, **The Pentagon Papers** (New York: Quadrangle Books, 1971), pp. 394-427.

Oberdorfer, Don, **Tet!** (New York: Doubleday & Co., 1971), pp. 42-76, 116-156, 197-235, 238-277.

Pisor, Robert, **The End of the Line: The Siege of Khe Sanh** (New York: WW Norton, 1982).

Shaplen, Robert, **The Road From War: Vietnam 1965-1970** (New York: Harper & Row, 1970), pp. 188-215.

Wurfel, David, "The Saigon Political Elite: Focus on Four Cabinets," **Asian Survey** 7 (1967), pp. 527-539.

WEEK 12 (April 15): The American War In Vietnam, 1969-1972

Required Reading:-

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 241-321.*

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War: Technowar in Vietnam** (Boston: Atlantic-Monthly Press, 1986), pp. 402-432.*

McCoy, Alfred W., **The Politics of Heroin** (New York: Lawrence Hill Books, 1991), chapter 5.

Moss, George D., **Vietnam: An American Ordeal** (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990), pp. 295-344.

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1983), pp. 577-612.

Sheehan, Neil, **Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam** (New York: Random House, 1988) pp. 722-790.

Background Reading:-

Fitzgerald, Frances, **Fire in the Lake: The Vietnamese and the Americans in Vietnam** (Boston: Little Brown, 1972), pp. 339-424.

Hersh, Seymour, **The Price of Power: Kissinger in the Nixon White House** (New York: Summit Books, 1983).

Navarro, Edmundo, **Beds of Nails** (Manila: By the author, 1989), pp. 187-268.

Nguyen Tien Hung & Schechter, Jerrold L., **The Palace File** (New York: Harper & Row, 1986), pp. 1-20, 42-61, 83-119, 130-158, 185-275.

Race, Jeffrey, "How They Won," **Asian Survey** 10 (1970), pp. 628-650.

Van Dyke, John M., **North Vietnam's Strategy for Survival** (Palo Alto: Pacific Books, 1972), pp. 21-99, 126-188.

WEEK 13 (April 22): Second Indochina War--Laos & Cambodia

Required Reading--Laos:-

Branfman, Fred, "Presidential War in Laos, 1964-1970," in Nina S. Adams & Alfred McCoy, eds., **Laos: War and Revolution** (New York: Harper & Row, 1970), pp. 213-280.*

Colby, William, **Lost Victory** (Chicago: Contemporary Books, 1989), pp. 193-204.*

Gibson, James William, **The Perfect War: Technowar in Vietnam** (Boston: Atlantic-Monthly Press, 1986), pp. 382-402.*

McCoy, Alfred W. McCoy, **The Politics of Heroin** (New York: Lawrence Hill Books, 1991), chapter 6.

Required Reading--Cambodia:-

Shawcross, William, **Sideshow: Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia** (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1979), pp. 19-35, 112-149, 280-299, 310-334, 344-364.*

Background Reading--Laos:-

Branfman, Fred, **Village of the Deep Pond: Ban Xa Phang Mouk, Laos** (Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1978).

Brown, McAlister & Zasloff, Joseph J., **Apprentice Revolutionaries: The Lao Communist Movement, 1930-1985** (Stanford, CA: Hoover Institution Press, 1986), pp. 70-122.

Dommen, Arthur J., **Conflict in Laos: The Politics of Neutralization** (New York: Praeger, 1971), pp. 293-317.

Haney, Walt, "The Pentagon Papers and United States Involvement in Laos," in, Noam Chomsky & Howard Zinn, eds., **The Pentagon Papers Volume Five** (Boston: Beacon Press, 1972), pp. 248-293.

Stevenson, Charles A., **The End of Nowhere: American Policy Toward Laos Since 1954** (Boston: Beacon, 1972), pp. 222-239.

Toye, Hugh, **Laos: Buffer State or Battleground** (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1968), pp. 104-170.

Background Reading--Cambodia:-

Kiernan, Ben & Boua, Chantou, eds., **Peasants and Politics in Kampuchea, 1942-1981** (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 1982).

Kiernan, Ben, **How Pol Pot Came to Power: A History of Communism in Kampuchea** (London: Verso, 1985), pp. 297-393.

Porter, Gareth, "Vietnamese Policy Towards Kampuchea: Themes and Variations," in, David P. Chandler & Ben Kiernan, eds., **Revolution and its Aftermath in Kampuchea: Eight Essays** (New Haven: Yale University Southeast Asia, 1983), pp.57-98.

Thion, S., "The Cambodian Idea of Revolution," in, David P. Chandler & Ben Kiernan, eds., **Revolution and its Aftermath in Kampuchea: Eight Essays** (New Haven, CT: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies, 1983), pp. 10-33.

Vickery, Michael, **Cambodia 1975-1982** (Boston: South End Press, 1984), pp. 253-290.

WEEK 14 (April 29): American Retreat & Defeat in Vietnam

Required Reading:-

Karnow, Stanley, **Vietnam: A History** (New York: Penguin, 1983), pp. 623-670.

Moss, George D., **Vietnam: An American Ordeal** (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990), pp. 351-374.

Nguyen Tien Hung & Schecter, Jerrold L., **The Palace File** (New York: Harper & Row, 1986), pp. 263-275, 302-333.*

Van Tien Dung, **Our Great Spring Victory: An Account of the Liberation of of South Vietnam** (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1977), pp. 16-25, 63-79, 89-100, 212-246.*

Background Reading:-

Burchett, Wilfred, **Grasshoppers & Elephants: Why Vietnam Fell** (New York: Urizen Books, 1977), pp. 171-247.

Cao Van Vien, **The Final Collapse** (Washington, D.C.: Center for Military History, U.S. Army, 1983).

Charlton, Michael & Moncrieff, Anthony, **Many Reasons Why: The American Involvement in Vietnam** (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1979), pp. 187-210, 227-246.

Gettleman, M.E., et al, eds., **Vietnam and America** (New York: Grove, 1985), pp. 469-500.

Snepp, Frank, **Decent Interval: The American Debacle in Vietnam and the Fall of Saigon** (New York: Random House, 1977), pts. 2, 3

WEEK 15 (May 6): Postwar Indochina--Crisis of Socialism

Required Reading:-

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.*

Evans, Grant, **Lao Peasants Under Socialism** (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1990), pp. 65-89, 181-233.*

Kiernan, Ben, **How Pol Pot Came to Power: A History of Communism in Kampuchea** (London: Verso, 1985), pp. 297-393.*

McCoy, Alfred W., "A Tale of Three Cities: Hanoi, Saigon, Phnom Penh," *Geo* 5:2 (1983), pp. 18-39.*

Turley, William, S., "The Military Construction of Socialism: Postwar Roles of the People's Army of Vietnam," in, David G. Marr, and Christine P.White, eds., **Postwar Vietnam: Dilemmas in Socialist Development** (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, 1988), pp. 195-210.*

Background Reading:-

Chanda, Nayan, **Brother Enemy: The War After the War** (San Diego: Harcourt, Brace & Jovanovich, 1986).

Chanda, Nayan, "Vietnam and Cambodia: Domination and Security," in, Joseph J. Zasloff, ed., **Postwar Indochina: Old Enemies and New Allies** (Washington, D.C.: Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of States, 1988), pp. 63-76.

Colbert, Evelyn, "U.S. Policy Toward Vietnam Since the Fall of Saigon," in, Joseph J. Zasloff, ed., **Postwar Indochina: Old Enemies and New Allies** (Washington, D.C.: Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of States, 1988), pp. 225-250.

Elliott, David W.P., "The Third Indochina Conflict: Introduction," in, David W.P.Elliott, ed., **The Third Indochina Conflict** (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1981), pp. 1-20.

Evans, Grant & Rowley, Kelvin, **Red Brotherhood at War: Indochina Since the Fall of Saigon** (London: Verso, 1984), pp. 34-62, 63-83, 84-128, 246-279.

Evans, Grant, **The Yellow Rainmakers: Are Chemical Weapons Being Used in Southeast Asia?** (New York: Verso, 1983).

Heder, Stephen P., "The Kampuchean-Vietnamese Conflict," in, Elliott, David W.P., ed., **The Third Indochina Conflict** (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1981), pp. 21-68.

Kiernan, "Wild Chickens, Farm Chickens and Cormorants: Kampuchea's Eastern Zone Under Pol Pot," in, David P. Chandler & Ben Kiernan, eds., **Revolution and its Aftermath in Kampuchea: Eight Essays** (New Haven: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies, 1983), pp. 136-211.

Stuart-Fox, Martin, ed., **Contemporary Laos: Studies in the Politics and Society of the Lao People's Republic** (New York: St. Martins, 1982).

Thayer, Carlyle, A., "The Regularization of Politics: Continuity and Change in the Party's Central Committee, 1951-1986, in, David G. Marr and Christine P. White, Christine P., eds., **Postwar Vietnam: Dilemmas in Socialist Development** (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, 1988), pp. 177-193.

III. 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.) Analyze 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 establish a credible alternative to the communist movement?
- 8.) Analyze the character of the Vietnamese village and explain why US directed pacification policy failed there between 1959 and 1968.
- 9.) Discuss the nature of US political military strategy in Vietnam from 1965-1969 and explain its limitations.
- 10.) Analyze the US "Vietnamization" policy between 1969 and 1975, and explain the factors that inhibited its success.
- 11.) Compare the impact of US political and military policy upon Cambodia and Laos between 1968 and 1975.
- 12.) Explain the factors underlying North Vietnam's defeat of the Saigon government between 1972 and 1975.

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

V. FORMAT & PROCEDURES FOR RESEARCH ESSAY:

1. Prose:

a.) Procedure:

1.) Write an outline of 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 saw on CBS news last Saturday.

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 some 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 Dutch colonialism in Java" by probing the problem of whether "the Dutch made life on Java 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:** History is 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 all data processing systems, the human mind operates on the GIGO principle: "garbage in, garbage out."
- 2.) 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 @ 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 references in the general text, 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, etc.
- 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.