Professor Henryk Szlajfer, Ph.D.

Office hours:
Tuesday and Thursday 15:00 – 16.00
# 101b Harkness Hall
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PSC 260

Syllabus


Two-credit course
Time: Oct 10 – Nov 21, 2006
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:05 – 12.20
Place: Meliora Hall 204

Course Work: One 5-page paper (with references). Paper should be ready on Nov. 1.
Exam: Essay-style final exam (6-page paper with references) – ready on Nov. 20 – will concentrate on general problems taught during the course.
Final grade will be counted in the following way:

a. 15 points for active participation in classes
b. 35 points for a paper
c. 50 points for the final exam

Description:
The course concentrates on the origins and consequences of the Cold War. Its focus will be on the political process leading toward formation of the post-WWII international order and its decline at the end of the 20th century. Within this framework, general conceptions and actions of US government toward Eastern Europe will be explored. Original US Government documents (including those from 1989) and secondary sources will be used to provide an analysis of the most dramatic and important moments: 1953 (East Berlin), 1956 (Poland and Hungary), 1968 (Czechoslovakia), 1980-81 (Poland), 1989 (Poland and other Eastern Block countries) and to survey the American political and diplomatic response. During the course, we will also explore the linkages between American policy and actions undertaken by EE countries (and societies) in the international and domestic policies (including human rights).


[Final examination 6-page paper (with references), ready on Nov. 20]


Readings: J. L. Gaddis, The Cold War, pp. 259–266; B. Kovrig, Of Walls and Bridges, pp. 323–350; Joseph F. Harrington and Bruce J. Courtney, Tweaking the Nose of the Russians, pp. 605–615; Piotr S. Wandycz, United States and Poland, pp. 414–424