



## Cold War Culture – Research Seminar Winter term 2011

Instructors: Steve Smith, Aurélie Elisa Gfeller, Dean Vuletic  
Time: Monday, 5 – 7 p.m.  
Room: Belvedere

Culture was a key instrument of Cold War policies and ideologies in the United States, Europe and the Soviet Union. From the atomic bomb to espionage, the Cold War fueled the imagination of writers and filmmakers. In this seminar, students examine how the Cold War was waged on the cultural front, and how cultural developments from 1945 to 1989 were shaped by the dynamics of the East-West contest. The seminar also examines how intellectuals, artists and the public in each camp responded to American mass culture. Examples from literature, music, film, the visual arts and sport are used to illuminate the complex and contradictory ways in which international politics interacted with the production of both popular and high-brow culture.

10 January 2011	Culture and International History	Gienow-Hecht, Jessica C. E. "On the Diversity of Knowledge and the Community of Thought: Culture and International History." In <i>Culture and International History</i> , edited by Frank Schumacher, 3-26. New York: Berghahn Books, 2003. Iriye, Akira. "Culture and International History." In <i>Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations</i> , edited by Michael J. Hogan and Thomas G. Paterson, 241-56. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004. Mitter, Rana, and Patrick Major. "East Is East and West Is West? Towards a Comparative Socio-Cultural History of the Cold War." <i>Cold War History</i> 4, no. 1 (2003): 1-22.
17 January 2011	An Ideological Contest: Culture Instrumentalized	Hixson, Walter L. <i>Parting the Curtain: Propaganda, Culture, and the Cold War, 1945–1961</i> . New York: St. Martin's Press, 1997, chapter 2 and conclusions (chapter 8). Saunders, Frances Stonor. <i>The Cultural Cold War: The CIA and the World of Arts and Letters</i> . New York: New Press, 2000, introduction and chapter 16. von Eschen, Penny. "Who's Is the Real Ambassador? Exploding Cold War Racial Ideology." In <i>Cold War Constructions: The Political Culture of United States Imperialism, 1945–1966</i> , edited by Christian G. Appy, 110-31. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2000.



24 January 2011	Subversion and Dissent in Cold War America	<p>Kramer, Hilton. <i>The Twilight of the Intellectuals: Culture and Politics in the Era of the Cold War</i>. Chicago: Dee, 1999, introduction, part I (the Edmund Wilson century, Mary McCarthy) and part II (Clement Greenberg and the Cold War, Susan Sontag).</p> <p>Sbardellati, John, and Tony Shaw. "Booting a Tramp: Charlie Chaplin, the FBI and the Construction of the Subversive Image in Red Scare America." <i>Pacific Historical Review</i>, 72, no. 4 (2003): 495-530</p> <p>Whitfield, Stephen J. <i>The Culture of the Cold War</i>. 2nd ed. Baltimore, Md.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996, chapters 2 (especially pp. 37-42) and 8.</p>
31 January 2011	Exporting the American Dream? The Debate on Americanization	<p>Berghahn, Volker R. "The Debate on 'Americanization' among Economic and Cultural Historians." <i>Cold War History</i> 10, no. 1 (2010): 107-30.</p> <p>Kroes, Rob. "American Empire and Cultural Imperialism: A View from the Receiving End." <i>Diplomatic History</i> 23, no. 3 (1999): 463-77.</p> <p>Schwartz, Vanessa R. <i>It's So French! Hollywood, Paris, and the Making of Cosmopolitan Film Culture</i>. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2007, introduction and chapter 1.</p>
7 February 2011	Socialist Realism	<p>Caute, David. <i>The Dancer Defects: The Struggle for Cultural Supremacy During the Cold War</i>. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2003, chapter 5.</p> <p>Reid, Susan E. "The Exhibition Art of Socialist Countries, Moscow 1958-9, and the Contemporary Style of Painting." In <i>Style and Socialism: Modernity and Material Culture in Post-War Eastern Europe</i>, edited by Susan E. Reid and David Crowley, 101-32. Oxford: Berg, 2000.</p>
14 February 2011	The World of Spies	<p>Major, Patrick. "Coming in from the Cold: The GDR in the British Spy Thriller." In <i>Britain and the GDR: Relations and Perceptions in a Divided World</i>, edited by Arnd Bauerkämper, 339-52. Vienna: Philo, 2002.</p> <p>Shaw, Tony. <i>British Cinema and the Cold War: The State, Propaganda and Consensus</i>. London; New York: I.B. Tauris, 2001, chapter 2.</p>
21 February 2011	Cold War Consumption	<p>De Grazia, Victoria. <i>Irresistible Empire: America's Advance through Twentieth-Century Europe</i>. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2005, pp. 376-415 ("Supermarketing").</p> <p>Luthar, Breda. "Remembering Socialism: On Desire, Consumption and Surveillance." <i>Journal of Consumer</i></p>

		<p><i>Culture</i> 6, no. 2 (2006): 229-59.</p> <p>Reid, Susan E. "Who Will Beat Whom? Soviet Popular Reception of the American National Exhibition in Moscow, 1959." In <i>Imagining the West in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union</i>, edited by György Péteri, 194-236. Pittsburgh, Pa.: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010.</p>
28 February 2011	Pop Music Across the Iron Curtain	<p>Poiger, Uta G. <i>Jazz, Rock, and Rebels: Cold War Politics and American Culture in a Divided Germany</i>. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 2000, introduction.</p> <p><b>Available as electronic book at the EUI library under:</b> <a href="http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=acls;;idno=heb04370">http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=acls;;idno=heb04370</a></p> <p>Tomc, Gregorc. "A Tale of Two Subcultures: A Comparative Analysis of Hippie and Punk Subcultures in Slovenia." In <i>Remembering Utopia: The Culture of Everyday Life in Socialist Yugoslavia</i>, edited by Breda Luthar and Marusa Pusnik, 165-97. Washington, DC: New Academia Publishing, 2010.</p>
7 March 2011	East Against West: Sport and the Cold War	<p>Beamish, Rob. "Totalitarian Regimes and Cold War Sport." In <i>East Plays West: Sport and the Cold War</i>, edited by Stephen Wagg and David L. Andrews, 11-26. London; New York: Routledge, 2006.</p> <p>Dimeo, Paul. "Good Versus Evil?: Sport, Drugs and the Cold War." In <i>Ibid.</i></p> <p>Parks, Jenifer L. "Verbal Gymnastics: Sports, Bureaucracy, and the Soviet Union's Entrance into the Olympic Games, 1946-1952." In <i>Ibid.</i></p>



## Further readings

- Bernhard, Nancy. *U.S. Television News and Cold War Propaganda, 1947–1960*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999.
- Buffet, Cyril. "Declaration of Love on Celluloid: The Depiction of the Berlin Wall in a GDR Film, 1961–62." *Cold War History* 9, no. 4 (2009): 469–87.
- Fenemore, Mark. *Thugs and Rock 'N' Roll: Teenage Rebels in Cold-War East Germany*. New York: Berghahn Books, 2007.
- Genter, Robert. *Late Modernism: Art, Culture, and Politics in Cold War America*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010.
- . "'We All Go a Little Mad Sometimes': Alfred Hitchcock, American Psychoanalysis, and the Construction of the Cold War Psychopath." *Canadian Review of American Studies* 40, no. 2 (2010): 133–62.
- Gienow-Hecht, Jessica C. E. *Transmission Impossible: American Journalism as Cultural Diplomacy in Postwar Germany, 1945–1955*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1999.
- Krige, John. *American Hegemony and the Postwar Reconstruction of Science in Europe*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2006.
- Kuisel, Richard F. *Seducing the French: The Dilemma of Americanization*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993.
- Kuklick, Bruce. *Blind Oracles: Intellectuals and War from Kennan to Kissinger*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2006.
- Kuznick, Peter J., and James Gilbert, eds. *Rethinking Cold War Culture*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2001.
- Megson, Chris. "Is It Chaos? Or Is It a Building Site?' British Theatrical Responses to the Cold War and Its Aftermath." In *Cold War Literature: Writing the Global Conflict* edited by Andrew Hammond, 46–62. London; New York: Routledge, 2006.
- Mesch, Claudia. *Modern Art at the Berlin Wall: Demarcating Culture in the Cold War Germanys*. London: Tauris Academic Studies, 2009.
- Muscio, Giuliana. "Invasion and Counterattack. Italian and American Film Relations in the Postwar Period." In *Here, There, and Everywhere: The Foreign Politics of American Popular Culture*, edited by Reinhold Wagnleitner and Elaine Tyler May, ??? Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 2000.
- Pells, Richard H. *Not Like Us: How Europeans Have Loved, Hated, and Transformed American Culture since World War II*. New York: Basic Books, 1997.
- Rogachevskii, Andrei. "The Cold War Representation of the West in Russian Literature." In *Cold War Literature: Writing the Global Conflict* edited by Andrew Hammond, 31–45. London; New York: Routledge, 2006.
- Seed, David. *Brainwashing: The Fictions of Mind Control. A Study of Novels and Films since World War II*. Kent, OH: Kent State University Press, 2004.
- Shaw, Tony, and Denise J. Youngblood. *Cinematic Cold War: The American and Soviet Struggle for Hearts and Minds*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2010.
- Wagg, Stephen, and David L. Andrews, eds. *East Plays West: Sport and the Cold War*. London; New York: Routledge, 2007.
- Wagnleitner, Reinhold, and Elaine Tyler May, eds. *Here, There, and Everywhere: The Foreign Politics of American Popular Culture*. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 2000.



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