

HIST 214: GLOBAL HISTORY SINCE 1945

Fall 2026 - 3 units - Fictional eight-week course

Instructor	Dr. Maya Chen	Format	Hybrid: Tue lecture / Thu workshop
Email	mchen@wcc.example	Class time	Tue & Thu, 10:00-11:25 AM
Office	Humanities 214	Office hours	Tue 12:00-1:30 PM or by appointment
Course site	Westbridge Learn (fictional)	Prerequisite	None
Term dates	Sep 1-Oct 22, 2026	Final project due	Oct 20, 2026

Course Description

This course examines major global transformations from the end of World War II to the early twenty-first century. Topics include decolonization, the Cold War, economic development, social movements, globalization, and the changing role of international institutions. Students practice comparing historical interpretations, evaluating primary sources, and building evidence-based arguments.

Learning Outcomes

- Build a chronological framework for major global events since 1945.
- Compare political, economic, and social change across different regions.
- Distinguish between primary and secondary sources and evaluate their limitations.
- Explain how historians can use the same evidence to reach different conclusions.
- Create a clear historical argument supported by specific evidence and properly attributed sources.

Required Materials

- All readings and source packets are provided in the fictional course site.
- No textbook purchase is required.
- Students should bring a device or printed notes to Thursday source workshops.

Demo notice

Every person, institution, email address, assignment, and policy in this document is fictional. The historical topics are used only to create realistic practice material for an AI study-tool demonstration.

Assessment and Grading

Assessment	Weight	Purpose
Weekly source reflections (4)	20%	Short evidence-based responses
Map and timeline quiz	10%	Key places, dates, and sequences
Midterm comparison essay	20%	Compare two interpretations of a Cold War turning point
Workshop participation	15%	Source analysis, discussion, and peer feedback
Final presentation	25%	Five-slide argument about a post-1945 turning point
Final self-assessment	10%	Reflection on research and revision choices

Course Schedule

Week	Tuesday topic	Thursday workshop	Major due item
1	1945: The end of war and a new world order	Reading maps, timelines, and institutions	Source reflection 1
2	Origins of the Cold War	Competing explanations: ideology, security, and power	Quiz review
3	Decolonization in Asia and Africa	Independence speeches and colonial records	Map and timeline quiz
4	Revolution and reform in China	Visual sources and political campaigns	Midterm thesis workshop
5	The global 1960s	Civil rights, protest, and youth movements	Midterm essay
6	Oil, development, and economic crisis	Interpreting charts and policy documents	Source reflection 3

Week	Tuesday topic	Thursday workshop	Major due item
7	The end of the Cold War	Oral histories and memory	Presentation outline
8	Globalization and the post-Cold War world	Presentations and course synthesis	Final presentation

Major Assignment: Five-Slide Turning Point Presentation

Choose one turning point between 1945 and 2001. Make a defensible claim about why it mattered, explain the historical context, use at least three course sources, and address one reasonable counterargument. The presentation should contain no more than five content slides plus a source list.

1. Submit a one-paragraph topic proposal.
2. Build a source table identifying author, date, purpose, and limitation.
3. Draft a claim and a five-slide outline.
4. Create the visual presentation and add citations.
5. Revise after peer feedback and submit a final source note.

AI and Academic Integrity Policy

Students may use AI tools to brainstorm questions, generate practice quizzes, reorganize their own notes, or receive feedback on clarity. Students may not submit AI-generated analysis, citations, quotations, or presentation text as their own work. Every factual claim and citation must be checked against the assigned sources. Any AI assistance used on graded work must be disclosed in a brief process note.

Course Policies

- Attendance: Students may miss one class meeting without penalty. Contact the instructor about extended absences.
- Late work: Assignments may be submitted up to 72 hours late with a small deduction unless an extension is approved.
- Recording: No class session may be recorded without the instructor and participants giving permission.
- Accessibility: Students may request reasonable accommodations through the fictional Student Access Center.
- Respectful discussion: Historical debates may involve conflict, violence, race, religion, and political disagreement. Critique ideas and evidence, not classmates.