

## Essay 2 Guidelines

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Essay 2 is worth 30% of your final grade. It should be 1,500 words in length (give or take 150 words), and should be submitted as a Word document via the relevant Turnitin dropbox on the unit's iLearn space by the end of Week 10 (11:59pm Sunday 18 October).

Your question prompt for Essay 2 is:

### Was the Cold War a Long Peace?

Your essay should be based on (a) the following assigned readings (available via Leganto, which in turn is available via our unit's iLearn space):

- John Lewis Gaddis, "The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International System," *International Security* 10, no. 4 (Spring 1986): 99–142;
- John Lewis Gaddis, "Epilogue: The View Back," in *The Cold War: A New History* (Penguin, 2005);
- Tony Judt, "Whose Story Is It? The Cold War in Retrospect," in *Reappraisals: Reflections on the Forgotten Twentieth Century* (New York: Penguin, 2008);\*
- Paul Thomas Chamberlin, "Introduction: A Geography of Cold War-Era Violence," in *The Cold War's Killing Fields: Rethinking the Long Peace* (New York: HarperCollins, 2018);

and (b) any other unit materials you deem relevant, i.e., lectures and worksheets.

The question prompt should be taken as a starting point for your essay, but you should feel free to interpret the question broadly or reframe it as necessary. The main thing is that you showcase your ability to analytically and systematically think through a problem, and develop a reasoned and well supported argument about the nature of the Cold War.

Essay 2 should be based on deep engagement with the assigned readings and unit materials. It should be clear to those reading your essay that you have completed and understood the assigned readings, but essays should not be mere summaries of the readings. They are the sources you will use to develop your own argument in response to the question prompt.

You are not expected to find any additional sources. This is not a research essay, but rather an essay designed to develop and test your analytical and writing skills. You will be assessed on your ability to articulate and develop a clear, coherent, and persuasive argument; your understanding of the provided readings; and the structure and style of your writing. Essay 2 will be assessed against the same rubric used for Essay 1 (see the "Essay 1 Guidelines"). If you do use any outside sources in your essay, these should not be included at the expense of analysing the assigned readings. For referencing, please see the "Essay Referencing" notes in the "Essay 1 Guidelines".

Ver: 25 September 2020

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\* Judt originally wrote this essay for the *New York Review of Books*, and then republished it in *Reappraisals*, a volume of his collected essays. The *Reappraisals* version is available via Leganto. If you prefer, you may use the original version: Tony Judt, "A Story Still to Be Told," review of *The Cold War: A New History*, by John Lewis Gaddis, *New York Review of Books* 53, no. 5 (March 23, 2006). But the text is exactly the same.