**Assignment 3: America as Superpower—Confrontation in a Nuclear Age**

**(1947-Present)**

**History 105:**  Due Week 9 and worth 120 points (Dr. Stansbury)

**Submission deadline: 9am Eastern Time; Monday morning, March 9**

In **Assignment 3**, we ask you to write about America’s international superpower role for the long period since World War II to the present using a Writing Guide provided in Blackboard. Your paper must use a minimum of three sources from the list provided below.

Your first step to completing this paper is to narrow down your topic by the subjects you select. Below you will find two lists—one refers to Cold War period (1947–1990) examples of confrontation and one list provides examples of confrontations occurring in the Post-Cold War period (1991–Present). Each example will involve a specific strategic concern and confrontation. Review the examples below and choose one strategic concern and one confrontation from each time period to focus on in your paper. Once you have chosen your examples, review the sources noted below. Besides this instruction sheet and the Writing Guide, be sure to review the other helps (documents or video) provided by your instructor. For information on the SWS format, see the “Strayer Writing Standards” tab on the course menu, usually at the lower left of your Blackboard course shell.

In this assignment, instead of choosing from different topics, you choose how to narrow down a larger topic by focusing on some specific issues and specific examples. Using the listed items provided, you get to choose how you do that narrowing of the focus of your paper.

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**You need two examples--one for each period.**

**FIRST EXAMPLE: Cold War period (1947-1990) possible examples--choose one strategic concern and one confrontation that illustrates that concern—the combination of strategic concern and confrontation will be your example for this period:**

**Cold War strategic concerns**: Containment, Domino Theory, “MAD Doctrine”

**Cold War confrontations**: Berlin Airlift; Korean War; Vietnam War; Cuban Missile Crisis

**SECOND EXAMPLE: Post-Cold War period (1991-2020) possible examples—choose one strategic concern and one confrontation that illustrates that concern—the combination of strategic concern and confrontation will be your example for this period:**

**Post-Cold War strategic concerns**: Terrorism, Rogue States; WMD

**Post-Cold War confrontations**: First Persian Gulf War (1991); Invasion of Afghanistan (2001);

Invasion of Iraq (2003); Bombing of Libya (2011)

Sources: Schultz, p. 462–7, 485–8, 499–506, 535–540, 560–7. See notes below and list on next page.

You must use the Schultz text as one of your sources. You must use a minimum of three sources overall—you may use more. Besides the Schultz book, your other sources must come from the list below (on the next page) or from Strayer University’s online library. Any source used MUST be listed at the end of your paper on **a numbered Sources** list in SWS format—and each source listed MUST also be cited in the body of the paper with a short, SWS style in-text citation. Important: Choose sources that relate to your paper **(list is on next page):**

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Besides the Schultz textbook, you may also use any two (or more) of the following sources that relate to your paper:

George H. W. Bush. March 6, 1991. Address before a Joint Session of the Congress on the Cessation of the Persian Gulf Conflict. <http://college.cengage.com/history/wadsworth_9781133309888/unprotected/ps/bushnwo.html>

B. Caplan. Sept. 9, 2019. The Domino Theory Reconsidered. <https://www.econlib.org/the-domino-theory-reconsidered/>

S. Chace. Summer, 2015. The Cuban Missile Crisis: Leadership as Disturbance, Informed by History. <http://libdatab.strayer.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bth&AN=110092272&site=eds-live&scope=site>

Winston Churchill. March, 1946. Iron Curtain Speech, Fulton College, Missouri. <https://winstonchurchill.org/resources/speeches/1946-1963-elder-statesman/the-sinews-of-peace/>

John F. Dulles. January 2, 1954. Secretary Dulles’ Strategy of Massive Retaliation. <http://college.cengage.com/history/wadsworth_9781133309888/unprotected/ps/dulles.html>

K. Hickman. Aug. 9, 2019. History of Containment Policy. <https://www.thoughtco.com/definition-of-containment-2361022>

R. McNamara. July 3, 2019. Why Did the US Enter the Vietnam War? <https://www.thoughtco.com/why-did-us-enter-vietnam-war-195158>

B. K. Musili. August 1, 2017. What is a Rogue State? WorldAtlas. <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-a-rogue-state.html>

Colin Powell. February 6, 2003. Transcript of Powell’s UN Presentation. <http://www.cnn.com/2003/US/02/05/sprj.irq.powell.transcript/>

N. Robins-Early. March 7, 2015. Was the 2011 Libya Intervention a Mistake? Huffington Post. <https://www.huffpost.com/entry/libya-intervention-daalder_n_6809756>

D. Victor. Dec. 21, 2018. Need a Refresher on the War in Afghanistan? Here are the Basics. New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/21/world/asia/afghanistan-war-explainer.html>

R. Wilde. June 20, 2019. What is Mutually Assured Destruction? Thoughtco. <https://www.thoughtco.com/mutually-assured-destruction-1221190>

**[Formatting Instructions are on the next page]**

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Your assignment must follow these formatting requirements:

* Use [Strayer Writing Standards (SWS)](https://blackboard.strayer.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/STANDARDIZED/StrayerWritingStandards/Strayer_Writing_Standards.pdf). The format is different than other formats like APA. Please take a moment to review the SWS documentation for details.
* Be typed, double spaced between lines, using Times New Roman font, Calibri, Arial, or Courier (size 10, 11, or 12), with one-inch margins on all sides; citations and sources must follow SWS format. You must have a Sources list at the end; each source listed must also be cited in the body of the paper with an in-text citation. Check with your professor for any additional instructions.
* The *preferred file software is Microsoft Word (part of MS-Office). Alternatively, a student can use Windows’ WordPad (not NotePad) or OpenOffice. (Please* ***do not*** *submit files in .pdf format or Apple’s Pages or Google docs.)*
* Include a cover page containing the title of the assignment, the student’s name, the professor’s name, the course title, and the date. The cover page and the Sources page are not included in the required assignment page length.
* The body of the paper should be five paragraphs and a total of 500-to-800 words in length. The 500 minimum is firm; you really have not adequately developed the paper if less than that. The 800 maximum is a loose guideline. The body of the paper is to be double-spaced. Typically, if you follow these instructions, the body of your paper will be 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 pages in length—add a page for your title page and another for your sources list and that then gets to 4-1/2-to 5/1/2. But, the length requirement is evaluated by word count.

The paper must be submitted (uploaded and attached) in the course shell provided online.

The specific course learning outcomes associated with this assignment are:

* Discuss the rise of the United States to a world “superpower” from 1940 to present day and how the formal international policies of government influenced the role of America as a policeman of the world.

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[**Grading rubric on next 3 pages**]

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Grading for this assignment will be based on answer quality, logic/organization of the paper, and language and writing skills, using the following rubric (*rubric continues here on p. 4 and to p. 5 and 6 below*).

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| **Points: 120** | **Assignment 3: America as Superpower—Confrontation in a Nuclear Age (1947-Present)** | | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Exemplary**  **100% A** | **Proficient**  **85% B** | **Fair**  **75% C** | **Meets Minimum Expectations**  **65% D** | **Unacceptable**  **0% F** |
| 1**. Introduction: Identify the Cold War and Post-Cold War examples of confrontations or concerns that you will discuss. Describe what you will cover in the paper.**  **Weight: 10%** | Thoroughly and clearly introduced your paper by identifying the Cold War and Post-Cold War examples of confrontations or concerns that you will discuss and by describing what you will cover in the paper. | Satisfactorily introduced your paper by identifying the Cold War and Post-Cold War examples of confrontations or concerns that you will discuss and by describing what you will cover in the paper. | Partially introduced your paper by identifying the Cold War and Post-Cold War examples of confrontations or concerns that you will discuss and by describing what you will cover in the paper. | Insufficiently introduced your paper by identifying the Cold War and Post-Cold War examples of confrontations or concerns that you will discuss and by describing what you will cover in the paper. | Poor or no introduction. Did not identify the Cold War and Post-Cold War examples of confrontations or concerns that you will discuss. Did not describe what you will cover in the paper. |
| **2. History and Issues: Describe the background of the concern and confrontation from the Cold War and Post-Cold War Periods.**  **Weight: 30%** | Thoroughly and coherently described the background of the concern and confrontation from the Cold War and Post-Cold War Periods. Used persuasive reasoning or clear examples. | Satisfactorily described the background of the concern and confrontation from the Cold War and Post-Cold War Periods.  . | Partially described the background of the concern and confrontation from the Cold War and Post-Cold War Periods. | Insufficiently described the background of the concern and confrontation from the Cold War and Post-Cold War Periods. | Did not submit or incompletely described the background of the concern and confrontation from the Cold War and Post-Cold War Periods. |
| **3. Comparison: Compare the different historical contexts and strategic concerns and the outcomes. What do you see as the strengths and weaknesses in each example?**  **Weight: 15%** | Thoroughly and clearly compared the different historical contexts and strategic concerns and the outcomes. What did you see as the strengths and weakness in each example? Used persuasive reasoning or clear examples. | Satisfactorily compared the different historical contexts and strategic concerns and the outcomes. What did you see as the strengths and weakness in each example? | Partially compared the different historical contexts and strategic concerns and the outcomes. What did you see as the strengths and weakness in each example? | Insufficiently compared the different historical contexts and strategic concerns and the outcomes. What did you see as the strengths and weakness in each example? | Did not submit or incompletely compared the different historical contexts and strategic concerns and the outcomes. What did you see as the strengths and weakness in each example? |
| **4. Conclusion: Consider your examples as they illuminate today’s international issues and America’s role in the world.**  **Weight: 15%** | Thoroughly and effectively considered your examples as they illuminate today’s international issues and America’s role in the world. | Satisfactorily considered your examples as they illuminate today’s international issues and America’s role in the world. | Partially considered your examples as they illuminate today’s international issues and America’s role in the world. | Insufficiently considered your examples as they illuminate today’s international issues and America’s role in the world. | Did not submit or incompletely considered your examples as they illuminate today’s international issues and America’s role in the world. |
| **5. Used the MINIMUM of three sources, drawing from the list provided. The class text is one of the sources used. Sources are listed at the end and matching in-text citations are used.**  **Weight: 10%** | Meets at least the minimum number of required sources; all sources high quality choices. Sources are listed at the end and also cited in the body of the paper. Solid research is evident. | Meets minimum number of required sources; most sources come from the list provided. | Does not meet the required number of sources; some sources poor quality choices or not from the list provided. | Does not meet the required number of sources; Insufficient on the reference list or in-text citations. | No sources provided. |
| **6. Writing and Presentation:**  **Used good grammar. Presentation shows clarity, reason, and critical thinking with proper writing mechanics. SWS format is used for reference entries, in-text citations, paper layout, and organization. Instructions followed.**  **Weight: 20%** | 0–2 errors. | 3–4 errors. | 5–6 errors. | 7–8 errors. | More than 8 errors present. |

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