

Nuclear War

Instructors: Dr. Eric Swedin and Dr. David Ferro
 Offices: Swedin at LH274 (Ogden) and Ferro at ET110 (Ogden)
 Office phone: 801-626-6692 (Swedin) and 801-626-6303 (Ferro)
 E-mail: eswedin@weber.edu and dferro@weber.edu
 Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00-5:00 (LH274)
 Other office hours are available by appointment.

Texts: John Hersey, *Hiroshima* (1946, numerous reprints) ISBN-10: 1684116880
 Eric G. Swedin, *When Angels Wept: A What-If History of the Cuban Missile Crisis* (Potomac, 2010) ISBN-10: 1597975176

Class Description and Objectives: This course will examine the history and present day concerns about nuclear war.

Class participation and discussion is expected.

Grading Policies: Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Quizzes	60%
Term Paper	20%
Book Presentation	10%
Class Participation	10%

Grades: A: 90 - 100% B: 80 - 89% C: 70 - 79% D: 60 - 69% E: 0 - 59%
 (Grades at the high or low ends of these ranges will earn plus and minus grades.)

Readings: The readings for each day are available on Canvas or listed on the Schedule in this syllabus.

Quizzes: There will a short quiz every day at the beginning of class. Each quiz will be based on the readings that you were given for that day, or will be given on the content of the previous class's presentations. There may also be a couple of questions from previous quizzes' content.

Term Paper: A twelve page paper on any topic covered in the course is required. You may turn in an early draft for the instructors to critique and we will return the critiqued draft one week later. The final draft is due on April 12. The content can be a personal essay, a research paper with citations, or a fictional short story.

Book Presentation: Each student will read an additional book from a list to be distributed by the instructors. The student should research book reviews and academic papers on the book, if they exist. Each student will give a ten-minute presentation on their book. The presentation will explain who wrote the book, a very brief description of the topics covered, and why this is an important book.

Cheating Policy: Cheating and deceit are not accepted at Weber State University. Cheating on an quiz or assignment, or turning in someone else's work as your own, will result in an E for the class. You may work together on your assignments and papers, but you must turn in your own work. If you quote from a book, article, or web site, you must properly quote and cite your work. Avoid even the appearance of cheating or plagiarism.

Recording Classes: Video or audio recording of any portion of lectures is only permitted in this class upon my authorization. If you would like to request authorization to record, please contact me. Unauthorized recording is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, for which a student may be subjected to disciplinary action under PPM 6-22, Student Code. Students who seek to record for purposes of accommodating a disability should contact the Disability Services Office at (801) 626-6413 or dsc@weber.edu. See more info at <https://www.weber.edu/disabilityservices>.

Cell Phones, Texting, and Laptops: Put your cell phones on vibrate. Try to avoid leaving class to take a call, but an occasional emergency is understandable. There will be NO texting in this class. Laptops or other personal digital tools may be used to take notes or look up material relevant to class discussions. No other uses of laptops will be tolerated.

Students with Disabilities: Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Campus Closure: In the event of an extended campus closure, please look at your Weber State email in order for instructions on how we will continue the class via email and the Canvas online course system.

Covid-19 Considerations: The pandemic is still affecting our activities. Absent new developments, please do not come to class if you are feeling ill. The instructor will always make accommodations for illness or the consequences of illness in your living situation. Remember that WSU students are expected to be vaccinated unless they have an appropriate exemption. See also, "Student Expectations for Spring 2022," at <https://www.weber.edu/academicaffairs/student-expectations.html>.

Schedule: Look on Canvas for the daily reading and viewing assignments.

WSU Recycling Policy: Weber State University is dedicated to being a leader in sustainability to ensure present needs are met without compromising the ability for future generations to inherit a healthy planet, society, and economy. Part of this commitment includes sustainable waste management practices with the ultimate goal of becoming a zero-waste campus. In order to achieve this goal, it is up to the WSU community to be informed about the various recycling policies on campus. For more information on recycling at WSU, please reference Energy & Sustainability Office website.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Understand nuclear weapons and nuclear power, from both a historical perspective and a contemporary perspective.
- 2) Engage in critical thinking that is open-minded, objective, and as free as possible from prejudice and presupposition.
- 3) Develop discussion skills and writing skills.

Daily Schedule:

January 11 (Tuesday): Introduction to class

January 13 (Thursday): Watch documentary in class

January 18 (Tuesday): Readings: Hersey, Chapters I-II

January 20 (Thursday): Readings: Hersey, Chapters III-IV

January 25 (Tuesday): Readings: Swedin, Introduction and Prologue

January 27 (Thursday): Readings: Swedin, Chapter 1

February 1 (Tuesday): Readings: Kathleen M. Tucker and Robert Alvarez, Trinity: "The most significant hazard of the entire Manhattan Project"
<https://thebulletin.org/2019/07/trinity-the-most-significant-hazard-of-the-entire-manhattan-project/>
and
The Decision for Peace - USSBS (File on Canvas)

February 3 (Thursday): Readings: Swedin, Chapters 2-3

February 8 (Tuesday): Readings: Swedin, Chapters 4-5

February 10 (Thursday): Guest Speaker

February 15 (Tuesday): Readings: Swedin, Chapters 6-7

February 17 (Thursday): No Class (LTUE)

February 22 (Tuesday): Readings: Swedin, Chapter 8

February 24 (Thursday): Readings: Swedin, Chapter 9 and Conclusion; Student

March 1 (Tuesday): Guest Speaker

March 3 (Thursday): Guest Speaker

March 8 (Tuesday): Spring Break

March 10 (Thursday): Spring Break

March 15 (Tuesday): Viewing in Class: The Day After

March 17 (Thursday): Viewing in Class: The Day After (2)

March 22 (Tuesday): Readings: Pages 1-15 of FEMA Response To Nuclear Terrorism
(File on Canvas); Student Presentations 1 & 2

March 24 (Thursday): Viewing: Them (1954) (Rent on Amazon or Google)
Student Presentations 3 & 4

March 29 (Tuesday): Viewing Chernobyl (Rent first episode on Amazon Google)
Student Presentations 5 & 6

March 31 (Thursday): Readings: Pages 7-21 of Chernobyl Health Effects U.N. Report
(File on Canvas); Student Presentations 7 & 8

April 5 (Tuesday): Viewing: Nuclear Meltdown Disaster (Fukushima Nova episode;
Kanopy); Student Presentations 9 & 10

April 7 (Thursday): Readings: To be assigned; Student Presentations 11 & 12

April 12 (Tuesday): Viewing: Command and Control (Stream on Netflix or Google)
Student Presentations 13 & 14

Term Paper due

April 14 (Thursday): Readings: To be assigned
Student Presentations 15 & 16

April 19 (Tuesday): Viewing: Pandora's Promise (2014) (Kanopy)
Student Presentations 17 & 18

April 21 (Thursday): Spare day