

Dr Ra Mason, University of East Anglia (UEA)

Sample assignment for the module “International Politics since 1945”

(Sample section from Module Outline document)

Summative Assessment

Summative assessment provides a measure of your performance in relation to a formal piece of assessed work – it is therefore often described as assessment *of* learning. Summative assessment may take many different forms (e.g. essays, projects, dissertations, portfolios, OSCEs, exams, course tests, poster presentations, oral presentations, lab reports). You are required to write ONE essay on this module.

Assessment Type and Sequence No	% Weighting	Assignment Deadline	Method of submission	Return Date of marked work	Format of feed-back	Word limit	Method of return
WA - Written Assignment	100%	1 June 2018	Blackboard (Online LMS)	Within 15 working days	Written and oral	2000 words	Hub

Assignment title and further details (e.g. essay length):

Write one essay of 2,000 words on one of the following:

1. Why did America drop the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki?
2. Compare and contrast the orthodox and revisionist views on the origins of the cold war.
3. Why did the US go to war over Korea? Was it right to do so?
4. Did the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961 help stabilise the cold war in Europe?
5. Why did Khrushchev deploy nuclear weapons in Cuba? Did he achieve his objectives?
6. Why did America lose the war in Vietnam?
7. Why did the USSR lose the war in Afghanistan?
8. Why did the cold war end?
9. “The cold war is over and the West has won!” Discuss.
10. Why did the UN go to war against Iraq in 1991? Was it right to do so?
11. How far did 9/11 change international relations?
12. Argue the case in favour of the war against Saddam Hussein in 2003.
13. Compare and contrast the Western response to the wars in Bosnia and Kosovo.
14. Deconstruct the term ‘terrorism’
15. How should the West respond to security issues involving Vladimir Putin’s Russia?
16. Is the liberal post-cold war world dominated by the US coming to an end? Will China take its place?
17. How might Japan’s international political role change in the next decade(s)?

***Please note, you must consult with myself if you wish to write an essay other than one of those listed.**

***Please refer to the University’s Senate Scale for details of assessment criteria.**