A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: WRIT 131 Writing I or equivalent.

Lab Hours/ Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies, Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 08 - Global Perspective

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "If America's soul becomes totally poisoned, part of the autopsy must read 'Vietnam'.” The American military experience in Southeast Asia, during the height of the cold war, was traumatic for many Americans, including many who did not share King's antiwar views. Years later, the Vietnam War remains a specter haunting American politics and culture. This course considers how the war came about, why it took the direction it did, what the alternatives were, how Americans have viewed the war since the 1960s and why it continues to matter so much to so many.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/01/1998 - 09/05/1999 09/06/1999 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Can critically evaluate contemporary claims made concerning the Vietnam War, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
2. Can explain why the United States fought a war in Vietnam and why the United States lost the war, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
3. Gains a grasp of the basic events, historical background, and developments of the war fought by the United States in Vietnam, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
4. Understands the experiences of both Americans and Vietnamese, of multiple perspectives, in the Vietnam War, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
5. Understands the relevance and continuing impact of historical understanding of the Vietnam War in American society and politics, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies

None

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
3. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.

Goal 08 - Global Perspective

1. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their
solution.
2. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
3. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

G. Special Information

None