Stephen G. Rabe HST 3369

University of Texas at Dallas Fall 2011

PAPER ASSIGNMENTS

1. How do you evaluate President Woodrow Wilson, his 14 Points, and his peace-making at Versailles? Was Wilson a visionary who pointed the way to global peace and prosperity or was he a naïve leader who did not understand the realities of international power politics?

2. Ask an older adult or two—your parents, grandparents, old Uncle Ernie—why President Harry S. Truman authorized the atomic bombing of Japan. Do these esteemed people know the full story?

3. Who caused the Cuban Missile Crisis? Does anyone deserve credit for preventing a Soviet-American nuclear conflict?

4. In any war, there are innocent victims, euphemistically dubbed "collateral damage." Why did so many Latin Americans suffer and die during the Cold War?

5. In his second inaugural address, on 20 January 2005, President George W. Bush declared that the central aim of U.S. foreign policy would be to abolish tyranny and spread freedom around the world. So, what went wrong in Iraq?

Due Dates:	
Link Paper	September 19
Walker Paper	October 10
Munton & Welch Paper	October 26
Rabe Paper	November 16
Finkel Paper	December 5

All students must submit three (3) papers. Students can submit four (4) or five (5) papers. Papers must be delivered in "hard-copy" form. No EMAIL attachments. Please note that I do not accept late papers. All students must submit original work. Plagiarism is a serious offense.

Suggested Length: Three-to four-typewritten pages (750-1,000 words), double spaced.

ADVICE:

- 1. Write simple, declarative sentences. Omit needless words.
- 2. Write in the active voice.
- 3. Remember that verbs are best and nouns are second best. Avoid adverbs.
- 4. Concentrate on writing strong topical sentences for each paragraph.
- 5. Try to avoid using forms of the verb "to be." Eliminate "to be" from your topical sentences.
- 6. Do not use contractions. Distinguish between "its" and "it's."
- 7. The word "felt" does not mean "believed" or "thought."
- 8. Buy a copy and study <u>The Elements of Style</u> by William Strunk and E.B. White.