Cold War Science
History of Science 3463

Spring 2011
TuTh 1:30-2:45
Physical Sciences 224

Cold War Science covers the history of nuclear weapons from their invention to the present day. New material is incorporated each year as new books appear and the international situation changes. The first third of the course examines nuclear weapons technology from its origins in the Manhattan Project to the Cuban Missile Crisis. The second portion of the course covers the Space Race, detente, and the end of the Cold War. This year we will be using David E. Hoffman’s 2009 Pulitzer Prize winner *The Dead Hand*. The last third of the course carries the same themes to the present. This year we will read the final book in Richard Rhodes’ history, *The Twilight of the Bombs*, which covers both Iraq wars and concludes with current efforts to abolish nuclear weapons.

Books we will read in this course:

- David Hoffman *The Dead Hand* (Anchor, 2009)
- Richard Rhodes *Twilight of the Bombs* (Knopf 2101)
- Jim Ottaviani *T:Minus: The Race to the Moon* (Aladdin, 2009)

For more information contact: Peter Barker (barkerp@ou.edu)