

## History 394-0005 (92053)

### The Vietnam War

#### Mid-term Examination (take-home)

**Due: 2:45 p.m., Tuesday, March 20, 2018**

Answer either 1, 2, or 3 below.

Your exam must be typed (double-spaced, 12-point font, MS Word, 2-3 pages). A title page is not required, but source(s) must be cited.

Bring a paper copy of the answer to class, Tuesday, **March 20, 2018**. Be sure your name is on the answer sheet.

**Note:** The Mid-term Examination may be found in the Assignments link of the course Blackboard site and will close at the due time/date.

**1.** Some observers have argued that the Japanese occupation of Vietnam during World War II set the stage for demise of the French empire in Southeast Asia and, later, the intervention of the United States in the region. Discuss the validity of this statement.

**2.** In *America's Longest War*, George Herring states that President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his secretary of state John Foster Dulles "viewed the apparent demise of French colonialism [in Vietnam] with equanimity, if not outright enthusiasm." They were "confident that without the problems posed by France, the United States could build a viable non-Communist alternative to the Vietminh."

Evaluate this statement in light of the U.S.-French relationship in Vietnam from 1941, when the Japanese took over Southeast Asia, to the beginning of 1961, when the Eisenhower administration left office.

**3.** Compare, and contrast, the Vietnam policies of the Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations. Be sure to note the political situation in Vietnam and the forces that influenced the reactions of both administrations.