

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2004

PSCI 222

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

- 1. WHAT IS THE BEST CASE THAT CAN BE MADE THAT THE COLD WAR WAS MOSTLY THE FAULT OF THE SOVIET UNION? WHAT IS THE BEST CASE THAT CAN BE MADE THAT THE COLD WAR WAS MOSTLY THE FAULT OF THE UNITED STATES?**
- 2. IS HOOK AND SPANIER'S EXPLANATION OF THE ONSET OF THE COLD WAR BASED ON CULTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION PERSUASIVE?**
- 3. IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE ONSET OF THE COLD WAR WAS THE FAULT OF NEITHER THE UNITED STATES NOR THE SOVIET UNION? WHY?**
- 4. "STRUCTURAL" EXPLANATIONS OF THE COLD WAR MIGHT BE BASED ON (1) THE SIZE PRINCIPLE, (2) BALANCE OF POWER THEORY, OR (3) ARGUMENTS REGARDING THE IMPACT OF BIPOLARITY. HOW DO THESE STRUCTURAL ARGUMENTS RELATE TO EACH OTHER? WHICH ONE IS THE MOST PERSUASIVE?**
- 5. WOULD THE COLD WAR HAVE OCCURRED IF THE SOVIET UNION HAD BEEN DEMOCRATIC (OR IF THE UNITED STATES HAD BY THE END OF WORLD WAR II BECOME A COMMUNIST STATE)?**