# Cold War into Guerilla War

## Lesson Plan: World History

### College Level

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Overview</th>
<th>Students will learn about the Cold War and the War on Terrorism and compare the two.</th>
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| Objective | 1. Students will interview an elder who remembers the Cold War happening and use the information for their paper and to discuss with classmates.  
2. Given research materials and suggested Web sites, students will research information on the Cold War and the War on Terrorism and then compare the two in an essay.  
3. Students will post their main findings on FriendFeed |
| Materials | 1. Paper and pencils  
2. Newsprint and markers  
3. Computer with Internet access  
4. Newspapers and magazines  
5. *Cold War into Guerilla War* video and VCR  
6. FriendFeed account |
| Procedure | 1. Ask students what they know about the current War on Terrorism. To spur conversation, ask the following questions:  
   - What is the significance of 9/11/01?  
   - When did the War on Terrorism start?  
   - How do you know that we are engaged in a War on Terrorism?  
   - Has your life changed since the War on Terrorism began? If so, how?  
   - Have the lives of your parents or other caregivers changed since the War on Terrorism began? If so, how?  
2. Next, ask students if they know what the Cold War was. Write down their ideas on a sheet of newsprint. Students may describe it as "a period of extreme tension between the United States and the Soviet Union" or refer to these key events and terms:  
   - Cuban Missile Crisis  
   - Iron curtain  
   - Berlin War  
   - Communism  
3. Tell students that the Cold War was at its height during the 1950s and 1960s, when adults who are middle-aged now were children. To gain a deeper understanding of what it was like to live during that time period, give students the homework assignment of interviewing an adult they know who was a child during the 50s or 60s. Suggest that they ask the following questions:  
   - What was it like growing up during the Cold War?  
   - In retrospect, were there any incidents that took place because the United States was engaged in a Cold War with the Soviet Union? What were they?  
   - Do you remember when the Cold War ended? Why do you think it ended?  
   - Did the world feel safer after the Cold War ended?  
4. During the next class period, students can flesh out their research by viewing the *Showdown: The Cuban Missile Crisis* segment of the video and by visiting the following Web sites:  
   - [http://www.zmag.org/chomsky/sam/sam-3-1.html](http://www.zmag.org/chomsky/sam/sam-3-1.html)  
   - [http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nsa/cuba_mis_cri/moment.htm](http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nsa/cuba_mis_cri/moment.htm)  
   - [http://www.coldwar.org](http://www.coldwar.org)  
5. After students have completed their research on the Cold War, have them turn their attention to the War on Terrorism. In addition to answering the questions in Step 1, have them look through newspapers and magazines and on the Internet for information.  
6. Ask students to combine their research on both topics in an essay that compares the experiences of adults who were young during the Cold War with their personal experiences during the War on Terrorism. Students should discuss how the two sets of experiences are alike and how they are different. |
7. Conclude the lesson by having students post in a FriendFeed room any lessons to be learned by looking at the Cold War in light of the War on Terrorism. Have them post what they thought brought about the end of the Cold War. What do they think is going to bring about the end of the War on Terrorism?

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<th>Evaluation</th>
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<td>Students participated actively in class discussions; wrote an interesting, informative, and creative essay comparing the Cold War with the War on Terrorism; drew insightful conclusions based on what they learned.</td>
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Adapted from: [http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/programs/coldwar/](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/programs/coldwar/)