

HIS 218 The World In the 20th Century

Fall 2011 (Online)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine some of the major events and trends in twentieth century world history since 1945. We will follow three broad themes, the cold war, the developing world, and globalization. Using a textbook, primary source documents, film and current news analysis, we will selectively examine the transformations of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first in a global context.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ You will expand your knowledge of twentieth century world history since 1945.
- ❖ You will develop your ability to analyze and interpret primary source documents.
- ❖ You will develop your ability to formulate an argument and write an analytical paper using primary source evidence.
- ❖ You will leave the course with the skills and curiosity to pursue your study of the past and think incisively about the present.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

This is an online class. Every week, you will do the reading and assignments drawn from the course textbook, document reader, films, newspaper articles and additional assigned reading.

Reading: The weekly readings are short, but can be dense. Take time to understand the concepts being introduced and the history presented. The course presents three themes in three units of three chapters. For each unit, you should be looking to build your understanding of that theme over time and to integrate the secondary source material from your text book with the primary source material in your documents book.

Chapter Review:

For each week of textbook reading you will have a graded assignment that reviews the chapter material. The format of this weekly chapter review may change, but there will be some graded review of the textbook material each week. There will be a total of ten chapter assignments. Your lowest grade will be dropped. All chapter review assignments must be taken in the assigned timeframe. There will be no make-up assignments.

Document Analysis: For each of the ten chapters in your documents reader, you will post one (1) one-page analyses of a primary source document that reflects your knowledge of the reading and the other documents assigned. In addition, you will add to the analyses of another document posted by another student.

Film Analyses: You are required to watch one film for each unit and to write a 1-2 page film analysis for a total of three (3) films analyses.

Class Participation will take the form of weekly Blackboard discussions. You will make weekly posts to discussion questions and assigned newspaper articles. Blackboard posts will be graded on their substance, interaction with other posts. The tone of these posts may be conversational, but they must also be respectful, and written in standard English.

Unit Papers: There will be two (2), 3-4 page papers that will draw from the assigned reading and documents. The purpose of these papers is to develop your ability to formulate a thesis and argument and to support that thesis and argument using primary source evidence and the history you have learned.

Unit Tests: There will be a total of three (3) unit tests, one at the end of each unit.

2008 Financial Crisis Project: We will do a group class project on the 2008 financial crisis the last three weeks of class. There will be two assignments: a book review of one book about the crisis and a final essay. Your preferences will be solicited for the book you read, but you will be assigned the book you write a book review on. Your final essay on the crisis will draw on everyone's work.

Academic Integrity Policy:

All work submitted in your name must be your original work with proper credit given to all sources. Review UNCG's Academic Integrity Policy and the penalties for plagiarism. See the UNCG website for more details: <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>.

Grading Formula:

10% Chapter Review Assignments
10% Document Analysis Assignments
10% Participation: Class Discussion, News Analysis, Film Analysis
20% Unit Papers
30% Unit Tests
10% Book Analysis
10% Final Essay

Reading:

- Text: Hunt, Michael. *The World Transformed: 1945 to the Present*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004. (available at UNCG's Bookstore)
- Documents: Hunt, Michael, *The World Transformed: 1945 to the Present: A Documentary Reader*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004. (available at UNCG's Bookstore)
- You are required to subscribe to the online *The New York Times* via <http://www.nytimes.com>.
- 2008 Financial Crisis Project.
 - o Morgenson, Gretchen, *Reckless Endangerment* (2011)
 - o Sorkin, Andrew, *Too Big To Fail* (2010)
 - o Lewis, Michael, *The Big Short* (2010)
 - o Krugman, Paul, *The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008*
 - o Reinhart, Carmen, *This Time is Different* (2009)
 - o Others to be added

Films:

- Unit 1: The Cold War: *Hearts and Minds* (1974), *The Lives of Others* (2006),
- Unit 2: The Developing World: *Water* (2005), *Long Night's Journey into Day* (2000),
- Unit 3: Globalization *Life and Debt* (2003), *Inside Job* (2010)
- If you live in Greensboro you can watch these films at the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC). You can also subscribe to a service that rents/streams movies. A Netflix membership is free for the first month.

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Weekly Assignments

UNIT 1: THE COLD WAR

Week 1, Aug 22

Read: Text, Introduction, Ch 1

Read: Docs, Introduction, Ch 1

Films: Vietnam - *Hearts and Minds* (1974); East Germany - *The Lives of Others* (2006)

Due: Sun, Aug 28, 11:55 PM: Intro and Ch 1 Review, Ch 1 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 2, Aug 29

Read: Text, Ch 4

Read: Documents, Ch 4

Due: Sun, Sept 4th, 11:55 PM: Ch 4 Review, Ch 4 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 3, Sept 5

Read: Text, Ch 7

Read: Documents, Ch 7

Due: Sun, Sept 11th, 11:55 PM: Ch 7 Review, Ch 7 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 4, Sept 12

Due: Sun, Sept 18th, 11:55 PM: Unit #1 Paper, Unit #1 Film Analysis, Unit #1 Test

UNIT 2: THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Week 5, Sept 19

Read: Text, Ch 3

Read: Documents, Ch 3

Films: India - *Water* (2005); South Africa – *Long Night's Journey into Day* (2000)

Due: Sun, Sept 25th, 11:55 PM: Ch 3 Review, Ch 3 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 6, Sept 26

Read: Text, Ch 6

Read: Documents, Ch 6

Film: India - *Water* (2005); South Africa – *Long Night's Journey into Day* (2000)

Due: Sun, Oct 2, 11:55 PM: Ch 6 Review, Ch 6 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 7, Oct 3

Read: Text, Ch 9

Read: Documents, Ch9

Due: Sun, Oct 9, 11:55 PM: Ch 9 Review, Ch 9 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 8, Oct 10

Due: Sun, Oct 16th, 11:55 PM: Unit #2 Paper, Unit #2 Film Analysis, Unit #2 Test

UNIT 3: GLOBALIZATION

Week 9, Oct 17

Read: Text, Ch 2

Read: Documents, Ch 2

Films: Jamaica - *Life and Debt* (2003)/U.S./O.U.S. - *Inside Job* (2010)

Due: Sun, Oct 23th, 11:55 PM

- Ch 2 Review, Ch 2 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 10, Oct 24

Read: Text, Ch 5

Read: Documents, Ch 5

Due: Sun, Oct 30th, 11:55 PM

- Ch 5 Review, Ch 5 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 11, Oct 31

Read: Text, Ch 8

Read: Documents, Ch 8

Due: Sun, Nov 6th, 11:55 PM

- Ch 8 Review, Ch 8 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 12, Nov 7

Due: Sun, Nov 13, 11:55 PM: Unit #3 Paper, Unit #3 Film Analysis, Unit #3 Test

Week 13, Nov 14

Read: Text, Ch 10

Read: Documents, Ch 10

Due: Sun, Nov 20th, 11:55 PM: Ch 10 Review, Ch 10 Doc Analysis, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 14, Nov 21

Read: 2008 Financial Crisis reading

Due: Sun, Nov 27, 11:55 PM: Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 15, Nov 28

Read: 2008 Financial Crisis reading

Due: Sun Dec 4th, Class Discussion, News Analysis

Week 16, Dec 5

Read: 2008 Financial Crisis reading

Due: Mon, Dec 5th, 11:55 PM: 2008 Financial Crisis Book Review

Final Exam:

Due: Fri, Dec 10, 11:55 PM: 2008 Financial Crisis Take Home Essay