

SYLLABUS  
HIS218-03 The World in the Twentieth Century (Since 1945)

Meeting Time/Location: WEB  
Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104  
Office Hours: MW 9:00 to 10:00 --- MW 1:00 to 2:00 --- (and by appointment)  
Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)

Course Introduction:

Welcome to my online version of HIS218-03 The World in the Twentieth Century (Since 1945). This is a WEB based course in which you will cover the same material/content as in the face-to-face version that I frequently teach. Please read the syllabus very carefully and if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to ask. For those who also attend on-campus classes at UNCG, please feel free to see me during my offices hours or contact me for an appointment. For those who are true distance learners who rarely if ever come to campus, I am always available through email. FYI, this semester I have two online classes with approximately 120 students in addition to two face-to-face classes with approximately 75 students. I will always respond as quickly as possible to your emails, but please allow 24 hours for a response during weekdays and 36 hours on weekends. And even though I often “burn the midnight oil” so to speak, please don’t get frustrated if you send me an email at 2:45am and I don’t respond right away.

You will obviously need to have access to your Blackboard account for this class and a basic understanding of how Blackboard functions. All assignments, quizzes, exams, etc. will be posted there and you will have to make weekly response postings on forums that I will set up each week. Your assignment/quiz/exam grades will be available throughout the semester. Rather than receiving weekly grades on your forum postings, you will receive one overall grade on your participation at the end of the semester.

Required Texts:

Brower, Daniel R. *The World since 1945: A Brief History* Second Edition\* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2005).

Carson, Rachel. *Silent Spring* (Any edition/publication).

McCauley, Martin. *Russia, America and the Cold War, 1949-1991* Second Edition\* (New York: Pearson/Longman, 2004).

(From time to time there may be additional materials placed online that you will be required to read)

### Learning Goals for this Course:

(These learning goals are applicable to both history majors and non-history majors alike.)

- **Historical Comprehension:** Students will be able to demonstrate proficiency in analyzing historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in a wide variety of places and periods.
- **Historical Analysis:** Students will demonstrate ability to use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view.
- **Historical Interpretation:** Students will be able to use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing.

### Procedures/Assignments:

It will be essential for you to keep up with your readings. If you follow the guidelines in the syllabus and don't allow yourselves to fall behind, you should have no trouble managing the workload for this class. Unlike a face-to-face class, discussion of your assigned readings, documentary films, etc., will be handled through weekly response postings on **Blackboard** through UNCG. Your required responses will be to a question or series of questions that I will post to create each week's discussion forum. With one or two exceptions there will be a labeled response forum for each week of the semester. The specific requirements of your postings will be discussed in greater detail in a separate document that will be posted on Blackboard. In addition, you will also have weekly quizzes based on your textbook readings for that week. These quizzes will consist of 10 multiple choice questions and will have a 15 minute time limit. During the semester you will have a total of 12 quizzes and I will drop your two lowest quiz scores. You should not find this course difficult provided that you remain current with your reading. However, students who fall behind will likely find it difficult to catch up.

### Attendance:

As this is a WEB based class, normal attendance guidelines do not apply. However, while you will have a certain amount of flexibility in completing assignments/quizzes, etc., please be aware that ALL assignments/quizzes/exams in this course have a time frame in which they must be completed! Students who repeatedly miss deadlines and/or frequently seek exemptions to stated guidelines will be dropped from the course. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of "W" must drop the class on or before Friday, October 12. For the purpose of organizing assignments and due dates, etc. consistently throughout the semester, each academic week will begin at 12:00am Sunday and end at 11:59pm Saturday.

Grading:

Quizzes	25%
Class Participation/Discussion Forums	25%
Mid-term Exam (Essay)	25%
Final Exam (Essay)	25%
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Course Total	100%

(This course follows a 10 point scale and I do assign +/- to final grades when warranted.)

Course Outline: Weekly material/readings

Week One—(August 19-25) McCauley, Chapter 1 “Introduction: The Problem”

Week Two—(August 26-September 1) McCauley, Chapter 2 “The Cold War in Perspective” and Brower, Chapter 2 “The Cold War and the End of Western Empires”

Week Three—(September 2-8) McCauley, Chapter 3 “Cold War I: 1949-1953”  
\*University closed Monday, September 3---Labor Day

Week Four—(September 9-15) McCauley, Chapter 4 “To the Brink and Back: 1953-1969”

Week Five—(September 16-22) McCauley, Chapter 5 “Détente: 1969-1979”

Week Six—(September 23-29) McCauley, Chapter 6 “Cold War II: 1979-1985”

Week Seven—(September 30-October 6) McCauley, Chapter 7 “New Political Thinking and the End of the Cold War: 1985-1991” and Brower, Chapter 7 “The Cold War and the Fall of the Soviet Empire”

Week Eight—(October 7-13) \*Midterm Exam\* --- (The midterm exam essays are due and must be submitted through SafeAssign on Blackboard by 11:59pm Wednesday, October 10)

Week Nine—(October 14-20) Brower, Chapter 3 “Revolutions and Recovery in East Asia, 1950-1990”

Week Ten—(October 21-27) Brower, Chapter 4 “New Nations in South Asia”  
Film: *Gandhi*

Week Eleven—(October 28-November 3) Brower, Chapter 4 “New Nations in South Asia”  
(cont’d)  
Film: *Gandhi*      \*\* Begin reading *Silent Spring*

Week Twelve—(November 4-10) Brower, Chapter 5 “Africa and Latin America in the Third World” \*\*Continue reading *Silent Spring*  
Film: *The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela*

Week Thirteen—(November 11-20\*) Brower, Chapter 6 “Nations at War in the Middle East”  
\*Thanksgiving Break Wednesday, November 21 \*\* Continue reading *Silent Spring*

Week Fourteen—(November 25-December 1) Brower, Chapter 8 “Local Wars, Global Economy: The World after the Cold War” \*\* **Class discussion: Putting *Silent Spring* in its historical context**

\*Article Portfolios must be turned in on Wednesday, November 28

Week Fifteen—(December 2-8) Last day of class ----- Review session for Final Exam

\*FINAL EXAM\* ----- Final Exam essays are due and must be submitted through SafeAssign on Blackboard by 11:59pm Saturday, December 8.

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Academic Integrity Policy:

*On all quizzes, exams, and papers you will be expected to abide by the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy, which may be reviewed at <http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/academicintegrity>. Please review this important document with an attention to detail, and feel free to ask questions if there is any part of the policy which you do not understand.*

*\*If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.*