



The World in the Twentieth Century: 1900-1945

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Availability:

I check my e-mail several times daily, and I **always** send a response. If you have not heard from me within 36 hours, I probably did not get your message, and you need to send it again.

Course Description:

This course is designed to offer a general understanding of the major events and concepts that have shaped the world between the end of the nineteenth century and 1945. This will be accomplished through examination of economic, political, and social changes.

Since proper historical examination goes well beyond dates and personalities, concepts, themes, and outcomes will be studied, with the dominant concepts that shaped the first half of the twentieth century emphasized. These concepts include industrialization, modernization, decolonization, totalitarianism, and war.

Goals and Objectives:

Upon completion of this course students:

- should possess a factual knowledge of world history from 1900-1945
- should be able to explain nationalism, imperialism, and expansionism as they apply to the world in a global context
- should know how to use historical analysis to understand the lives of common people of different races, ethnicities, classes, genders and sexualities in the past
- should have developed the ability to read and think critically about history
- should be able to express ideas in a logical, clear, and concise manner

Regarding Online Classes:

Online classes require both discipline and time management; since the class does not meet in a physical classroom, each student must keep himself or herself on track by carefully following the schedule detailed in the syllabus.

Remember that without the normal interactions of a classroom setting, the only way I have to evaluate your "class participation" is through your thoughtful participation in the weekly discussion board roundtable. Therefore, you should take your participation in the roundtable *seriously* and contribute *thoughtful* ideas. You will find detailed information about the weekly discussion board roundtable below.

Communication and Questions:

Check the "Announcements" section of Canvas daily, and make certain your UNCG email account works. These are the two primary modes of communication I use, and I want to keep you informed of what is going on throughout the course.

If you have questions about the course, i.e. syllabus, grading policies, or content, please go to the "Discussion" area and post on the pinned topic called "Questions for the Professor." More than likely you are not the only student with the same question, and posting here means I will not have to answer the same question multiple times. Keep in mind, all discussion boards are PUBLIC and for civil, course-related discourse only. (*I reserve the right to edit and/or remove discussion content at my own discretion.*) If you have a private concern

regarding coursework, personal issues, your grade, etc., please address those private concerns directly to me through e-mail.

IMPORTANT: If you have questions/complaints regarding how to use Canvas or anything technological (web browser settings, downloading information, accessing web links, errors, etc.), please do **NOT** contact me. Instead, utilize the “Assistance/Support” link under “Modules,” or email onlinehelp@uncg.edu. UNCG’s Tech Support staff members are the appropriate people to help you with technology issues. **International/Out-of-State Students:** All due dates and times refer to U.S. Eastern Standard Time, the time zone in Greensboro, North Carolina, U.S.A.

Readings (reading assignments are mandatory):

- Adas, Michael, Peter N. Stearns, and Stuart B. Schwartz. *Turbulent Passage: A Global History of the Twentieth Century*. 4th edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson-Longman, 2009.
- Two (2) books of your choice from a list of options
- All posts on the weekly discussion board roundtable

Grading:

You must submit exams and book reports to be graded through the “Submit Assignment” link on Canvas. These links disappear once the due date/time has passed. Keep in mind that I use anti-plagiarism software to analyze your work.

There will be no grading curve in this course. The following grading scale will be used to evaluate student performance:

100-98 A+, 93-97 A, 90-92 A-, 88-89 B+, 83-87 B, 80-82 B-, 78-79 C+, 73-77 C, 70-72 C-, 68-69 D+, 63-67 D, 60-62 D-, 59 and below F.

Reminder: The grade of C means “Average.” Work that is truly exceptional earns a grade of A, “Excellent,” whereas work that is completely substandard and unacceptable earns a grade of F, “Unsatisfactory.”

Exam One (Midterm)	= 25%
Exam Two (Final)	= 25%
Book Review and Analysis (2 of these @ 15% each)	= 30%
Class Participation (Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable)	= 20%

Please note:

1. There will be two exams (a Midterm and a Final) in this course. The exams will be primarily essay questions with some identification, short answers, and/or map questions. More details will be provided nearer to the exam time.
2. For the book reports, students will choose two (2) books on different subjects from the list provided. For each book, students will read carefully, and then write an essay of about five (5) pages, briefly summarizing the author's thesis, evidence, and use of the evidence, as well as the student's reaction to the book. Detailed instructions will be provided later in the semester.
3. For the weekly discussion board roundtables, there will be a topic/prompt posted each Monday by Noon EST on the Discussion Board. Students may address the original topic/prompt, comment on someone else's post, ask a relevant and thoughtful question of your own, or even introduce something else that directly relates to the topic/prompt. To receive credit, you must have participated in the week's roundtable discussion by each Friday at Noon EST. Since the roundtable is not a comment board on YouTube or a social media site, be professional in your Discussion Board behavior; treat this the same way that you would treat any graded, written classroom assignment. (Remember that you are being graded on your roundtable participation. You do not need to write an essay-length piece in your posts, but simply stating something superficial like, "Yes, I agree" is not sufficient to count as participation in a roundtable discussion. I will give feedback after the first couple weeks' discussions to help you gauge the adequacy of your participation.)

Summary of Exam Dates and Due Dates, and Further Information:

Noon EST, Monday, September 7: Deadline to select texts for Book Reports

Noon EST, Thursday, October 1: Exam 1 (Midterm) posted

Noon EST, Saturday, October 3: Exam 1 (Midterm) due

Noon EST, Friday, October 16: Book Review 1 due

Noon EST, Tuesday, November 24: Book Review 2 due

Noon EST, Thursday, November 26: Exam 2 (Final) posted

Noon EST, Saturday, November 28: Exam 2 (Final) due

Exams will be posted at 12:00 Noon EST on the above dates on Canvas under "Assignments." You will have **48 hours from the posting time** to complete the exam and submit your responses. If, due to extenuating circumstances, you cannot take an exam on the date it will be posted, please make other arrangements with me ASAP (*i.e.*, at the beginning of the course).

Technical Problem Policy:

You CANNOT participate in this course without a working computer and a reliable internet connection. Due to the nature of online classes, NO special concessions will be made for technological difficulties. In other words, students are responsible for obtaining and maintaining reliable Internet access. Internet access is available at libraries, schools, hotels, and coffee shops worldwide. Therefore, no extensions will be granted due to lack of Internet access. NOTE: If you choose to submit your assignments or exams at the last minute on the due date, you assume responsibility that a technical problem may preclude you from submitting your material. Those who ask for an extension will be referred to this policy.

Late Work Policy:

No late work will be accepted, and there are no appeals. All the deadlines are listed on this syllabus. If you have special circumstances preventing you from turning in an assignment on time, then you must communicate that to me ASAP (*i.e.*, at the beginning of the course). Failure to turn in work on time will result in a grade of zero (0). If I make exceptions for a small minority who are incapable of staying on track, it is unfair and disrespectful to the rest of class. Students requesting exceptions will be referred to this policy.

Academic Integrity Policy:

All assignments and exams in this course shall be completed under the tenets of the university's Academic Integrity Policy, found at <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/> Please note that any violations will be handled in the manner prescribed by the Policy.

Course Schedule:

(Note: This schedule may be modified, with advance notice to students.)

Week One, beginning August 17:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 1

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Part I overview, all

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP1 and PP2 - (Note: The PowerPoint presentations are found under "Course Documents" at the "Modules" link on Canvas. These presentations are designed to highlight the most important points from the reading. However, some of the PowerPoint presentations cover topics that do not appear in the reading. (You need to download the PowerPoint slides because many slides, especially those of photographs or images, have "notes" at the bottom of the slide. You need to read and study these "notes" if they appear, and watch any linked film clips if they appear. Don't rely on the "preview" box provided on Canvas.))

Preparation: Download and print the "Book Reviews list," found on Canvas under "Files." Begin looking over the list, and thinking about the two (2) books you may wish to choose for your book review/analysis essays.

Week Two, beginning August 24:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 2

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 1, pp. 16-34

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP3 and PP4

Preparation: Using your "Book Reviews list," begin browsing through the books you may be interested in using for your book review/analysis essays.

Week Three, beginning August 31:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 3

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 2, pp. 36-51

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP5 and PP6

Preparation: Make your final selection of two (2) books on which you will write two separate book review/analysis essays.

Week Four, beginning September 7:

DUE: Inform the instructor of your two (2) book choices, via an e-mail. Please have this e-mail to me no later than Monday, September 7, at Noon EST.

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 4

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 2, pp. 35-43

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP7 and PP8

Week Five, beginning September 14:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 5

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 3, pp. 53-71

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP9 and PP10

Preparation: Begin reading the book you will use for your first book report/analysis.

Week Six, beginning September 21:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 6

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 4, pp. 73-101

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP11 and PP12

Preparation: Continue reading, and finish, your Book Report/Analysis book.

Week Seven, beginning September 28 – EXAM WEEK:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 7

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Part II Overview, all, Chapter 5, pp. 111-116

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentation PP13

Exam One (Midterm): The Midterm Exam will be posted on Thursday, October 1, at Noon EST under “Assignments” on Canvas. You must submit your completed exam by Saturday, October 3, at Noon EST, using the “Submit Assignment” link provided on Canvas.

Preparation: Begin writing your first Book Review/Analysis essay.

Week Eight, beginning October 4:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: NO ROUNDTABLE THIS WEEK! Use your time to view the film named below, and work on your first Book Review/Analysis essay.

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 5, pp. 116-137

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentation PP14, and the 1930 American film "All Quiet on the Western Front" (online link provided under "Announcements")

Preparation: Revise and finish your first Book Review/Analysis essay.

Note: Friday, October 9 is the last day to drop a course without a penalty. Fall Break begins October 9 at 6:00 pm and ends October 14 at 8:00 am. On-campus classes will not be held, and I will be out-of-town doing research. Therefore, it may take me a bit longer to respond to any e-mails you send.

Week Nine, beginning October 14:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: FALL BREAK - NO ROUNDTABLE THIS WEEK!

DUE: Book Review/Analysis One - Friday, October 16 at Noon EST

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 6, pp. 139-167

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentation PP15

Week Ten, beginning October 19:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 8

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 7, pp. 169-176

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentation PP16

Preparation: Begin reading the book you will use for your second Book Review/Analysis essay.

Week Eleven, beginning October 26:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 9

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 7, pp. 176-191

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP17 and PP 18

Preparation: Continue reading the book you will use for your second Book Review/Analysis essay.

Week Twelve, beginning November 2:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 10

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 8, pp. 193-201

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentation PP19

Preparation: Continue reading, and work to finish, the book you will use for your second Book Review/Analysis essay.

Week Thirteen, beginning November 9:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 11

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 8, pp. 201-209

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentation PP20

Preparation: If you haven't done so, finish the book you will use for your second Book Review/Analysis essay. Begin writing your second Book Review/Analysis essay.

Week Fourteen, beginning November 16:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: Participate in Topic 12

Reading: *Turbulent Passage*, Chapter 8, pp. 209-219

View and Study: PowerPoint Presentations PP21

Preparation: Revise and finish your second Book Review/Analysis essay.

Week Fifteen, beginning November 23 – EXAM WEEK:

Weekly Discussion Board Roundtable: NO ROUNDTABLE THIS WEEK!

DUE: Book Review/Analysis 2 – Tuesday, November 24 at Noon EST

View and Study: Since the last few PowerPoint presentations have been long and rather complicated, use any extra time you have this week to review the material, and post questions if you have them.

Exam Two (Final): The Final Exam will be posted on Thursday, November 26, at Noon EST under “Assignments” on Canvas. You must submit your completed exam by Saturday, November 28, at Noon EST, using the “Submit Assignment” link provided on Canvas.

Note: I will post your final grades on Canvas as soon as I have them ready; please allow me adequate grading time by NOT deluging me with e-mails regarding final grades.

Congratulations! You made it through!