

SYLLABUS
History 218: The World of the Twentieth Century (1945-2000)
Fall 2016

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Course Description

This class will examine global issues in the contemporary world, focusing mainly on the post-World War II period, from the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945, to the complex, high-tech, evolving world of today. We will examine some of the important political, economic, social, and cultural changes of the second half of the twentieth century and how these changes have shaped the world we live in today.

Course Objectives

- 1.) To enhance understanding of the diversity of world civilizations and cultures by reading primary source materials.
- 2.) To improve the student's knowledge of historical events and important people by reading what scholars have said about the world in the twentieth century.
- 3.) To enhance perceptive reading skills by actively engaging supplemental books.
- 4.) To enhance concise writing skills by taking short answer identification and essay examinations and by writing responses to questions posed concerning supplemental books.
- 5.) To enhance oral communication skills by participating in periodic class discussion about primary or secondary source material.

Teaching Methods

History 218 will be taught through a variety of methods. The most common method will be lecture presentations. Additionally, we will read primary documents, secondary materials, and watch documentaries to promote classroom discussion. Supplemental readings and HAT questions will also play a key role in classroom discussion throughout the semester. We will reserve time on Fridays to discuss weekly readings.

Required Readings

Books: *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo

Readings/History Assessments of Thinking (HAT questions) noted on the syllabus are available on canvas

Examinations

There will be three in-class examinations, including the final examination. All three must be taken. They will consist of short answers, identifications, multiple choice, and essays. I will give you multiple essay options to answer on every exam. Answers will be judged on accuracy and abundance of historical information. The final examination is not cumulative but will include important material from previous tests as I see fit. You are strongly encouraged to attend every examination (see attendance). However, if you have an extremely substantial and documented reason for missing an exam, contact me at the earliest possible time to schedule a make-up time. It is your responsibility to notify me as early as possible to schedule the make-up.

I strongly encourage you to begin looking at your notes and the textbook days or weeks before the examinations. I will give you a study guide before the exam. Students who wait until the night before and try to "cram" will achieve nothing except a headache. Study early, study often.

Papers

I have assigned one supplemental book for this course. You are expected to read the book and answer a series of questions that I will provide up to a week in advance of the due date. However, do not take this to mean that you should wait until I give you the questions to begin reading. I strongly encourage you to begin reading the book weeks before the assignment is due. In addition, I will assign a number of primary source documents throughout the semester. You are expected to read these documents, answer a series of HAT questions, and be prepared to discuss the documents in class. Students who wait until a few days or the night before it is due will get a headache. Read Early, read often.

Writing assistance is available at the University Writing Center (in MHRA). See me if you need directions. Your tuition pays for it, so use it!

Assignments and Grading Breakdown:

Map Quizzes: 80 Points

Students will complete four map quizzes over the course of the semester. Students will be asked to identify 20 of the following: countries, rivers, seas, oceans, mountain ranges, and miscellaneous points on the map. Each blank space is worth 1 point for a total of 20 points per quiz. The objective of this assignment is to familiarize students with the landscape we will engage throughout the semester. The first map will be of the world today, the second will be a detailed map of Europe after WWII, the third will be a map of Africa after independence, and the final map will be the Middle East.

Friday HAT questions: 60 Points

Students will answer 6 Historical Assessment Thinking questions. Each question will be worth 10 points. The objective of these assignments is for students to engage primary sources, analyze their significance, and gain the basic skills of historical thinking.

Movie Project: 60 Points

Students will select and watch a movie from the list that I provide you. Students will then complete a 3-4-page paper on their thoughts of the film and respond to a prompt provided by the instructor. It is important to employ what you learn in the class and readings to determine if the movie is accurate or not.

Book paper #1: 100 Points

Students will read, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo and answer a series of questions that I will provide up to a week in advance of the due date. The objective of this assignment is to expose students to some contemporary historiography.

Exam I: 100 Points

Students will complete an exam covering the first third of the course material. Questions will include fill in the blank, HAT questions, short answer identifications, multiple guess, and an essay.

Exam II: 100 Points

Students will complete an exam covering the middle portion of the course material. Questions will include fill in the blank, HAT questions, short answer identifications, multiple guess, and an essay.

Final Exam: 100 Points

Students will complete an exam covering the final third of the course material. Questions will include fill in the blank, HAT questions, short answer identifications, multiple guess, and an essay.

Attendance, Participation, In-Class Assignments: 200 points

I will pass around a daily attendance sheet that you must sign. I expect every student to attend every class session. Attendance and participation will count towards a portion of your grade. Students are expected to attend every class, be attentive, and act in an adult manner. The correlation between class attendance and student grades is strongly related. If you absolutely have to miss a class for a serious reason, I suggest you get the class notes from a classmate. It is your responsibility to keep up with the class notes and readings. Do not be late to class. I do not like tardiness. I also expect every student to participate in classroom discussion when appropriate. Please raise your hand if you have a question about anything I say. From time to time, we will watch videos/documentaries - these will always have a corresponding assignment with them - another reason to attend class regularly. This category will also include any in-class assignments (not including the HAT assignments) that will come up during the course of the semester.

Total: 800 Points

No weighted grades here. Divide your total earned points by 800 and you will arrive at your percentage. I adhere to UNCG's standard grading scale.

Code of proper classroom conduct

The classroom is a learning environment and requires appropriate behavior. A higher degree of maturity and consideration for others is expected of you now that you are in college. Students will NOT: 1.) talk to neighbors or whisper during class, 2.) arrive or depart as they please, 3.) eat in class, 4.) use cell phone telephones, I know when you are texting, TURN IT OFF, I can hear vibrations and so can everyone else - it's distracting and annoying. Students WILL: 1.) raise your hand if you have a question, 2.) attend to bathroom needs before or after class, 3.) eat before or after class - I'm okay with drinks. I take all of this very seriously and I expect you to take it seriously too.

I encourage, and love, questions and comments. Raise your hand during class, see me before or after class, or during my office hours.

At the first sign of trouble - come to me and I will help you. I may not know you are having problems if you don't come to me.

Academic Integrity

The best learning environment is one based on mutual respect and trust. However, the desire to achieve a good grade without doing the necessary work may tempt some students to cheat on exams or to represent the work of others as their own. As should be obvious to anyone at UNCG, plagiarism and cheating are wrong and are acts of "academic dishonesty." The term "academic dishonesty" means a deliberate and deceptive misrepresentation of one's own work. Instances of academic dishonesty include all, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1.) Plagiarism: presenting as one's own work, whether literally or in paraphrase, the work of another author.
- 2.) Turning in the same paper for multiple courses.
- 3.) Cheating on exams, tests, and quizzes; the wrongful giving or accepting of unauthorized exam material; and the use of illegitimate sources of information.
- 4.) Unsanctioned collaboration with other individuals in the completion of course assignments.

5.) Falsifying data and use of fraudulent methods in laboratory, fieldwork, and COMPUTER WORK.

6.) Falsifying excuses for non-attendance or completion of assignments.

There are no mitigating circumstances to justify academic dishonesty. If you are unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism, please ask - Ignorance is no excuse. Discovery of academic dishonesty will bring stiff penalties, including a failing grade for the assignment in question and possibly a grade of F for the course. The maximum penalty at UNCG for plagiarism is possible expulsion from the entire UNC system, so for your own sakes, DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.

Don't think you can fool me. I have been reading and writing history for many years now. You will be caught if you plagiarize. This is not a challenge; this is a plea. Don't do it, it will ruin your career as a student at UNCG.

Additional Information

I want you to succeed in this class. Please come see me if you are having trouble, or if you want to talk history! Ask questions, read often, study often.

The course schedule on the following page will change as circumstances dictate. Considering the breadth of material that we have to cover in a short period of time, do not be surprised if I have to revise the schedule. I will announce in class and by email if I need to make changes.

If you need to contact me outside of class, email me. I check it several times daily.

If class is cancelled for any reason - snow, hurricanes, or a sick instructor - you will be notified on your UNCG issued email address, so check it often.

Course Schedule [Assignments as assigned]

Week 1 (8/22- 8/24 -8/26)

Course introduction, Syllabus, What is history?, Primary and secondary sources. HAT questions
The World in the Twentieth Century 1900-1945

Week 2 (8/29- 8/31 -9/2) **[World Map Quiz Monday 8/29]** **[HAT Question I Friday 9/2]**

The World in the Twentieth Century 1900-1945, The defining year: 1945

M 9/5 - Campus Closed – Labor Day

Week 3 (9/7-9/9) **[Europe after WWII Map Quiz Friday 9/9]**

The origins of the Cold War

Week 4 (9/12- 9/14 - 9/16)

The Cold War, Korea, The Soviet Union and Communist Europe, The United States

Week 5 (9/19- 9/21 -9/23) **[HAT Question II Friday 9/23]**

The Postwar International Economy, China

Week 6 (9/26- 9/28 -9/30) **[Exam I Friday 9/30]**

China, India

Week 7 (10/3- 10/5 -10/7) **[HAT Question III Friday 10/7]**

Vietnam

Week 8 (10/10- 10/12 -10/14) [**Africa Map Quiz Friday 10/14**]
Decolonization in Africa, South Africa

M 10/17 – Campus Closed – Fall Break

Week 9 (10/19-10/21)
Iranian Revolution, Arab-Israel-Palestine Conflict, Munich

Week 10 (10/24- 10/26 -10/28) [**HAT Question IV Friday 10/28**]
The United States: Society, The Space Race

Week 11 (10/31- 11/2 -11/4) [**Movie Project Due Friday 11/4**]
Latin America, Russia's Vietnam: Afghanistan

Week 12 (11/7- 11/9 -11/11) [**Exam II Monday 4/14**]
Civil Rights and Feminism in the U.S. and the World

Week 13 (11/14- 11/16 -11/18) [**HAT Question V Friday 11/18**]
The End of the Cold War, The Balkan Wars

Week 14 (11/21) [**Middle East Map Quiz Monday 11/21**]
Gulf Wars, Iran-Iraq

Week 15 (11/28- 11/30 -12/2) [**HAT Question VI Friday 12/2**]
Somalia, Rwanda

Week 16 (12/5) [**Paper on Behind the Beautiful Forevers due Monday 12/5**]
9/11 and the Middle East in the 21st century

Our final is on Wednesday December 7th from 3:30pm to 6:30pm outlined by the University's final exam schedule.

-Keep in mind that this schedule is a general outline and may change but I will let you know well in advance of any due dates if I have to change it-