

THE WORLD IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY (1900-1945)

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Office Hours: Mondays 3:45-4:45, Tuesdays 2:15-3:15, and by appointment

Class Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:45 in Graham 302

HIS 217-05

UNC Greensboro

Fall 2017

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The first half of the twentieth century was a crucial time in world history. The period saw the rise of independence movements in several regions. The world wars brought not only extensive destruction, but major changes in the way nations interacted with each other. While this course focuses on the period 1900-1945, we will also analyze the ways in which historical influences prior to the twentieth century shaped the events of the twentieth century.

The primary goal of this course is to challenge students to critically interpret the past. Students will be encouraged to appreciate and understand the social, economic, and political factors that produce historical change. The course seeks to expose students to a variety of perspectives from historical figures around the world, as well as various interpretations made by scholars. Students will analyze primary and secondary sources and be encouraged to think like historians. The long-term impact for the student is not merely the retention of historical facts, but to develop an understanding of how to approach historical issues and make relevant connections to the world in which they live.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

General Education Historical Perspectives Student Learning Outcomes:

-Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.

-Utilize evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and in writing.

General Education Global Non-Western Perspectives Student Learning Outcomes:

-Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse cultures.

-Describe interconnections among regions of the world.

-Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

MEANINGFUL LEARNING:

The primary goal of any of my history courses is to create meaningful learning for the students. This course has been designed to appeal to a variety of learners through the use of various methods of teaching and assessment. I encourage students to take an active role in utilizing this course to help shape their own understanding of processes of historical change.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

-Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1999).

-Mariano Azuela, *The Underdogs* (New York: Penguin Putnam, Inc., 1996).

-Erez Manela, *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the International Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007).

-Gerhard L. Weinberg, *World War II: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014).

READINGS:

Students must complete assigned readings by the date they are listed on the class schedule. You should take notes as you read, including factual information, but also noting the central arguments and points of analysis. Your reading notes will be helpful for studying for exams and quizzes, and for writing papers and assignments. Aside from the books, readings (and films) are available on Canvas or the internet.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance at class meetings is required. Students are allowed three unexcused absences. Students will be penalized two points on their final grade for each absence beyond three. Excused absences require a doctor’s note or other legitimate documentation. More than six absences may result in the student being dropped from the course. In addition, students should arrive to class on time. Two instances of tardiness will count as one absence.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: The use of laptops, cell phones, tablets, or any other type of electronic device is prohibited during class.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS: All assignments must be submitted in hard copy. Late assignments will be penalized ten points (out of 100) for each class day they are late. No assignments will be accepted two weeks after the due date.

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Any instance of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment, and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for appropriate action. Any use of sources (books, documents, articles, internet sites, etc.) must be cited properly. Blatant or egregious acts of plagiarism (including copying and pasting) or cheating will result in an “F” for the course and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. For more information, see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy at the following website: <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>

PARTICIPATION AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: Participation in class discussions is mandatory. Opportunities for discussion will be present during each class, and especially on class “discussion” days. On “discussion” days (see the class schedule), students should come to class with two discussion questions, which may be posed to other students for discussion.

GRADING

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS/PARTICIPATION	20%
MIDTERM	20%
FINAL EXAM	20%
PAPERS	20% (10% each)
QUIZZES/ASSIGNMENTS	20% (5% each)

CLASS SCHEDULE

NOTE: Readings and assignments should be completed by the date in which they are listed.

AUGUST 15: INTRODUCTION/WHY STUDY HISTORY?

AUGUST 17: SLAVERY AND ITS LEGACY

Reading: Hochschild, 1-87

View PATH module 8: 3 videos and Academic Integrity Message at:

<http://library.uncg.edu/tutorials/index.aspx?m=8>

AUGUST 22: COLONIZATION IN AFRICA

Reading: Hochschild, 88-149

AUGUST 24: CONGO REFORM MOVEMENT/GENOCIDE IN NAMIBIA/PAN-
AFRICANISM

Hochschild, 150-208

AUGUST 29: QUIZ/CLASS DISCUSSION

Reading: Hochschild, 209-274

AUGUST 31: SPANISH AMERICAN WAR/LATIN AMERICA AND THE UNITED STATES

Reading: Hochschild, 275-306

SEPTEMBER 5: THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION

Reading: Azuela, 1-82

-Paper 1 Due (*King Leopold's Ghost*; See prompt on Canvas)

SEPTEMBER 7: NATIONALISM/ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Reading: Azuela, 83-161

SEPTEMBER 12: WORLD WAR I

Readings: Nationalism, Armenian Genocide readings (On Canvas)

SEPTEMBER 14: SELF-DETERMINATION/DISILLUSIONMENT

Reading: Manela, 1-53

SEPTEMBER 19: Class meets at 4:45—details to follow (alternative assignment available)

-Submit assignment/online quiz via Canvas prior to class

SEPTEMBER 21: MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA

Reading: Manela, 55-97

SEPTEMBER 26: THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC/WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Reading: TBA

SEPTEMBER 28: THINKING LIKE A HISTORIAN

-Information literacy assignment due (Submit on Canvas)

OCTOBER 3: REVIEW FOR MIDTERM EXAM

OCTOBER 5: NO CLASS (OHA conference)

OCTOBER 12: MIDTERM EXAM

OCTOBER 17: INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT AND PARTITION
Reading: Excerpt from Hardiman, "Gandhi in His Time and Ours" (On Canvas)

OCTOBER 19: REVOLUTIONS IN CHINA

Reading: Manela, 99-135
-View film: "Gandhi" (1982)

OCTOBER 24: CHINESE CIVIL WAR

Reading: Chinese Civil War documents (On Canvas)

OCTOBER 26: FRENCH INDOCHINA/EAST ASIA

Reading: Manela, 177-225

OCTOBER 31: GUEST SPEAKER

NOVEMBER 2: SPANISH CIVIL WAR

Reading: TBA

NOVEMBER 7: THE ROAD TO WORLD WAR II

Readings: Roosevelt's 1941 inaugural address; Atlantic Charter; Weinberg, 1-19

NOVEMBER 9: THE WAR AT HOME AND ABROAD

Readings: Weinberg, 20-65; World War II primary source documents (on Canvas)

NOVEMBER 14: WORLD WAR II FROM VARIOUS PERSPECTIVES

Reading: Weinberg, 66-125

QUIZ

NOVEMBER 16: DISCUSSION/ISSUES IN THE POSTWAR WORLD/HUMAN RIGHTS

Reading: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

NOVEMBER 21: THE ROOTS OF THE COLD WAR

Paper 2 due (See prompt on Canvas)

NOVEMBER 23: THE WORLD SINCE 1945

View Film: "Judgment at Nuremberg"

NOVEMBER 28: REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM

FINAL EXAM: DECEMBER 7, 3:30-6:30 P.M.