

History 218-01: The World of the Twentieth Century since 1945 (Fall 2018)

Instructor: Mr. Andy Bedingfield

Office: MHRA 2102

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00pm-3:00pm, Wednesday 1:00pm-3:00pm or by appointment.

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Time and Place: Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-7:45pm, MHRA 1214



Course Description: This class fulfills the General College Historical Perspective (GHP), Modern era (GMO), and Global non-Western markers (GN).

Together we will seek to puzzle out an answer to the question, “How did we get here?” To better understand our present, we must examine our past. In this course we will witness the birth and evolution of global systems and problems that impact us to this day.

In this class, we will examine the idea of history as a discipline as well as the primary themes and events between the conclusion of the Second World War and 2018. Students will gain practice and confidence in their ability to act as historians in their own right, reading and making cogent arguments out of a wide variety of primary sources from around the globe. I will provide a greater context to your readings in lectures and through my feedback. The main historical themes in this course are: (1. The Cold War between the United States and Soviet Union and its impact around the world, (2. Globalization and its impact on economies and culture. (3. Decolonization and revolution in the “Third World.”

This period was dynamic, and events occurring in one region could have major ramifications elsewhere, unbeknownst to participants at the time. This will provide an

opportunity for us to see the idea of “world” history at its clearest. As a result, although we will address the United States on many occasions, this is **not** a course on U.S. history.

Student Learning Outcomes:

General College Historical Perspective (GHP) SLOs

- Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
- Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

General College Global Non-Western (GN) SLOs:

- Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse global cultures.
- Describe interconnections among regions of the world beyond Great Britain and North America. (For GN marker, must include cultures, nations or sub-nationalities in the Caribbean, Latin America, Asia, Africa, Pacific Islands, or indigenous peoples around the world.

Course SLOs: Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Comprehend that history is not the memorization of dates and facts, but rather the *interpretation* of the past.
 - Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger system or structures in a wide variety of places and periods.
 - Analyze the key terms, facts, and events in contemporary world history and thereby exhibit an informed historical perspective.
- Critically appraise varying historical arguments and clearly express their own interpretations.
 - Critically read and distinguish between different types of historical sources and “read between the lines” of differing points of view.

Required Reading (Available at the UNCG Bookstore)

Michael H. Hunt, *The World Transformed: 1945 to the Present, A Documentary Reader* 2nd edition.

This book will provide the primary sources for this course that will be utilized in your weekly source analysis assignments and argument paper. I will discuss how to use the book and approach primary sources in the second week of class. This reading is *essential* to our class and it will be impossible for you to successfully pass this course without it. Weekly assignments and the argument paper are based upon these readings. Furthermore, exams will include book material. Ensure that your copy states that it is a “documentary reader” and that it is the second edition.

Assignments:

Weekly Primary Source Assignments (25%)

These will comprise brief reflections on multiple primary sources from the readings that will be submitted through CANVAS each Friday by 5pm unless otherwise stated. You will identify the kind of source, summarize its content, and argue its

significance to a larger theme. I will provide details and examples in class.

Argument Paper (20%)

In 4-6 pages double spaced, you will argue for or against a provided position. You will **not** be graded on a right or wrong basis as either position is valid. You **will** be graded on how well you support your argument with primary and secondary sources, your argument's clarity, and overall writing quality. The Weekly Primary Source Assignments will provide practice on how to make sense of and utilize primary sources like a historian. I highly encourage scheduling a meeting to discuss your topic prior to submission. The topic will involve more than one chapter and involve material from before and after the midterm. Therefore, it is important to keep up your note taking. We will go over this assignment in more detail after the Mid Term.

Mid Term (20%) and Final (20%)

Through a series of identifications and short answer questions, you will be tested on the content of my lectures and your readings. I will provide examples of the kind of answers I am seeking prior to an exam. The Mid Term will comprise all information up to the Mid Term and the Final will involve only the information provided after the Mid Term.

Map Assignment (5%)

We will be globe-trotting quite a bit in this course, therefore it is essential to have a good grasp on contemporary geography. You will be required to complete and turn in a map assignment.

Attendance (10%)

As elucidated in the Course Policies section, excessive attendance will penalize your attendance grade.

Weekly Primary Source Assignments	(25%)
Argument Paper	(20%)
Mid Term	(20%)
Final	(20%)
Map Assignment	(5%)
Attendance	(10%)

Final Grade Scale: (A)93+, (A-) 90-92, (B+) 87-89, (B) 84-86, (B-) 80-83, (C+) 77-79, (C) 74-76, (C-) 70-73, (D+) 67-69, (D) 64-66, (D-) 60-63, (F) <60.

Course Policies:

Attendance:

A student who is not present to sign the attendance sheet when it circulates at beginning of class will be marked "absent." **Once the sheet has circulated the room, no late**

students will be allowed to sign it. Students who leave class early without permission will be marked absent. You are permitted (3) no-excuse needed absences without penalty. Note: you are still responsible for any work due. Absences past (3) will each deduct 15 points from your attendance grade.

Academic Integrity Policy:

Every word you write in this class must be your own, not copied from any other source, whether in print or online, unless clearly indicated. The UNCG Academic Integrity Policy is online at <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu>. If you are not sure if you are accidentally committing plagiarism do not hesitate to ask for clarification!

Course Website and E-Mail:

You must have a working email address, and check it regularly, as it is our main means of communication out of class. In addition, you will need to utilize CANVAS in order to submit assignments and to have electronic copies of important documents and/or readings.

Classroom Standards and Etiquette:

In this class we will cover events that may reflect upon contemporary problems. Indeed, recognizing continuing trends is an expectation for the course. In doing so, however, we must maintain an atmosphere of courtesy and respect for opposing viewpoints. Disagreement is welcome, but only if done so in a constructive manner that targets arguments, not people, and is based upon evidence.

Technology:

Phones are to be put on silent and out of sight. If I see a phone out during the midterm or final exam I will assume the worst.

Laptops/tablets are permitted but only as a privilege that can be revoked at my discretion. Students using these devices are asked to sit at the back of the classroom so their screens do not distract fellow students.

Food and Drinks: I understand that this is a relatively late class but eating during class is distracting to fellow students. You are permitted to eat before the class begins but must put any food away upon the class starting. Drinks are allowed before and during class.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

UNCG seeks to adhere to the ADA and provide equal access to a college education. Students with questions or needs related to academic accommodations for disabilities should contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS), located in the Elliot University Center, Suite 215. For more information, please see <http://ods.uncg.edu>.

Course Schedule:

Readings are from Hunt unless otherwise specified.

Week I

August 14 Goals, Expectations, Policies, Thinking Like a Historian

August 16 Getting to 1945

Week 2 p.20-40 Begin Primary Source Assignments

August 21 1945, Guidance on Completing Source Analysis

August 23 Origins of the Cold War

Week 3 p.. 42-53, 173-187.

August 28 The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

August 30 The United States as a Superpower

Week 4 p.53-88

September 4 The Postwar Recovery in Western Europe

September 6 The Postwar World Economy, **Map Assignment Due**

Week 5 p.92-106, 260-264, 338-348, 114-127.

September 11 China

September 13 India

Week 6 p. 234-247 No Primary Source Assignment

September 18 Decolonization in Africa

September 20 **Mid Term**

Week 7 106-114, 269-280, 149-158

September 25 Cold War Crisis and Détente, Argument Paper Prompt handed out.

September 27 Vietnam

Week 8 p.158-173, 223-234

October 2 1968

October 4 Independence and Nationalism in the Islamic World

Week 9 349-363

October 9 NO CLASS FALL BREAK

October 11 The Iranian Revolution

Week 10 247-265, 207-222, 428-432 No Primary Source Assignment

October 16 Revolution and Development in Latin America

October 18 Civil Rights and Feminism in a World Context

October 20 **Argument Paper Due**

Week 11 384-399, 375-384

October 23 South Africa

October 25 Arab-Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Week 12 280-313, 406-414

October 30 The End of the Cold War

November 1 Globalization: The International Economy Entering the 21st Century

Week 13 415-439

November 6 Globalization: Culture, The Environments and Human Rights

November 8 90's Crisis Points: Somalia, Rwanda, and the Balkans

Week 14 445-461

November 13 International Conflict in the 21st Century

November 15 2018

Week 15 No Primary Source Assignment

November 20 NO CLASS THANKSGIVING

November 22 NO CLASS THANKSGIVING

Week 16 No Primary Source Assignment

November 27 Last Day of Class, Review, Final Thoughts

November 29 NO CLASS, READING DAY

December 4 FINAL EXAM 7-10:00PM