

HIS 208 01 TOPICS IN MODERN WORLD HISTORY I: *EUROPEAN EXPANSION AND EMPIRES*

MW: 10:00-10:50 a.m., Bryan Building 132

****Friday Discussion sections will take place online****

Instructor Information:

Professor: Dr. Jill Bender

Office: MHRA 2111

Student Office Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m. (If these days/times do not work for you, please email me to make an appointment.) All meetings will be held virtually, via Zoom for the Fall 2020 semester. Please note the Zoom link on Canvas.

Email: jcbender@uncg.edu

Teaching Assistants:

Brittany Hedrick, bmhedric@uncg.edu

Student Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m., and by appointment

Stuart Marshall, shmarsha@uncg.edu

Student Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00p.m., and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The empires of France and Britain once included nearly 1/3 of the world's population--and, these are just two examples of European empires. Germany, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Belgium, and other European powers also once held empires of their own. European imperialism, in other words, is a reality of our past and has significantly shaped the world in which we live. This course provides a historical survey of European imperial expansion from the mid-eighteenth century to the late-twentieth century. We will pay particular attention to the cultural, social, and political ramifications of imperialism.

Due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19, this semester will be organized a bit differently than in the past. According to university policies, students in HIS 208-01A and HIS 208-02A will attend face-to-face lectures on Mondays, students in HIS 208-01B and HIS 208-02B will attend face-to-face lectures on Wednesdays. I will live-stream and record all lectures and post them to the Canvas site the same day.

All discussion sections will be held online. Please be patient with me, your Teaching Assistants, your classmates, and, most importantly, yourself as we all navigate this semester together!

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

General Education Historical Perspectives (GHP) Student Learning Outcomes:

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

General Education Global Perspectives (GL) Student Learning Outcomes.

1. Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse cultures.
2. Describe interconnections among regions of the world. (Must include substantial focus on at least one culture, nation, or sub-nationality beyond Great Britain and North America).
3. Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

History Department Student Learning Outcomes (SLO).

1. Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in a wide variety of places and periods. [Historical Comprehension]
2. Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. [Historical Analysis]

READING & TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:

Throughout the semester, we will examine and analyze a variety of historical sources – from political documents to novels to music to films. **The following book is required: Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* (New York: Anchor Books, 1994).** I have placed a copy on e-reserve at Jackson Library and also order copies for purchase from the university bookstore. This novel has been published numerous times—any edition is fine. All other reading material will be available on the course Canvas site.

Please note that there is no central text for this course. The course lectures are designed to provide the necessary context and background often provided by a traditional textbook. Should you wish to consult a textbook in addition to the required readings, please see me for suggestions.

The Friday Discussion sections for this course will be online, as will many of the lectures. As a result, students must have access to a strong internet connection, a computer or tablet with audio and microphone capabilities, and the latest Chrome browser (Canvas works the best with Chrome). Should you need technical assistance at any point, please

contact the university's Information Technology Services (ITS) at 336/256-8324 or 6-TECH@uncg.edu. See the ITS website, <https://its.uncg.edu/help/>, for more information and hours of service.

EVALUATION & GRADING:

Participation (GHP 1, 2; GL 3; SLO 2)

Your participation grade will be based on your contributions to online discussions. These discussions provide an opportunity for you to engage with the readings and course material in depth and ask questions and gather feedback from your peers. Many discussions require you to post multiple times; please note the weekly deadlines at the start of each module.

Be respectful of each other in your discussion posts and replies. We will cover some difficult topics in this course; mutual respect and sensitivity are crucial as we wrestle with the history of imperial expansion.

Your participation in discussions will be marked Complete/Incomplete. To receive a strong final grade in participation, you should contribute to 11-12 discussions, 10 discussions for the B range, 9 discussions for the C range, and 8 discussions for the D range. Seven or few discussions will not be considered sufficient for a passing grade in participation.

Quizzes (GL 1; SLO 1)

Many modules will include a short quiz based on the assigned readings or films under discussion that week. (The lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.)

Writing Assignments (GHP 1, 2; GL 1, 2, 3; SLO 1, 2)

Students will write two papers over the course of the semester. Both papers will require students to analyze and contextualize primary sources. The first paper will be due by 11:59 on **Sunday, September 20th** and the second will be due by 11:59pm on **Sunday, November 1st**. Writing topics and additional instructions will be provided at least one week in advance of each due date.

Exams (GHP 2; GL 2, GL 3; SLO 1)

There will be two, take-home, open-book exams in this course. Exam 1 will be due by 11:59pm on **Sunday, October 11th**, and will cover material from weeks 1-8. Exam 2 will be due by 11:59pm on **Tuesday, December 1st**, and will cover material from weeks 9-15. Both exams will be provided at least one week in advance of each due date.

All work must be your own. Plagiarism is a breach of the university's academic integrity policy. For more information on this policy, see <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic->

[integrity-policy/](#). If you have further questions regarding this policy, please consult me or your teaching assistant.

Assignment Weights

Semester grades will be based on four different components: (1) participation, (2) quizzes, (3) exams, and (4) writing assignments. All assignments must be submitted to complete the course. The final grade will be determined according to the following calculation:

Participation	10% total
Quizzes	10% total
Exams	40% total
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Writing Assignments	40% total
Primary Source Analysis 1	20%
Primary Source Analysis 2	20%

Grading Scale

A: 94-100	B+: 87-89	C+: 77-79	D+: 67-69	F: 0-59
A-: 90-94	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66	
	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62	

ACCESSIBILITY & ACCOMMODATIONS

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

UNCG seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS). If you wish to request accommodations, please start the process by contacting OARS at 215 Elliott University Center, 336-334-5440, oars@uncg.edu.

UNCG Covid-19 Policies

As UNCG returns to face-to-face course offerings in fall 2020, the campus community must recognize and address concerns about physical and emotional safety. As such, all students, faculty, and staff are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Wearing a face covering that covers both nose and mouth
- Observing social distance in the classroom
- Engaging in proper hand washing hygiene when possible

- Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19
- Staying home if you are ill
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.

Instructors will have seating charts for their classes. These are important for maintaining appropriate social distance during class and facilitating contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19. Students must sit in their assigned seat at every class meeting and must not move furniture. Students should not eat or drink during class time.

A limited number of disposable masks will be available in classrooms for students who have forgotten theirs. Face coverings will also be available for purchase in the UNCG Campus Bookstore. Students who do not follow masking and social distancing requirements will be asked to put on a face covering or leave the classroom to retrieve one and only return when they follow these basic requirements to uphold standards of safety and care for the UNCG community. Once students have a face covering, they are permitted to re-enter a class already in progress. Repeated issues may result in conduct action. The course policies regarding attendance and academics remain in effect for partial or full absence from class due to lack of adherence with face covering and social distancing requirements.

For instances where the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) has granted accommodations regarding wearing face coverings, students should contact their instructors to develop appropriate alternatives to class participation and/or activities as needed. Instructors or the student may also contact OARS (336.334.5440) who, in consultation with Student Health Services, will review requests for accommodations.

Health and well-being impact learning and academic success. Throughout your time in the university, you may experience a range of concerns that can cause barriers to your academic success. These might include illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. Student Health Services and The Counseling Center can help with these or other issues you may experience. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus by calling 336-334-5874, visiting the website at <https://shs.uncg.edu/> or visiting the Anna M. Gove Student Health Center at 107 Gray Drive. For undergraduate or graduate students in recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, The Spartan Recovery Program (SRP) offers recovery support services. You can learn more about recovery and recovery support services by visiting <https://shs.uncg.edu/srp> or reaching out to recovery@uncg.edu.

COVID-19 Spartan Shield Video

UNCG Chancellor Frank Gilliam has challenged us to create a Culture of Care at UNCG where we all wear face coverings and social distance, less to protect ourselves but rather more to protect everyone around us. It shows that you care about the well-being of everyone around you. We have created this video featuring your student body presidents to better explain how and why this is so important. Please watch this video before the first day of classes: <https://youtu.be/Mb58551qxEk>

CLASS MEETINGS

***This schedule is subject to change at the professor's discretion**

WEEK ONE

Aug 17: No Classes

Aug 19: Introduction

Aug 21: ZOOM DISCUSSION: *Introductions*

Read: No Reading

UNIT I: EUROPEAN EMPIRES & THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS

WEEK TWO

Aug 24: The First "Global" War

Aug 26: Britain's "Swing to the East"

Aug 28: ONLINE DISCUSSION: *The British in India*

Read: Linda Colley, "Another Passage to India," *Captives*, 241-268.

Watch: *Primary and Secondary Sources in History*

WEEK THREE

Aug 31: Science, "Race," and Empire

Sept 2: The French Revolution and its global repercussions

Sept 4: ONLINE DISCUSSION: *Orientalism*

Read: William Jones, "A Discourse on the Institution of a Society" (1784)

WEEK FOUR

Sept 7: No Classes

Sept 9: The Haitian Revolution and its global repercussions

Sept 11: ONLINE DISCUSSION: *France, Saint Domingue, & Revolution*

Read: "Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen" (1789)

The Free Citizens of Color, *Address to the National Assembly*, (1789)

Letters from the Uprising of Vincent Ogé (1790)

WEEK FIVE

Sept 14: The Industrial Revolution

Sept 16: An Age of Imperial Reform

Sept 18: *No Online Discussion*

*****PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS #1 DUE*** Please upload to Canvas by 11:59 on Sunday, September 20th**

UNIT 2: THE NINETEENTH CENTURY & THE RISE OF "NEW" IMPERIALISM

WEEK SIX

Sept 21: Mid-century colonial crises

Sept 23: Nineteenth-century cultural transitions

Sept 25: ZOOM DISCUSSION: *Science, Race, & Empire*

Read: Excerpt from Herbert Spencer, *Progress: Its Law and Cause* (1857)

Excerpt from Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of the Species*, (1859)

Excerpt from Charles Darwin, *The Descent of Man* (1871)

WEEK SEVEN

Sept 28: New Imperialism (part 1)

Sept 30: Film: *King Leopold's Ghost*, Segments 1-14

Oct 2: ONLINE DISCUSSION: *The Belgian Congo*

Read: "Introduction: The Congo: Abominations and Denunciations," pages 711-

714, in "The Congo" section of *Archives of Empire*. Vol.2, *The Scramble for Africa*, edited by Barbara Harlow and Mia Carter.

Henry Morton Stanley, Excerpts from *The Founding of the Congo Free State* (1885)

Roger Casement, "The Congo Report," 715-727

E. D. Morel, "Excerpts from *History of the Congo Reform Movement*," 757-769

Watch: Segments 1-14 of *King Leopold's Ghost*

WEEK EIGHT

Oct 5: New Imperialism (part 2)

Oct 7: New Imperialism (part 3)

Oct 9: *No Online Discussion*

*****EXAM 1 DUE***** Please submit to Canvas by 11:59 on Sunday, October 11th

UNIT 3: GLOBAL CONFLICT & ANTI-COLONIAL NATIONALISM

WEEK NINE

Oct 12: Europe & the Great War

Oct 14: Empires & the Great War

Oct 16: **ONLINE DISCUSSION: *World War I & a colonial perspective***

Read: David Omissi, *Indian Voices of the Great War: Soldiers' Letters, 1914-1918* (excerpt)

WEEK TEN

Oct 19: New Countries, New Colonies (part 1)

Oct 21: New Countries, New Colonies (part 2)

Oct 23: **ONLINE DISCUSSION: *Gandhi & Anti-Colonial Nationalism***

Read: Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj* (excerpt)

WEEK ELEVEN

Oct 26: The Second World War

Oct 28: Film: *The Burma Boy*

Oct 30: **ONLINE DISCUSSION: *World War II & a colonial perspective***

Watch: *The Burma Boy*

*****PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS #2 DUE***** Please upload to Canvas by 11:59 on Sunday, November 1st

UNIT 4: DECOLONIZATION & THE END OF EMPIRE

WEEK TWELVE

Nov 2: Decolonization (part 1)

Nov 4: Decolonization (part 2)

Nov 6: ONLINE DISCUSSION: *Decolonization & Violence*

Read: Excerpt from Frantz Fanon, "On Violence," *The Wretched of the Earth*

WEEK THIRTEEN

Nov 9: Film: *Amandla!*

Nov 11: Film: *Amandla!*

Nov 13: ONLINE DISCUSSION: *Amandla!*

Watch: *Amandla!*

Read: This week's discussion will be based on *Amandla!*, but I encourage you to begin reading Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*.

WEEK FOURTEEN

Nov 16: Legacies of Empire (part 1)

Nov 18: Legacies of Empire (part 2)

Nov 20: ZOOM DISCUSSION: *Imperial Legacies*

Read: Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

WEEK FIFTEEN

Nov 23: Conclusions

Nov 24: *No Class Meeting*

*****EXAM 2 DUE*** *Please submit to Canvas by 11:59 on Tuesday, December 1st***
