

HIS 210-01: Human Rights in Modern World History Fall 2021

Online: Asynchronous



Image: Eleanor Roosevelt holding English language version of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1949.

Instructor: Mrs. Carolyn Lindley

Email: cameclur@uncg.edu

Office/Office Hours: Google Hangouts or Zoom, by appointment

Course Description:

This course provides a conceptual and historical introduction to the concept of human rights, surveying major developments in the advocacy of human rights since the Enlightenment. This course will trace the historical foundations of the idea of human rights as well as early revolutionary and anti-slavery, women's rights, and imperialism and anti-imperialism movements, and how genocides and similar atrocities affected human rights history and legal reform. Broader themes of culture, regionalism, race, ethnicity, and gender will also be explored as factors regarding how people and people groups around the world have understood and acted on the idea of human rights.

In addition, this course serves as an introduction to historical thinking and to world history as an approach. Studying world history is about understanding the interconnectedness of ideas and events that cross national borders and thinking comparatively about developments around the

globe. Students will be trained to think as historians by analyzing evidence and learning to ask questions that help them to understand the historical context of the evidence. Students will learn to analyze different types of evidence and make arguments based on such evidence. Primary and secondary sources will be studied as sources for historical understanding.

Because of its broad sweep, the variety of topics covered in this course make no claim to be comprehensive. No single course can examine all of the important topics that relate to human rights over two hundred and fifty years.

Online Course Disclaimer

This course is entirely online and asynchronous. There will be no set meeting days or times; students are responsible for logging in regularly and completing their coursework on time. There will be a Canvas Page published at the beginning of each week that details what students should read, watch, and submit for that week. Lectures for each week will be recorded, uploaded to Canvas, and either linked to or embedded within that week's Canvas Page.

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 Non-Western Perspectives (GN) Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Interpret or evaluate information on diverse cultures.
2. Describe interconnections among cultures, politics, and/or intellectual traditions of the world other than the dominant Euro-American ones.
3. Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

Course Specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Students will:

1. Compare how different nations, cultures, and peoples have defined "human rights."
2. Evaluate, analyze, and contextualize primary sources, in conjunction with secondary sources, to determine validity and reliability to the historical topic at hand and connect them to the larger themes in the modern history of human rights.
3. Evaluate the role of human agency in shaping the history of human rights, including various concepts of rights, rights legislation, and rights campaigns.
4. Analyze how concepts of racial, ethnic, religious, and gender norms and expectations shaped the modern history of human rights.

Course Instructor/Facilitator Expectations:

- I will typically grade and return assignments within seven (7) days of the due date. If this changes due to unusual circumstances, I'll communicate that as needed.
- I will monitor all discussion posts and provide comments/feedback when appropriate.
- I will answer all emails from students within 24 business hours (Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm). I will answer emails sent over the weekend within 48 hours.
- Any course updates and new information will be sent via course announcement in Canvas as early in the week as possible.

Participant Expectations:

- Plan to spend at least 3-6 hours a week completing this course. This time includes reviewing the module, submitting your assessments, and participating in the discussions.
- **If you are unable to meet a deadline or experience a personal issue, please notify the instructor immediately.**
- Be respectful of others in your discussion posts and replies. Your feedback should be constructive and sensitive. Think about the replies that you would want to receive.
- If you have a specific question about your course, email the instructor. If you have a general question about the specific topic that week, use the Q&A discussion forum on Canvas so that everyone can share their answers. Your question and the answer may benefit others in the course.

Required Text:

There is no required textbook for this course. All reading materials will be provided on the Canvas course page OR will be available through the UNCG University Library.

Assignments:

Quizzes (GHP 1, 2; SLO 2, 3, 4)

There will be regular quizzes based on the materials for the week in which the quiz is assigned. Each quiz is worth 10 points and students will be allowed two attempts per quiz. The highest score will go toward the final grade. **Due dates: Fridays at 11:59 pm.**

Discussion Boards (GHP 1, 2; SLO 1, 2, 3, 4)

Most weeks, students will contribute to a Discussion Board that will contain prompts based on that week's readings and/or visual content (supplemental videos, documentaries, films, etc.). Students will need respond to the prompts using specific examples from the course materials. These discussion board assignments are formative assessments that will help prepare students for the summative module assignments and primary source analysis assignment at the end of the semester. **Due dates: First posts are due Fridays at 11:59 pm; additional posts must be turned in on Saturdays by 11:59 pm.**

Grading: On a week-to-week basis, discussion boards will be marked as either "Complete" or "Incomplete" and feedback will be provided as needed. *To receive a "Complete" grade, students must meet all criteria listed in the discussion board instructions for that week.* Twice during the

semester, students will receive a rubric with feedback and a preliminary discussion board grade based on both their completion of these assignments and their incorporation of feedback in the content of their posts. This preliminary grade is not your final grade and can be improved throughout the rest of the semester. A copy of this rubric will be available on Canvas at the beginning of the semester for student reference.

***NOTE:** Students must maintain academic civility, use respectful language, and avoid rude remarks. Even more than in face-to-face debate, caution must be exercised in “virtual” debate or discussion to avoid insulting or offending others. Disrespectful and offensive language will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic “Incomplete” (or a 0) for that post. Please review the Netiquette Guidelines document located on the Canvas site.

Module Assignments (GHP 1, 2; SLO 1, 2, 3, 4)

There are 3 content modules in this course. At the end of each module, students will complete a summative assignment that shows their understanding of the content, their ability to analyze primary and secondary sources, and their ability to connect content to the wider theme of human rights in modern world history. These assignments may vary in structure and content. Assignment instructions will be made available via Canvas at least one week before they are due.

- Module 1 Assignment due Friday, September 24th at 11:59 pm
- Module 2 Assignment due Friday, October 22nd at 11:59 pm
- Module 3 Assignment due Friday, November 19th at 11:59 pm

Primary Source Analysis Assignment (GHP 1, 2; SLO 1, 2, 3, 4)

Students will write a 750-1,000 word (roughly 3-4 double-spaced page) paper based on a primary source of their choosing. The instructor will provide the list of possible choices during the first week of class. This project will have multiple steps to make the process more streamlined. Further instructions as well as a rubric for primary source analysis will be provided on Canvas.

1. **In Week 2**, students will submit a text entry via Canvas that includes their book of choice and why they chose it. Any student who does not submit this assignment will receive a zero for this portion of the project and I will randomly assign a book to the student. **Due date: August 27th at 11:59 pm**
2. **In Week 8**, students will post to a discussion board and give a mid-semester update regarding their reaction to the reading thus far and its connections to the idea of human rights. **Due date: October 8th at 11:59 pm**
3. **In Week 12**, students will upload a Word document to Canvas with a summary of their book *in their own words*, their working argument, and 2-3 examples they plan to use to support their argument. **Due date: November 5th at 11:59 pm**
4. **In Week 15**, students will turn in their completed assignment as a Word document to a Canvas link and a discussion board. **Due date: November 23rd at 11:59 pm**
5. **Finally, in Week 16** (“finals” week), students will view their classmates’ submissions, pick one, and respond with a 3-4 paragraph reflection on the paper’s topic and how it fits the content in one of the course modules. **Due date: December 3rd at 11:59 pm**

Late Policy:

Assignments are due on the dates and at the times listed in the course schedule, unless otherwise stated. Since personal and professional responsibilities can easily disrupt online learning, **all students will have two (2) “free passes” with which they can turn in an assignment late with no questions asked and no late points deducted.** To effectively utilize your “free pass,” you *must* turn in your late assignment within 7 days of the initial due date (e.g., an assignment due Friday at 11:59 pm must be submitted by the following Friday at 11:59 pm to receive credit). After you have used your two free passes, a late assignment will have a 10% grade deduction for each day it is late (including holidays and weekends). **All assignments—regardless of the availability of a free pass—will be closed and a zero automatically assigned 7 days after the initial due date (e.g., if due Friday at 11:59 pm, the assignment link will close the following Saturday at midnight [12:00 am]) unless you have made arrangements with me beforehand.**

Important: Please note that the free passes cannot be used for either the Primary Source Analysis paper or the reflection (due in Weeks 15 and 16, respectively). Due to the time constraints between the submission of final assignments and the university’s final grade input deadlines, these final assignments will **not** be accepted late, even if a student still has a “free pass.” Any final assignments not turned in on the due date and at the time specified will receive a zero. Please plan accordingly.

Bonus: Those who end the semester with both of their free passes will receive an extra 5 points added to their final grade. Those who end the semester with one of their passes will receive an extra 2 points added to their final grade.

Assignments and Grading Breakdown:

See the grading breakdown below:

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Discussion Board Assignments	20% total
Quizzes	10% total
Module Assignments	40% total
Module 1 Assignment	10%
Module 2 Assignment	15%
Module 3 Assignment	15%
Primary Source Summary & Paper Outline	5% total
Primary Source Analysis Assignment	25% total

Final Grade Scale:

A 93-100; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 63-66; D- 60-62; F 59 and below

Academic Integrity:

By submitting an assignment, each student is acknowledging their understanding and commitment to the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work for the course. Refer to the following URL: <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>

Resources:

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): UNCG seeks to adhere to the ADA and provide equal access to a college education. Students with any 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 <https://ods.uncg.edu>.

UNCG's COVID-19 Information: As we return for fall 2021, the campus community must recognize and address continuing concerns about physical and emotional safety, especially as we will have many more students, faculty, and staff on campus than in the last academic year. 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:

- [Following face-covering guidelines](#)
- 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 facilitating contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19. Students must sit in their assigned seats at every class meeting and must not move furniture. Students should not eat or drink during class time.

To make it easier for students to hear their instructor and/or read lips and if conditions permit, instructors who are fully vaccinated and who can maintain at least six feet of distance from students may remove their masks while actively teaching if they choose, but will wear a mask at all other times while in the classroom, including during the periods before and after class

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 requirements will be asked to put on a face covering or leave the classroom to retrieve one and only return when they follow the 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 other 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](mailto:OARS@uncg.edu) (336.334.5440) who, in consultation with Student Health Services, will review requests for accommodations.

Health and Wellness: 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

Contra Power Statement: As your instructor, I am committed to creating a productive and non-discriminatory learning environment of mutual respect. Title IX and UNCG’s school policy prohibit gender-based harassment, sexual harassment, and sex discrimination for all members of the University community. Harassment can come in many forms – both direct and indirect – and can occur in subtle or overt ways. Traditionally, harassment is seen from formal power-over structure. However, harassment can occur without a formal power structure. Contra power, when a student harasses an instructor or peer, is a type of behavior that can create an intimidating environment in and outside of the classroom. Either form of harassment can include direct or indirect comments, physical intimidation, emails, anonymous notes and course evaluations. Both Contra power and traditional forms of harassment are prohibited and subject to the same kinds of accountability applied to offenses against protected categories, such as race, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, etc.

If you experience or witness such instances of harassment, please seek out the following resources:

- UNCG Counseling Center (non-reporting agency/confidential): 336.334.5874
- Murphie Chappell, Title IX Coordinator (reporting agent) 336.256.0362
or mechappe@uncg.edu
- University Police (reporting agent) 336.334.4444

For more information on UNCG’s policies regarding harassment, visit http://policy.uncg.edu/university-policies/sex_gender_harrassment/sex-gender-harrassment.pdf

Religious Holidays: It is expected that instructors will make reasonable accommodations for students who have conflicts due to religious obligations. For more information on UNCG’s Religious Obligations policy, visit:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3_J3Uix1B4UeTV4Nk1vVFJoVFE/view?usp=sharing

Syllabus Modifications:

I reserve the right to modify or alter any part of the syllabus as the course progresses. It is your responsibility to watch for any class announcements about alterations. Be sure to **subscribe to Canvas Announcements**.

COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

WEEK 1 – INTRODUCTIONS AND OVERVIEW OF HUMAN RIGHTS (AUGUST 17-20)

WEEK 2 – MODERN HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATE – FAMILY SEPARATIONS AT U.S.-MEXICO BORDER (AUGUST 22-27)

MODULE 1

HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS & REVOLUTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES

WEEK 3 – REVOLUTIONARY RIGHTS (AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 3)

WEEK 4 – ANTI-SLAVERY AND EMANCIPATION (SEPTEMBER 5-10)

WEEK 5 – WOMEN’S RIGHTS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY (SEPTEMBER 12-17)

WEEK 6 – **MODULE 1 ASSIGNMENT** (SEPTEMBER 19-24)

MODULE 2

THE AGE OF EMPIRE & WAR: HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE LATE-NINETEENTH TO MID-20TH CENTURIES

WEEK 7 – IMPERIALISM AND ANTI-IMPERIALISM (SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 1)

WEEK 8 – HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PACIFIC (OCTOBER 3-8)

WEEK 9 – THE WORLD FOREVER CHANGED: GENOCIDES AND MASSACRES IN THE 1930S AND 1940S (OCTOBER 10-15)

WEEK 10 – **MODULE 2 ASSIGNMENT** (OCTOBER 17-22)

MODULE 3:

A NEW WORLD ORDER – HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE LATE-20TH AND 21ST CENTURIES

WEEK 11 – ATROCITIES IN RECENT HISTORY (OCTOBER 24-29)

WEEK 12 – WOMEN’S AND LGBTQI+ RIGHTS (OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 5)

WEEK 13 – HUMAN RIGHTS TODAY (NOVEMBER 7-12)

WEEK 14 – **MODULE 3 ASSIGNMENT** (NOVEMBER 14-19)

MODULE 4: PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS - HUMAN RIGHTS STORIES

WEEK 15 – PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS - HUMAN RIGHTS STORIES (NOVEMBER 21-23)

WEEK 16 – REFLECTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (NOVEMBER 28-DECEMBER 3)