

## History 218-01: The World of the Twentieth Century since 1945 (Fall 2021)

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Office Hours: By appointment via Zoom

### STRUCTURE & SCOPE

Welcome! This course introduces the key events, people, and trends of world history since 1945. Moreover, it presents what comprises the field of history and how historians conduct their craft. The second half of the twentieth century witnessed extraordinary and rapid change across the globe. This class will examine the making of the contemporary world, from the aftermath of World War II to the beginnings of the new millennium. It will focus upon three main themes: the geopolitical struggles of the Cold War and decolonization; the rise of contemporary globalization and attendant economic, cultural, and environmental issues; and global shifts in the status of women and attitudes toward gender and sexuality.

### REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

There are two books assigned for the course, listed below. Both are available as free ebooks through the UNCG library. The books can also be purchased at the University Bookstore. Additional short readings will be provided on Canvas.

Leila Ahmed, *A Quiet Revolution: The Veil's Resurgence, from the Middle East to America* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011)

Mary Elise Sarotte, *The Collapse: The Accidental Opening of the Berlin Wall* (New York: Basic Books: 2014)

### GRADING

Your final grade will be comprised of the following:

Attendance	20%
Reflections	40%
Final Exam	40%

Grades follow this scale: A = 93 and up; A- = 90-92; B+ = 87 to 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 = <60

## GENERAL EDUCATION MARKERS

This course qualifies for the General Education Historical Perspectives (GHP) and General Education Global Non-Western Perspectives (GN) markers.

General Education Historical Perspectives 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 Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Interpret or evaluate information on diverse cultures.
2. Describe interconnections among cultures, polities, 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

## ATTENDANCE

This course will contain a mix of synchronous and asynchronous lectures. What would normally be our Monday and Wednesday lecture times will most often be provided via pre-recorded lectures (more on those below). This will allow you more flexibility to engage with course content during these still unpredictable times.

Starting week two, for Friday lectures, we will meet synchronously on Zoom from Noon to 12:50 PM. The exceptions will be weeks nine and fifteen, when we will not have a synchronous meeting, and week sixteen, when we will meet on Wednesday at the same time rather than Friday.

You should have completed this week's readings and lecture videos and be ready to discuss any ideas or questions by weekly synchronous lecture.

You will be graded on attendance and (when relevant) participation. Attending only part of the time will only receive partial credit. You are given three excused absences (i.e. the three lowest scores will be dropped). Since some absences are already excused, additional absences can only be made up with a writing assignment, only due to extreme extenuating circumstances, and only at the discretion of the professor.

## LECTURE VIDEOS, READINGS, AND REFLECTIONS

Each week there are lecture videos for you to watch and, starting week two, readings to complete. A list of the weekly readings can be found here: [HIS 218-01 Weekly Reading](#)

[List.pdf](#)     [\\_download](#).

A module's readings and lecture videos will be posted a week in advance if not earlier. Starting week two, there will be a reflection question each week about the lecture videos and readings. You are required to write a short writing reflection responding to these questions for ten weeks of your choice (so you get to skip five without penalty, or the lowest five scores will be dropped). You are required to submit the reflection by the end of the Wednesday of that week. There will be a question posted to guide your reflection on the course materials for each week within the "Assignments" tab in the course menu on the left-side of Canvas; this is also where you will submit your reflection.

Since you are allowed to skip five reflections without penalty, late submissions of a reflection will generally only be allowed after you have missed five due dates, only due to extreme extenuating circumstances, only at the discretion of the professor, and may receive only partial credit.

Your reflection should be a full page in length, Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced (you can carry over into a second page, but don't go beyond that). Quoted material should have page number in parenthesis, otherwise just mention the book or lecture the material is from.

Your reflection should answer all parts of the question and include coverage of the assigned readings and lecture videos. Note that while the questions will often center on the readings, you need to also make reference to how lecture videos provide background/context to better understand these readings.

Reflections will be graded along the following point structure and criteria:

- **COMPLETENESS (10 point):** Do I answer all parts of the question?
- **READINGS ANALYSIS (15 points):** Do I show that I have thoroughly and accurately examined the assigned readings?
- **LECTURE CONTEXT (15 points):** Do I provide relevant context that is clearly drawn from lecture videos?

Satisfies markers GHP and GN.

## FINAL EXAMINATION

There will be a final examination, comprised of written responses. A study sheet will be provided in advance of the final.

Satisfies markers GHP and GN.

## STUDENT TO STUDENT MESSAGE BOARD

If you click on the “Discussions” tab you will see a pinned discussion titled “Student to Student Message Board.” This is a place where students can post or reply to messages about anything related to the course. It is intended as a way for students to connect and collaborate, such as forming a study group.

## ETIQUETTE

Throughout the course, whether in online discussion boards, assignments, or anywhere else, you are required to be respectful of other people and their arguments. Critiques and disagreements over the ideas we discuss are expected and even encouraged, but this does not permit anyone to be offensive or abusive toward others. I reserve the right to remove anyone from class for disrespectful behavior.

General behaviors to avoid include (but are not limited to): flaming, doxing, using or posting offensive images or language that is outside the scope of course materials, posting suspicious websites, and advertising yours or others’ businesses or products.

## TECHNOLOGY

This course requires the capability of the student to use and regularly access a computer, a word processor, pdf files, the internet (including videos), and a webcam. The UNCG library is a resource for technology access.

On protecting your personal data and privacy, see [https://policy.uncg.edu/university-policies/acceptable\\_use/](https://policy.uncg.edu/university-policies/acceptable_use/) (Links to an external site.).

If you encounter a technology problem, contact UNCG Information Technology Services as soon as possible. They have online, phone and walk-in options for technical support, all listed here: <https://its.uncg.edu/Help/> (Links to an external site.). If a technology problem poses the possibility of preventing you from completing coursework, communicate this to me and the graduate assistant as soon as possible, too, so we can see if we can mitigate any negative impacts on your learning and grade.

## ACADEMIC RESOURCES

UNCG provides a variety of useful services for you, the student. Check them out!

The UNCG Library (<https://library.uncg.edu/> (Links to an external site.)) has a wealth of books, articles, archival materials, and other media resources, computers, inter-library loan services, and knowledgeable staff.

The UNCG Writing Center (<https://writingcenter.uncg.edu/> (Links to an external site.)) provides assistance with writing assignments; contact staff members to set an appointment either in person or via instant-messaging.

The UNCG Speaking Center (<https://speakingcenter.uncg.edu/> (Links to an external site.)) provides assistance in improving your skill and confidence in public, group, and individual speaking.

If you have any needs or questions related to disability issues, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) (<https://ods.uncg.edu/> (Links to an external site.)). I prioritize making this course accessible to all of the students in it, and I will work with OARS to accommodate students' requests. You do not need to disclose details about your disability to me or your TA to receive accommodations.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro prohibits any and all forms of academic dishonesty. It is the student's responsible to know what constitutes academic integrity and academic dishonesty, and to be familiar with UNCG policies on academic integrity laid out here: <https://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/> (Links to an external site.). Students who engage in an academically dishonest act (such as plagiarizing part of a paper or cheating during an exam) will receive a grade of "F" in the course and be reported to the Academic Dean for possible additional disciplinary action, including expulsion from the university. Do not attempt it.

All writing assignments (reflections, quizzes, papers, etc.) are subject to a plagiarism check through the website <https://www.turnitin.com/> (Links to an external site.). This website compares the text of your paper to text up on webpages, in scholarly works, and within its massive database of student papers submitted to schools around the world. If you purchase a paper to pass off as your own, it is possible the paper may contain portions reused and sold to other students as well. So do not plagiarize or purchase papers, whether only a portion of your paper or its entirety.

## CONTACTING ME

I encourage you to ask me questions by email or to schedule a Zoom meeting to talk directly. Please allow me a full day to respond (or two on the weekends), but I'll usually reply sooner.

## USEFUL WEBSITES

History Department Facebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory/> (Links to an external site.)

History Department Website: <https://his.uncg.edu/> (Links to an external site.)

## SYLLABUS MODIFICATIONS

I reserve the right to modify or alter any part of the syllabus as the course progresses. It is your responsibility to keep up with class announcements about any alterations.

## COVID-19 AND GENERAL HEALTH INFORMATION

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/> ([Links to an external site.](#)) ([Links to an external site.](#)) 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> ([Links to an external site.](#)) ([Links to an external site.](#)) or reaching out to [recovery@uncg.edu](mailto:recovery@uncg.edu)

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.