

Fall 2021

Syllabus

HIS348-01 The World at War, 1914-1918

Instructor: Mark Moser mamoser@uncg.edu MHRA 2104

Meeting Time/Location: MW 2:00 to 3:15 NMOR 130

Office Hours Fall 2021: MWF 9:00 to 9:45 MW 1:00 to 1:45 (and by appointment)

Required Texts:

Susan R. Grayzel. *The First World War: A Brief History with Documents*. (New York: Macmillan, 2012). ISBN 9780312458874)

John Keegan. *The First World War* (New York: Vintage Books, 2000). ISBN 9780375700453

Erich Maria Remarque. *All Quiet on the Western Front* (Paperback---any year/edition)

Note* In addition to the above texts there will occasionally be other material from scholarly sources that you will be required to read. There will also be a few select films that will be made available to you on Canvas throughout the semester.

Learning Goals for this Course:

(These learning goals are applicable to both history majors and non-history majors alike.)

- **Historical Comprehension:** Students will be able to demonstrate proficiency in analyzing historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures related to World War I.
- **Historical Analysis:** Students will demonstrate ability to use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view.
- **Historical Interpretation:** Students will be able to use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing.

Procedures/Assignments:

It will be essential for you to keep up with your readings. If you follow the guidelines in the syllabus and don't allow yourselves to fall behind, you should have no trouble managing the workload for this class. Even though this is a large class, discussion of your readings will routinely take up a significant portion of many class sessions. Therefore, it will be necessary for

you to have completed your assigned readings prior to the first day of class in any given week. (You should be prepared to be called on EACH and EVERY CLASS SESSION!) You should not find this course difficult provided that you remain current with your reading. However, students who fall behind will likely find it difficult to catch up.

Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for you to do your best in any college class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. As indicated below, a significant portion of your grade for this course will be based on attendance and class participation. During each class session there will be numerous opportunities for students to offer comments, ask questions, and participate in class discussions. If you are not here, you cannot participate. **Students accumulating more than 4 absences will have their final grade reduced by one letter grade. Students accumulating excessive absences may be dropped from the class. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of “W” must drop the class on or before Friday, October 8.** Habitual tardiness, either alone or in combination with absences, will also adversely affect your final grade. It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences. It is also your responsibility to see me after class if you come in after attendance has been taken, as failure to do so will result in your being marked absent for that class session.

(A minimum of 2 requested absences for religious observances not counted as part of the above).

This class meets two times per week and I expect you to come to class on time and to remain in class for the entire session unless you have a genuine emergency during class, (illness, etc.) or unless you speak to me prior to class and advise me that you need to leave early. I consider this to be common courtesy to everyone in attendance.

All requests to take a missed exam will be considered on an individual basis. Any student who misses an exam **must contact me ASAP** to inquire about the possibility of taking a makeup. Makeup exams, if permitted, will have to be taken at a time when I am available.

Warning: Technology is a wonderful thing. Having said that, you should be aware that I consider using a laptop/tablet, etc. in my class a privilege—not a right—and privileges can be taken away. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you use them only for taking notes. I will warn a student once for such an infraction—a second offense will result in the loss of stated privilege. Numerous violations of this request will result in the banning of laptops/tablets, etc. from class altogether. Similar discretion/judgment should be applied to *any* electronic device (**especially phones!**) that can be a distraction to you, your classmates, or instructor. If you are so important, in a truly global sense, that you cannot go 75 consecutive minutes without checking your social media accounts, email, etc., then you are clearly far too important to be wasting your valuable time and celebrity status here at UNCG. **I do not want to see you looking at your phones at any time while you are in class.**

Grading:

Class Participation	20%
Primary Source Analysis (2)	20%
Film Comparative Analysis	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
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Course Total	100%

(This course follows a 10 point scale.)

Weekly Course Outline:

Week One—(August 18) **Course Introduction and Film: *Paths of Glory* (1957)**

Week Two—(August 23, 25)

Readings: Keegan Chapter One and Grayzel Documents 1--6

Week Three—(August 30, September 1)

Readings: Keegan Chapter Two and Grayzel Documents 7--8

Week Four—(September 8) ***No class Monday, September 6 Labor Day Holiday**

Readings: Keegan Chapter Three and Grayzel Documents 9--12

Week Five—(September 13, 15)

Readings: Keegan Chapter Four to “The Great Retreat” and Grayzel Documents 13--18

Week Six—(September 20, 22)

Readings: Keegan Chapter Four “The Great Retreat” to end of chapter and Grayzel Documents 19--22

Week Seven—(September 27, 29)

Readings: Keegan Chapter Five and Grayzel Documents 23--26

***First Primary Source Analysis Due by 11:59PM Sunday, September 27**

Week Eight—(October 4, 6) **Midterm Exam Review Session Monday, October 4**

***Midterm Exam Wednesday, October 6**

Week Nine—(October 13) Film: *King and Country* (1964)
Readings: Keegan Chapter Six and Grayzel Documents 27--30

Week Ten—(October 18, 20)
Readings: Keegan Chapter Seven to “Gallipoli” and Grayzel Documents 31--35

Week Eleven—(October 25, 27)
Readings: Keegan Chapter Seven “Gallipoli” to end of chapter and Grayzel Documents 36--40

***Second Primary Source Analysis Due Monday, October 25**

Week Twelve—(November 1, 3)
Readings: Keegan Chapter Eight and Grayzel Documents 41--45
***Note:** I suggest that you begin reading *All Quiet on the Western Front* early in November, as it will be part of your class discussion in weeks 13, 14, and 15.

Week Thirteen—(November 8, 10) Film: *1917* (2019)
Readings: Keegan Nine to “Rout on the Italian Front” and Grayzel Documents 46--49

Week Fourteen—(November 22)
Readings: Keegan Chapter Nine “Rout on the Italian Front” to end of chapter and Grayzel Documents 50--52
Film Analysis due by 11:59PM Sunday, November 15

No class Thursday, November 25---Thanksgiving Holiday

Week Fifteen—(November 29, December 1)
Readings: Keegan Chapter Ten

***FINAL EXAM Monday, December 6 from 3:30-6:30PM. (You will need a small format Bluebook)**

Academic Integrity Policy:

On all quizzes and exams you will be expected to abide by the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy, which may be reviewed at <http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/academicintegrity>. Please review this important document with an attention to detail, and feel free to ask questions if there is any part of the policy which you do not understand.

**If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.*

“The greatest error of modern history”

--- Niall Ferguson

“The First World War was a tragic and unnecessary conflict.”

--- John Keegan

“We did not break down, but adapted ourselves; our twenty years, which made many another thing so grievous, helped us in this. But by far the most important result was that it awakened in us a strong, practical sense of *esprit de corps*, which in the field developed into the finest thing that arose out of the war—comradeship.”

--- Erich Maria Remarque

"The Allied and Associated Governments affirm and Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the Allied and Associated Governments and their nationals have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies."

--- Article 231 *Treaty of Versailles* June 28, 1919

Covid-19 Statement:

Approved by Faculty Senate on July 29, 2021

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](#) (336.334.5440) who, in consultation with Student Health Services, will review requests for accommodations.