

Fall 2023

Syllabus

HIS101-02 Contemporary World History

Instructor: Mark Moser mamoser@uncg.edu MHRA 2104

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 11:00 to 11:50 SOEB 114

Office Hours Fall 2023: MWF 9:30 to 10:30 MW 12:00 to 1:30 (and by appointment)

Required Texts: There are no required texts for this course. All required readings, films, documentaries, etc. throughout the semester will be made available on Canvas

Foundations courses connect students to the campus community by combining university transition content, information literacy, and transferable skills acquisition to facilitate academic and personal development.

In a Foundations course, students will learn to:

- 1. Develop academic skills in order to demonstrate the ability to identify and use campus services and resources (e.g., Library, Writing Center, Speaking Center).**
- 2. Develop goals and plans related to personal purpose, interests, or values between self and community.**
- 3. Build connections between self and community relationships with peers, faculty, and staff. (e.g., UNCG, college/student/department, special interest group, social/leadership/service initiative).**
- 4. Critically evaluate information and media sources in a variety of formats.**
- 5. Incorporate and cite sources accurately and correctly.**

Grading:

Campus Resource Assignment	10%
Personal Goals Assignment	10%
Interview Assignment	10%
Campus Activities Assignment	10%
Library Research Assignment	10%
Weekly Quizzes (Canvas)	20%
Weekly Discussion Postings	20%
Final Exam	10%
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Course Total	100%

(This course follows a 10 point scale.)

Procedures/Assignments:

It will be essential for you to keep up with your readings and assignment due dates. 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 very large class, discussion of your readings and assignments 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 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. Beginning with week two you will have a 10 question multiple choice quiz (in Canvas) and a discussion posting assignment due each week throughout the semester. These will both be based on that week's assigned materials. I will discuss these in detail on Wednesday 8/16 and Friday 8/18.

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 may 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 5 absences will have their final grade reduced by one letter grade for each absence over the limit. 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 6.** 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 three 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.

Warning: Advancements in technology over the past three decades have been remarkable, but I believe that the ability to take class notes in one's own handwriting is still a very useful skill to possess. Therefore, I will not permit the use of laptops, tablets, etc., for notetaking. Any student who has been approved by OARS for in-class accommodations regarding the use of technology will be exempt from this rule. I also respectfully ask that you refrain from ANY use of smart phones inside the classroom. Whenever you enter the classroom—even if class has not begun—please put away your phones immediately. **I do not want to see you looking at your phones at any time while you are in class. Prior to the start of class, what I do want to see and hear are students actually talking with those seated around them!**

Weekly Course Outline:

Week One—(August 16, 18) **Course Introduction / Syllabus**

Week Two—(August 21, 23, 25) **The End of WWII and the Origins of the Cold War**
Readings on Canvas

Week Three—(August 28, 30, September 1) **The Cold War Intensifies**
Readings on Canvas *****(Personal Goals Assignment due Monday 8/28 at the beginning of class)**

Week Four—(September 6, 8) **To the Brink: The Cuban Missile Crisis**
Readings on Canvas and Film: *Thirteen Days* (2000)

Week Five—(September 11, 13, 15) **A Thaw in the Cold War**
Readings on Canvas *****(Interview Assignment due Monday 9/11 at the beginning of class)**

Week Six—(September 18, 20, 22) **1989: Fall of the Berlin Wall and Tiananmen Square**
Documentaries on the Berlin Wall and the Tiananmen Square Massacre

Week Seven—(September 25, 27, 29) **Three-Mile Island and Chernobyl**
Readings on Canvas and Documentary

Week Eight—(October 2, 4, 6) **Emergence of the European Union: Pros and Cons**
Readings on Canvas *****(Campus Resource Assignment due Monday 10/2 at the beginning of class)**

Week Nine—(October 11, 13) **No class Monday, October 9 --- Fall Break** **EU (cont.)**
Readings on Canvas

Week Ten—(October 16, 18, 20) **The 1960s---the Counterculture Movement**
Readings on Canvas

Week Eleven—(October 23, 25, 27) **The 1960s—the British Invasion**

Readings on Canvas and Documentary * (Library Research Assignment due Monday 10/23 at the beginning of class)**

**Week Twelve—(October 30, November 1, 3) OPEC and the West's Dependence on Oil
Readings on Canvas**

**Week Thirteen—(November 6, 8, 10) The Technological Revolution of the 1990s and the Emergence of the Internet
Readings on Canvas**

**Week Fourteen—(November 13, 15, 17) 9/11 and the Emergence of the post-9/11 World
Readings on Canvas and Documentary *** (Campus Activities Assignment due Monday 11/13 at the beginning of class)**

No class Wednesday, November 22 or Friday, November 24---Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week Fifteen—(November 27, 29) Where do we go from here?
*Last day of class---Wednesday, November 29.**

Final Exam---Wednesday, November 29 (You will need a small format bluebook for the exam. These can be purchased at the campus bookstore for a nominal fee.

Academic Integrity Policy:

On all assignments 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.

Rule #1 As an instructor, I have a zero tolerance policy with regard to plagiarism.

Rule #2 If you feel that plagiarizing all or part of an assignment is worth the risk, please refer to Rule #1 above. .

**If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact OARS (Office of Accessibility Resources & Services) as soon as possible.*

Foundations Course Student Learning Goals:

- 1. Develop academic skills in order to demonstrate the ability to identify and use campus services and resources (e.g., Library, Writing Center, Speaking Center).**

This goal will be achieved through completion of the Campus Resource Assignment. Students will be required to answer a series of questions about a number of campus resources and conclude with a brief summary of their personal experience using one or more of these resources.

- 2. Develop goals and plans related to personal purpose, interests, or values between self and community.**

This goal will be achieved through the Personal Goals Assignment. Students will be required to briefly explain their academic and vocational interests and how they feel that an undergraduate degree will help them achieve their personal goals. Students will also be required to find a brief biographical sketch of someone who currently has a career in a field that aligns with the student's interest. This could be someone who works on campus or who works in the greater Greensboro area.

- 3. Build connections between self and community relationships with peers, faculty, and staff. (e.g., UNCG, college/student/department, special interest group, social/leadership/service initiative).**

This goal will be achieved through the Interview Assignment and the Campus Activities Assignment. The Interview Assignment will require students to interview either a fellow classmate, a student who is affiliated with one or more student groups on campus, or a UNCG employee---NOT a faculty member! The Campus Activities Assignment will require students to attend a university event, a university performance, an exhibition, etc., document their attendance, and write a brief summary of their experience.

- 4. Critically evaluate information and media sources in a variety of formats.**

This goal will be achieved through the Library Research Assignment. Students will be required to access a number of informational sources available through the Jackson Library and compare and contrast coverage of recent events from ideologically different sources.

5. Incorporate and cite sources correctly and accurately.

This goal will also be achieved through the Library Research Assignment. Students will be required to document their sources using a variety of approved academic formats, including MLA, APA, Turabian, and Chicago Manual of Style.