

HIS 218: THE WORLD IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Spring 2013

W 6:00-8:50 pm

MHRA 1215

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Office Hours: W 5-6 pm and by appointment

This class will examine global issues in the contemporary world, focusing mainly on the post-World War II period, from the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945, to the complex, high-tech, evolving world of today. We will examine some of the important political, economic, social, and cultural changes of the second half of the twentieth century and how these changes have shaped the world we live in today. Besides focusing on historical events, this course will require the study of maps.

After taking this class you will be able to

- Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. [Historical Analysis]
- Use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing. [Historical Interpretation]
- Identify and explain major events in world history since 1945.

REQUIRED READINGS

- Michael H. Hunt, *The World Transformed. 1945 to the Present*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004. (ISBN 978-0-312-24583-2)
- *Historical Atlas of the World*. Rand McNally, 2012. (ISBN 978-0-528-00491-9)
- Anna Funder, *Stasiland. Stories From Behind the Berlin Wall*. New York: Harper Perennial, 2011. (ISBN 978-0-062-07732-5)
- Khushwant Singh, *Train to Pakistan*. Penguin, 2011. (ISBN 978-0-143-06588-3)
- Kevin Bales, *Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy*. University of California Press, 2004. (ISBN 978-0-520-27291-0)

In addition there will be readings on blackboard. You are required to bring a hardcopy of the blackboard readings to class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

You may have one unexcused absence. I will only excuse absences if you notify me before class time and bring an official document stating the reason for your absence. More than one unexcused absence will lead to a final grade reduction of one letter grade per unexcused absence (i.e. if you expect to receive a B and you have missed twice unexcused, you will receive a C).

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

There will be no cell phones, mp3-players, PDAs, laptops or any other electronic device permitted in the classroom. If your phone rings or I catch you using it during class, I may ask you to leave and count you as absent.

You will be in class on time and stay for the entire period. If you come in late or leave early more than twice, it will count as one absence.

You may bring a beverage to class. I do not allow eating during class but you will have an opportunity for that during our break.

Attendance is more than just being in class physically; I expect you to stay mentally alert and participate in the class discussion. In order to participate adequately you must have read all assigned reading and bring a physical copy to class. In addition I recommend taking reading notes or having an outline to bring to class.

COMMUNICATION

I will use e-mail to contact you; therefore it is essential that you check your e-mail at least once a day. When you send me an e-mail, please include the course number and your name in the subject line. I will respond to emails within 24 hours; during university breaks and weekends it might take 48 hours. If you do not get a reply from me within this timeframe, please send me a follow-up message.

I have office hours once a week and by appointment. Please utilize these to come and talk to me if there are any problems. The earlier you contact me, the more likely it is that we find a solution.

PLAGIARISM

I take the Academic Integrity Policy very seriously and so should you. All the work you do in this course is subject to the policy. Make sure you know what is defined as plagiarism and if you are not sure, ask me! If I catch you cheating, plagiarizing or violating UNCG's Academic Integrity Policy in any way, I will not hesitate to take steps that might hurt your academic future significantly.

I also recommend reviewing the policy: <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>

GRADES

- **Film Response (20%)**

You will sign up to watch one of the movies on the syllabus. After watching the movie you are expected to write a response (2 full pages, Times New Roman, twelve point font, double spaced and 1 inch margins). In class you will briefly introduce your classmates to the movie (3-5 minutes).

I strongly encourage every student to visit the Writing Center before submitting written work. For more information: <http://www.uncg.edu/eng/writingcenter/default.php>

- **Mid-Term Exam: 03/06 (20%) & Final Exam: 05/08 (30%)**

Both of these exams will consist of identification questions, maps and short answers. If there is a documented excuse why you are unable to take an exam on those dates, please inform me before class time and we will schedule a makeup exam.

- **Participation (30%)**

Your 30 % participation grade will consist of reading quizzes and map assignments.

WEEKLY READING QUIZZES

Each week you will be given a short quiz at the beginning of class. This is to ensure that you keep up with the readings.

MAP ASSIGNMENTS

Throughout the semester you will complete various graded in-class map assignments.

DISCLAIMER: THE COURSE SCHEDULE, POLICIES, AND ASSIGNMENTS IN THIS COURSE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN THE EVENT OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES OR BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INSTRUCTOR AND THE STUDENTS.

			Readings	Film Presentations
1/16	Introduction & Geography		<u>Hunt</u> : p. 1-26	
1/23	1945-1953	Toward Soviet-American Confrontation	<u>Hunt</u> : p. 27-31 & Chapter 1 (p. 33-75) <u>Atlas</u> : p. 94-95, 98 (The Korean War), 108-109 <u>Blackboard</u> : President Truman, "Address to Congress," March 12, 1947 Andrei Zhdanov, "Speech at the Inauguration of the Cominform," September 1947	<i>The Big Lift</i> (1950) <i>MASH</i> (1970) <i>Nuremberg</i> (2000)
1/30		The International Economy: Out of the Ruins	<u>Hunt</u> : Chapter 2 (p. 77-109) <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpt from Victoria de Grazia, <i>Irresistible Empire. America's Advance through 20th Century Europe.</i>	<i>Dr. Strangelove: How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb</i> (1964) <i>The Atomic Café</i> (1982)
2/6		The Third World: First Tremors in Asia	<u>Hunt</u> : Chapter 3 (p. 111-145) <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpt from Peter Seybolt, "Oral Histories Collected in Houhua Village."	<i>Seven Years in Tibet</i> (1997)
2/13			Khushwant Singh, <i>Train to Pakistan.</i> <u>Atlas</u> : p. 90-91	<i>Gandhi</i> (1982) <i>Bandit Queen</i> (1994) <i>Water</i> (2005)
2/20	1953-1968	A Tenuous Accommodation	<u>Hunt</u> : p. 147-151 & Chapter 4 (p. 153-190) <u>Atlas</u> : p. 98 (The Vietnam War) <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpt from Christian G. Appy, <i>Patriots. The Vietnam War Remembered From All Sides.</i>	<i>Hair</i> (1979) <i>Platoon</i> (1986) <i>Full Metal Jacket</i> (1987) <i>The Pentagon Papers</i> (2003)
2/27		Abundance and Discontent in the Developed World	<u>Hunt</u> : Chapter 5 (p. 191-237) <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpts: Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons." Paul Ehrlich, "The Population Bomb." Donella Meadows and Dennis Meadow, "Limits to Growth."	<i>Evita</i> (1998) <i>The Baader Meinhof Complex</i> (2008)
3/6		Third-World Hopes at High Tide MID-TERM EXAM	<u>Hunt</u> : Chapter 6 (p. 239-296) <u>Atlas</u> : p. 99 <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpts: Kwame Nkrumah, "The Spectre of Black Power." Frantz Fanon, <i>The Wretched of the Earth</i>	<i>The Missiles of October</i> (1974) <i>Thirteen Days</i> (2000) <i>K-19: The Widowmaker</i> (2002)

3/13	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS!			
3/20			Anna Funder, <i>Stasiland: Stories From Behind the Berlin Wall</i> . <i>Good Bye, Lenin!</i> (2003) <i>The Lives of Others</i> (2006)	
3/27	1968-1991	Cold War Comes to a Close	<u>Hunt</u> : p. 297-302 & Chapter 7 (p. 303-335) <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpt from Stephen F. Cohen and Katrina vanden Heuvel, <i>Voices of Glasnost: Interviews with Gorbachev's Reformers</i> .	<i>The Day After</i> (1983) <i>Strike</i> (2006)
4/4		Global Markets: One System, Three Centers	<u>Hunt</u> : Chapter 8 (p. 337-381) <u>Blackboard</u> : Excerpt from Julius Mertus et al., eds., <i>The Suitcase: Refugee Voices from Bosnia and Croatia</i> .	<i>Osama</i> (2003) <i>The Stoning of Soraya M.</i> (2008) <i>Head-On</i> (2004) <i>Storm</i> (2009)
4/11		Divergent Paths in the Third World	<u>Hunt</u> : Chapter 9 (p. 383-434) <u>Atlas</u> : p.96-97 <u>Blackboard</u> : Anwar Al-Sadat, "Speech to the Israeli Knesset," Nov. 20, 1977 Menachem Begin, "Reply to President Sadat," Nov. 20, 1977	<i>21 Hours at Munich</i> (1976) <i>Munich</i> (2005) <i>Paradise Now</i> (2005)
4/18			Kevin Bales, <i>Disposable People</i> . <u>Atlas</u> : p.100-101 <u>Blackboard</u> : J.J. Gould, "Slavery's Global Comeback."	<i>Slumdog Millionaire</i> (2008) <i>Black Gold</i> (2007)
4/25		1990s-present	Conclusion: Globalization Ascendant	<u>Hunt</u> : p.435-469 <u>Blackboard</u> : James L. Watson, "China's Big Mac Attack," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 79 (May-June 2000): 120-34. http://www.mcspotlight.org
5/8	FINAL EXAM – 7 PM			