

SYLLABUS

HIS218-04WI The World in the Twentieth Century (Since 1945)

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 9:00 to 9:50 MHRA 3208

Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104

Office Hours: MWF 11:00 to 12:00 --- MW 2:00 to 3:00 (and by appointment)

Email: mamoser@uncg.edu

Required Texts:

Brower, Daniel R. *The World since 1945: A Brief History* Second Edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2005).

McCauley, Martin. *Russia, America and the Cold War, 1949-1991* Second Edition (New York: Pearson/Longman, 2004).

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 in a wide variety of places and periods.
- **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.

Students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of global history since 1945.
- Think critically and make informed judgments
- Produce a variety of forms of written work related to the topics being studied

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. 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!) Class discussions will be difficult to conduct if you haven't read and class lectures and videos that we will watch will be more understandable if you have read the assigned material ahead of time. You should not find this course difficult provided that you remain current with all your reading. However, students who fall behind will likely find it difficult to catch up.

Note: Please turn off phones or silence them *BEFORE* class begins.

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 substantial 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. Excessive absences will adversely affect your participation grade and may result in your being dropped from the class. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of "W" must drop the class on or before Friday, March 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.

This class meets three times per week and I expect you to remain 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 both the class and myself.

*Please note that I make no distinction between excused and unexcused absences—you are either here or you are not.

Warning: Technology is a wonderful thing. Having said that, you should be aware that I consider using a laptop 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 from class altogether. Similar discretion/judgment should be applied to *any* electronic device 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 50 minutes without checking your Facebook® Account, Twitter® Account, email, etc., then you are clearly far too important to be wasting your valuable time and celebrity status here at UNCG.

Grading:

Attendance/Participation	20%
Weekly Writing Assignments	30%
Brief Response Papers (3)	20%
Research Paper (10-12pp.)	30%
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Course Total	100%

(This course follows a 10 point scale and I do assign +/- to final grades when warranted.)

Course Outline:

Week One—(January 14, 16, 18) McCauley, Chapter 1 “Introduction: The Problem”

Week Two—(January 23, 25) McCauley, Chapter 2 “The Cold War in Perspective” and Brower, Chapter 2 “The Cold War and the End of Western Empires”

Week Three—(January 28, 30, February 1) McCauley, Chapter 3 “Cold War I: 1949-1953”

***Research Paper topics due Monday, January 28**

Week Four—(February 4, 6, 8) McCauley, Chapter 4 “To the Brink and Back: 1953-1969”

***First Brief Response Paper on primary source document due at the beginning of class Monday, February 4**

Week Five—(February 11, 13, 15) McCauley, Chapter 5 “Détente: 1969-1979”

Week Six—(February 18, 20, 22) McCauley, Chapter 6 “Cold War II: 1979-1985”

***Research Paper working bibliography due Monday, February 18**

Week Seven—(February 25, 27, March 1) McCauley, Chapter 7 “New Political Thinking and the End of the Cold War: 1985-1991” and Brower, Chapter 7 “The Cold War and the Fall of the Soviet Empire”

***Research Paper outline and working thesis due Monday, February 25**

Week Eight—(March 4, 6, 8) Mandatory meetings with instructor, scheduled during class time this week, to discuss writing assignments, issues, concerns, etc.

***SPRING BREAK* --- No class March 11, 13, 15)**

Week Nine—(March 18, 20, 22) Brower, Chapter 3 “Revolutions and Recovery in East Asia, 1950-1990”

***Second Brief Response Paper on primary source document due at the beginning of class Monday, March 18**

Week Ten—(March 25, 27) Brower, Chapter 4 “New Nations in South Asia”

Film: *Gandhi* No class Friday, March 29 Spring Holiday

***Completed Rough Drafts due Monday, March 25**

Week Eleven—(April 1, 3, 5) Brower, Chapter 4 “New Nations in South Asia” (cont’d)

Film: *Gandhi*

Week Twelve—(April 8, 10, 12) Brower, Chapter 5 “Africa and Latin America in the Third World”

Documentary: *The Long Walk of Nelson Mandela*

Week Thirteen—(April 15, 17, 19) Brower, Chapter 6 “Nations at War in the Middle East”

Week Fourteen—(April 22, 24, 26) Brower, Chapter 8 “Local Wars, Global Economy: The World after the Cold War”

***Revised Drafts of Research Papers due Monday, April 22**

Week Fifteen—(April 29, 30*) Last day of class --- Tuesday, April 30 follows Friday schedule

Third Brief Response Paper to be completed in class Tuesday, April 30

Explanation of Weekly Writing Assignment:

Each week (beginning with week 2) during the semester every student will be required to find and read one historical newspaper or magazine article that coincides with that week’s textbook material. These articles—in their entirety—should be saved, printed, and turned in each week along with your written analysis. At the beginning of most class sessions I will randomly call on a few students who will be asked to discuss their article for that week. Students called upon must provide the title of the article, the name of the source in which it appeared, its date of publication, and a brief *synopsis* of the article. Each weekly article that you select must be accompanied by a three to five paragraph response which is essentially your *analysis* of the article. Your typed, double-spaced responses should include things such as: relevance, timeliness, any obvious or perceived bias in the article, etc. The **only** acceptable sources for this ongoing assignment are: *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report* and *The Wall Street Journal*. During the course of the semester I expect you to obtain articles **from at least three** of these six sources. Jackson Library has each of these available in online, free-access formats. If you need help, please seek assistance from library staff.

NOTE: *You will be provided with grades and feedback on all written work submitted for this class. While overall quality and strength of work remain important, in determining final grades strong consideration will also be given to students’ work that has shown clear improvement over the course of the semester.*