

SYLLABUS

History 218: The World of the Twentieth Century (1945-2000) Online Fall 2016

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Course Description

This class will examine global issues in the contemporary world, focusing mainly on the post-World War II period, from the dropping of the 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. This is an online class and we will make heavy use of Canvas, Youtube, and other online resources.

Course Objectives

- 1.) To enhance understanding of the diversity of world civilizations and cultures by reading primary source materials.
- 2.) To improve the student's knowledge of historical events and important people by reading what scholars have said about the world in the twentieth century.
- 3.) To enhance perceptive reading skills by actively engaging supplemental books.
- 4.) To enhance concise writing skills by taking short answer identification and essay examinations and by writing responses to questions posed concerning supplemental books.
- 5.) To enhance oral communication skills by participating in periodic class discussion about primary or secondary source material.

Teaching Methods and Online Classroom Responsibilities

History 218 will be taught through a variety of methods. The most common method will be lecture presentations through Canvas, PowerPoint, and YouTube. Additionally, we will read primary documents, secondary materials, and watch documentaries to promote online discussion. Supplemental readings and HAT questions will also play a key role in online discussion throughout the semester.

I will record the weekly lecture and post a link on Canvas to our YouTube channel every Monday (or the first school day of the week) by 8 pm. For example, I will post the first week's lecture on Tuesday the 17th since we are off on MLK day. The second week I will post the link by 8pm on Monday the 23rd. Follow along with the syllabus and keep up with the lectures / PowerPoints.

To be specific, I will record the weekly lecture and post it on Monday and you will have until the next Monday to view it. This way we will keep to an orderly schedule. I will be specific in the videos about the weekly work that needs to be done.

We will complete HAT questions throughout the semester that you will need to post about on Canvas and I will explain what that is and how to do it.

Required Readings

Books: *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo

Readings/History Assessments of Thinking (HAT questions) noted on the syllabus are available on canvas

Examinations

There will be three examinations, including the final examination. All three must be taken. They will consist of short answers, identifications, HAT questions and essays. I will give you multiple essay options to answer on every exam. Answers will be judged on accuracy and abundance of historical information. The final examination is not cumulative but will include important material from previous tests as I see fit. All exams must be completed by the due date. If you have an extremely substantial and documented reason for completing an exam late, contact me at the earliest possible time to schedule a make-up time. It is your responsibility to notify me as early as possible to schedule the make-up.

I strongly encourage you to begin looking at your notes and the textbook days or weeks before the examinations. I will give you a study guide before the exam. Students who wait until the night before and try to "cram" will achieve nothing except a headache. Study early, study often.

Papers

I have assigned one supplemental book for this course. You are expected to read the book and answer a series of questions that I will provide up to a week in advance of the due date. However, do not take this to mean that you should wait until I give you the questions to begin reading. I strongly encourage you to begin reading the book weeks before the assignment is due. In addition, I will assign a number of primary source documents throughout the semester. You are expected to read these documents, answer a series of HAT questions, and be prepared to discuss the documents in class. Students who wait until a few days or the night before it is due will get a headache. Read Early, read often.

Writing assistance is available at the University Writing Center (in MHRA). See me if you need directions. Your tuition pays for it, so use it!

Assignments and Grading Breakdown:

HAT questions: 100 Points HAT discussions: 100 Points

Students will answer 5 Historical Assessment Thinking questions. Each question will be worth 50 points. The objective of these assignments is for students to engage primary sources, analyze their significance, and gain the basic skills of historical thinking.

Students will participate in online discussions concerning the HAT questions that we do as noted on the syllabus. You will need to respond initially to the prompts about the HAT. You will also need to make a follow up post that responds to someone else's response. Because HAT answers are often opinion based you will need to agree or disagree with another student's response. Your initial response should be about a paragraph (five sentences minimum) and your response to a colleague's response should be about a paragraph (5 sentences minimum). Your response is due the following Friday from the initial post, noted on the schedule.

Movie Project: 100 Points

Students will select and watch a movie from the list that I provide you. Students will then complete a 3-4-page paper on their thoughts of the film and respond to a prompt provided by the instructor. It is important to employ what you learn in the class and readings to determine if the movie is accurate or not.

I encourage you (but this is not required) to put together a PowerPoint presentation for this project that you can share with the rest of the class on Canvas. This portion is up to you and I will offer 20 points of extra credit for any student who puts together a presentation of some kind and shares it with everyone. I will designate a discussion thread for this on Canvas. Your options for this presentation are broad: feel free to make a video of your own but you must include a PowerPoint of some kind

Book paper #1: 100 Points

Students will read, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo and answer a series of questions that I will provide up to a week in advance of the due date. The objective of this assignment is to expose students to some contemporary historiography.

Exam I: 100 Points

Students will complete an exam covering the first third of the course material. Questions will include fill in the blank, HAT questions, short answer identifications, and an essay.

Exam II: 100 Points

Students will complete an exam covering the middle portion of the course material. Questions will include fill in the blank, HAT questions, short answer identifications, and an essay.

Final Exam: 100 Points

Students will complete an exam covering the final third of the course material. Questions will include fill in the blank, HAT questions, short answer identifications, and an essay.

Attendance, Participation, In-Class Assignments: 100 points

Attendance and participation will count towards a portion of your grade. As this is an online class, attendance is a bit different. You must participate in online discussions when appropriate. This category will also include any extra assignments (not including the HAT assignments) that will come up during the course of the semester.

Total: 800 Points

No weighted grades here. Divide your total earned points by 800 and you will arrive at your percentage. I adhere to UNCG's standard grading scale.

Code of proper classroom conduct

Online etiquette, or Netiquette if I can coin a new word, is essential especially on our discussions. Please be respectful of other opinions. Please disagree if it is appropriate but do it in a respectful manner. I reserve the right to give any student a 0 for an assignment if I feel that you have breached the code of polite netiquette.

I encourage, and love, questions and comments. See me during my office hours at UNCG if you need to.

At the first sign of trouble - come to me and I will help you. I host on campus office hours if you are able to come to campus at all. I may not know you are having problems if you don't come to me. Send me an e-mail at any time but please maintain proper decorum. Begin and end every e-mail with a proper salutation or I may ignore it. Please allow up to 48 weekday hours for a response. If I have not responded in that time, assume that I did not receive it.

Academic Integrity

The best learning environment is one based on mutual respect and trust. However, the desire to achieve a good grade without doing the necessary work may tempt some students to cheat on exams or to represent the work of others as their own. As should be obvious to anyone at UNCG, plagiarism and cheating are wrong and are acts of "academic dishonesty." The term "academic dishonesty" means a deliberate and deceptive misrepresentation of one's own work. Instances of academic dishonesty include all, but are not limited to, the following:

1.) Plagiarism: presenting as one's own work, whether literally or in paraphrase, the work of another author.

- 2.) Turning in the same paper for multiple courses.
- 3.) Cheating on exams, tests, and quizzes; the wrongful giving or accepting of unauthorized exam material; and the use of illegitimate sources of information.
- 4.) Unsanctioned collaboration with other individuals in the completion of course assignments.
- 5.) Falsifying data and use of fraudulent methods in laboratory, fieldwork, and COMPUTER WORK.
- 6.) Falsifying excuses for non-attendance or completion of assignments.

There are no mitigating circumstances to justify academic dishonesty. If you are unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism, please ask - Ignorance is no excuse. Discovery of academic dishonesty will bring stiff penalties, including a failing grade for the assignment in question and possibly a grade of F for the course. The maximum penalty at UNCG for plagiarism is possible expulsion from the entire UNC system, so for your own sakes, DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.

Don't think you can fool me. I have been reading and writing history for many years now. You will be caught if you plagiarize. This is not a challenge; this is a plea. Don't do it, it will ruin your career as a student at UNCG.

Additional Information

I want you to succeed in this class. Please come see me if you are having trouble, or if you want to talk history! Ask questions, read often, study often. If you need something and would like to meet, please email me and we can set up an appointment to meet in my office, don't be shy. The course schedule on the following page will change as circumstances dictate. Considering the breadth of material that we have to cover in a short period of time, do not be surprised if I have to revise the schedule. I will announce by email if I need to make changes.

If you need to contact me outside of class, email me. I check it several times daily.

If class is cancelled for any reason - snow, hurricanes, or a sick instructor - you will be notified on your UNCG issued email address, so check it often – although being an online class this probably will not happen.

A note about differently abled students: If you are differently abled in any way and cannot properly use something that I have put on Canvas, contact me and I will work with you and our disability office to fix the situation. For example, I will record lectures often and if you need transcripts instead I will provide that but you must register with the office of disability services first. Whatever your case may be, let me know and I will help you any way that I can.

Course Schedule [Assignments as assigned]

Week 1 (1/17 – 1/20)

Course introduction, Syllabus, What is history?, Primary and secondary sources. HAT questions
The World in the Twentieth Century 1900-1945

Week 2 (1/23 -1/27)

The World in the Twentieth Century 1900-1945, The defining year: 1945

Week 3 (1/30 – 2/3) [HAT Question I Due Friday 2/3 at Noon]

The origins of the Cold War

Week 4 (2/6 – 2/10) [Responses to the previous week's HAT questions are due Friday 2/10 at Noon]

The Cold War, Korea, The Soviet Union and Communist Europe, The United States

Week 5 (2/13 – 2/17) **[HAT Question II Friday 2/17 at Noon]**

The Postwar International Economy, China

Week 6 (2/20 – 2/24) **[Exam I Due by Friday 9/30 at Noon]**

China, India

Week 7 (2/27 – 3/3) **[HAT Question III Friday 3/3 at Noon]**

Vietnam

Week 8 (3/6 – 3/10) **[Responses to the previous week's HAT questions are due Friday 3/10 at Noon]**

Decolonization in Africa, South Africa

3/13 – 3/17 – Campus Closed – Spring Break

Week 9 (3/20 – 3/24) **[Paper on Behind the Beautiful Forevers due Friday 3/24 at noon]**

Iranian Revolution, Arab-Israel-Palestine Conflict, Munich

Week 10 (3/27 – 3/31) **[HAT Question IV Due Friday 3/31 at Noon]**

The United States: Society, The Space Race

Week 11 (4/3 – 4/7) **[Responses to the previous week's HAT questions are due Friday 4/7 at Noon]**

Latin America, Russia's Vietnam: Afghanistan

Week 12 (4/10 – 4/13) **[Exam II Due Friday 4/14 at Noon]**

Civil Rights and Feminism in the U.S. and the World

Week 13 (4/17 – 4/21) **[HAT Question V Due Friday 4/21 at Noon]**

The End of the Cold War, The Balkan Wars

Week 14 (4/24 – 4/28) **[Responses to the previous week's HAT questions are due Friday 4/28 at Noon] [Movie Project Due Friday 4/28 at Noon]**

Gulf Wars, Iran-Iraq, Somalia, Rwanda

Week 15 (5/1 – 5/2)

9/11 and the Middle East in the 21st century

Wednesday May 3rd is the university reading day. I will reserve a classroom on campus for us this day to (optionally) meet and chat about the final exam and class in general. This can also serve as a review day before the final exam. Because this is an online class, you are not required to attend anything, this is just optional and we can finally put faces to names.

Our final is due by Monday May 8th at 11:59 pm. Any submissions submitted after this deadline will earn a zero.

-Keep in mind that this schedule is a general outline and may change but I will let you know well in advance of any due dates if I have to change it-