

Spring 2022

## Syllabus

**HIS209-01**

### **Totalitarianism in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

**Instructor: Mark Moser, Senior Lecturer UNCG Department of History**

**Meeting Days/Times/Location: T-TR 2:00-3:15 MHRA 1214**

**Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)**

**Office Hours Spring 2022: T-TR 10:00–10:45 T-TR 12:30–1:30 (and by appointment)**

#### **Required Texts:**

**Hannah Arendt. *The Origins of Totalitarianism* (Mariner Books ISBN 9780156701532)**

**George Orwell. *1984* (Any paperback edition)**

**\*Note: Additional readings will be made available each week on Canvas.**

#### **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 Totalitarian Regimes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. (This will be accomplished primarily through the weekly discussion posting assignments)
- **Historical Analysis:** Students will demonstrate ability to use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. (This will be accomplished primarily through the midterm exam essay)
- **Historical Interpretation:** Students will be able to use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting original arguments in writing. (This will be accomplished primarily through the final exam essay)

### **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 most 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 excessively 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 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. Students accumulating excessive absences will be dropped from the class. **Any student who wishes to receive a grade of "W" must drop the class on or before Friday, March 4.** 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. 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 or email 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:**

<b>Discussion Postings/Participation</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>25%</b>
- - - - -	
<b>Course Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

(This course follows a 10 point scale.)

**Weekly Course Outline:**

**Week One**—(Jan. 11, 13) Course Introduction and historical overview of totalitarianism

**Week Two**—(Jan. 18, 20) Readings: Arendt Chapter Ten: “A Classless Society” and Canvas Reading Assignment #1

**Week Three**—(Jan. 25, 27) Readings: Arendt Chapter Eleven: “The Totalitarian Movement” and Canvas Reading Assignment #2

**Week Four**—(Feb. 1, 3) Readings: Arendt Chapter Twelve: “Totalitarianism in Power” (section I) and Canvas Reading Assignment #3

**Week Five**—(Feb. 8, 10) Readings: Arendt Chapter Twelve: “Totalitarianism in Power” (Sections II and III) and Canvas Reading Assignment #4

**Week Six**—(Feb. 15, 17) Readings: Arendt Chapter Thirteen: “Ideology and Terror: A Novel Form of Government” and Canvas Reading Assignment #5

**Week Seven**—(Feb. 22, 24) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #6 & #7

**Week Eight**—(Mar. 1, 3) \*Midterm Exam Review Tuesday, March 1  
Midterm Exam Thursday, March 3 (You will need a small format bluebook)

**SPRING BREAK --- No classes Tuesday March 8 or Thursday March 10**

**Week Nine**—(Mar. 15, 17) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #8 & #9

**Week Ten**—(Mar. 22, 24) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #10 & #11

**Week Eleven**—(Mar. 29, 31) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #12 & #13

**Week Twelve**—(Apr. 5, 7) Readings: Orwell *1984* Section One

**Week Thirteen**—(April 12, 14) Readings: Orwell *1984* Section Two

**Week Fourteen**—(Apr. 19, 21) Readings: Orwell *1984* Section Three and Afterword  
Tuesday, April 21 Review for Final Exam

**Final Exam**—Tuesday, April 26 (You will need to bring a small format bluebook to class).

**Academic Integrity Policy:**

*On all work submitted for this course 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. **This course will be conducted with a zero tolerance policy regarding plagiarism.***

## **Covid-19 Information**

Approved by Faculty Senate on November 22, 2021

As we return for spring 2022, 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. These actions include, but are not limited to:

- [Following face-covering guidelines](#)
- Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene
- Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19
- Staying home when 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
- Completing a [self-report](#) when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, testing positive for COVID-19, or being identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive
- Staying informed about the University's policies and announcements via the [COVID-19](#) website

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. Students may move their chairs in class to facilitate group work, as long as instructors keep seating chart records. Students should not eat or drink during class time.

A limited number of disposable masks will be available in classrooms for students who have forgotten theirs. Face coverings are also 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 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.