

Spring 2023

## Syllabus

HIS209-02

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

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

**Meeting Days/Times/Location:** Asynchronous Online

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

**Office Hours Spring 2023:** T 1:00–3:00 R 1:00–3:00 (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 Primary Source Analysis Paper and 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. You should not find this course difficult provided that you remain current with your reading. Students who fall behind will likely find it difficult to catch up.

All academic weeks for this course begin on Monday morning and end at 11:59PM the following Sunday night. You will have one discussion posting assignment due each week (beginning with week two and excluding the midterm exam week) that will be based directly on your reading assignments for that week. Discussion postings and other assignments will be made available early on Monday mornings (normally by 7:00AM). All assignments for the course will be made available on a week-by-week basis. I will not be posting assignments several weeks ahead, because I want to keep all students at the same place in terms of course content. As you will see in the grading breakdown below, your discussion postings constitute 40% of your total grade for this course and you should prioritize these accordingly. Beginning with the discussion posting for week two, I will provide a detailed set of instructions and requirements for the discussion posting assignments.

**Attendance:**

As this is an online asynchronous course, in-person attendance is not required. However, it will be necessary that you log into the course on Canvas frequently in order to keep up with assignments, notifications, etc. **Any student who wishes to receive a grade of "W" must drop the class on or before Friday, March 3.** . . .

**Grading:**

<b>Discussion Postings</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Primary Source Analysis</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>20%</b>
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<b>Course Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**(This course follows a 10 point scale.)**

**Weekly Course Outline:**

**Week One**—(Jan. 10--15) Course Introduction and historical overview of totalitarianism

**Week Two**—(Jan. 16--22) Readings: Arendt Chapter Ten: “A Classless Society” and Canvas Reading Assignment #1

**Week Three**—(Jan. 23--29) Readings: Arendt Chapter Eleven: “The Totalitarian Movement” and Canvas Reading Assignment #2

**Week Four**—(Jan. 30—Feb 5) Readings: Arendt Chapter Twelve: “Totalitarianism in Power” (section I) and Canvas Reading Assignment #3

**Week Five**—(Feb. 6--12) Readings: Arendt Chapter Twelve: “Totalitarianism in Power” (Sections II and III) and Canvas Reading Assignment #4

**Week Six**—(Feb. 13--19) Readings: Arendt Chapter Thirteen: “Ideology and Terror: A Novel Form of Government” and Canvas Reading Assignment #5

**Week Seven**—(Feb. 20--26) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #6 & #7

**Week Eight**—(Feb. 27—Mar. 5) \*Midterm Exam Review Tuesday, March 1  
Midterm Exams will be due by 11:59PM Sunday, March 5.

**SPRING BREAK --- No assignments week of Mar. 6--12**

**Week Nine**—(Mar. 13--19) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #8 & #9

**Week Ten**—(Mar. 20--26) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #10 & #11

**Week Eleven**—(Mar. 27—Apr. 2) Readings: Canvas Reading Assignments #12 & #13

**Week Twelve**—(Apr. 3--9) Readings: Orwell *1984* Section One

\*Primary Source Analysis Paper will be due by 11:59PM Sunday April 9.

**Week Thirteen**—(April 10--16) Readings: Orwell *1984* Section Two

**Week Fourteen**—(Apr. 17--23) Readings: Orwell *1984* Section Three and Afterword

**Final Exam**—Final Exams will be due by 11:59PM Sunday, April 30.

**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.***

*As we return for spring 2023, please uphold UNCG's culture of care to limit the spread of covid-19 and other airborne illnesses. These actions include, but are not limited to:*

- *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 isolate if ill*
- *Completing a [self-report](#) when experiencing covid-19 symptoms or testing positive for covid-19*
- *Following the CDC's [exposure guidelines](#) when exposed to someone who has tested positive for covid-19*
- *Staying informed about the University's policies and announcements via the [covid-19](#) website*

