Syllabus for History 3305/0 – MW 8:00 to 9:15 PM – SO 3010
Spring 2009
Professor: Dr. Elsa A. Nystrom
Office: Social Science Building, Room 4122
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Office Hours: MW, 9:30 – 2, 4:30 – 5:00, or by appointment

Course Objective
Successful completion of this course should provide the student with a basic understanding of political movements, wars, and social and cultural changes that have been part of World history since 1945. The class is based on lecture and discussion.

Withdrawals and Incompletes
The last day to withdraw from this course without penalty is March 9. However, in order to withdraw officially and receive the grade of (W), you must go to the Registrar's office and fill out the necessary form. If you merely stop attending the class without notifying the Registrar, you will automatically receive an F. Only in extreme hardship cases will a student be permitted to receive a grade of W after the drop date (March 9), and only with the approval of the Registrar.

The grade of Incomplete (I) will only be given to students who have completed at least 75% of the work for the course with a grade of C or better. If for some serious non-academic reason a student is unable to complete the class the end of session one, an incomplete may be assigned. An incomplete may also be assigned if a student misses the final exam and is otherwise in good standing.

Student Behavior
All students are expected to follow the student code of conduct as stated in the Kennesaw State University Handbook; this applies to student behavior in class particularly in regard to cheating and plagiarism.

Attendance and Participation
Students are expected to attend scheduled classes. Keeping up with your reading and attending all classes is crucial to your success in this class. Excessive absence will influence your grade. This includes leaving early without an extremely good reason. If a student has a valid reason for missing class, he or she must notify the professor before the absence occurs if possible. Also, no cell phone use in class!

Turnitin
The written assignments for this class must be posted to Turnitin, an anti-plagiarism website. Instructions for using Turnitin will be provided.

Exams: There will be four exams, three during the semester and the final. All exams will have short answer and essay questions.

Weight of Exams and assignments
3 exams @ 20% each
1 written assignment @ 30% (Two book critiques at 15% each)
Final Exam @ 20%
Total = 100%

Grade schedule as follows: 100-90, A, 89-80, B, 79-70, C, 69-60, D, 59 and under F

Class Calendar – First day of class: January 12
Exam 1 February 4
Last day to drop: March 9
Spring Break: No class March 9 - 11
Reading Assignments by Chapter and Topic

All assignments are from A World of Nations.

The course is divided into two sections: the First and Second Worlds and the Third World. The course will start off with the history of the 1st and 2nd worlds and then move on to the 3rd world.

Part One - The First and Second Worlds.
This section begins at the end of WWII and covers the many issues that faced both western and eastern European nations including the arms race, the cold war, and international rivalries. Read Chapters 1 and 2.
January 8 – February 4

Part One Continued – Détente, the fall of the Soviet Union and the rise of the EU.
This section continues with the end of East/West conflict and the economic rebirth that occurs during this period along with rapid social, cultural and political change. Read chapters 3, 4 and 5.
February 9 – March 16

Part Two – The Third World
This section looks at US-Latin American relations, the problems in East Asia and the lingering effects of the Cold War in Asia. Read Chapters 6, 7 and 8.
March 17 – April 8

Part Four – The Third World, Part w or Who is running the World Now?
This section covers the continuing conflict in the Middle East the result of decolonization in Africa, the growing power of Asia and problems facing the US as the lone superpower. Read Chapters 9, 10 and the epilogue.
April 13 – April 29

General Instructions for reading your text

You are responsible for all the chapters within each section. Concentrate on the key concepts, events, countries and individuals in each section and know who and what they are. If you don’t know the meaning of a word or term, look it up! If you don’t understand a concept, ask your instructor. Valid questions are welcomed.

Written Assignment

For your written assignment, you must select two scholarly books* on any topic covered in this text, read them carefully and write critical reviews of each. Select books that are of particular interest to you; there is a vast choice available. They may be on the same topic or on vastly different subjects. A good starting point for book selection is the bibliography at the end of your text. The purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to read beyond the text to expand your knowledge and to critique the work of historians on a given topic. Each
critique should be at least six pages long! Further instructions are provided for this assignment.

By scholarly books, I mean books written by historians and reviewed in scholarly journals. Memoirs and books written by journalists are not satisfactory subjects for your critiques.