

HIS 223  
Fall 2012  
UNCG

## History of Modern Europe

Dr. Susan W. Thomas [swthoma3@uncg.edu](mailto:swthoma3@uncg.edu)  
Office Hours: T/Th 10-11:00 and 12:30-1:30 (or by appt.)  
Class Meets T/Th 11-12:15, GRAM 302

**Required Text:** *The Western Heritage, Vol. C, Since 1789, 10<sup>th</sup> edition*, by Donald Kagan, Steven Ozment, and Frank M. Turner (Prentice Hall, 2010)

**Additional Readings will be available on Blackboard over the course of the semester.**

### **Course Description:**

This course will examine developments in Europe over the past two centuries, beginning with the French Revolution and continuing at least through the fall of the Berlin Wall. Together we will endeavor to learn about not only the episodes of political and economic upheaval and resolution, but also the social and cultural milieu in which these developments took place. By the end of our semester, most of Europe will have united (at least in name) to form the European Union, and we will explore how that transpired and the problems that have arisen as a result.

You can expect to read at least 30 pages a week in this class and you will be required to do a semester project and presentation. Always take notes as you read in order to have a sense of the material when you come into class. I will also assign documents/primary sources both within the text and on Blackboard, but these will generally be quite brief and will not add significantly to your reading commitment.

### **Course Goals:**

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to accomplish the following:

- ✓ Differentiate between, as well as analyze and contextualize, primary and secondary source documents
- ✓ Determine and evaluate different points of view from a historical perspective
- ✓ Identify the role of human agency in historical development
- ✓ Understand important historical development, causes/effects, and contingencies of major events in Modern European History
- ✓ Locate major European countries on a map
- ✓ Make connections between the historical development of Europe and today's events

### **Course Requirements and Grading:**

I assign a variety of written work in order to provide opportunities for students to learn the material well. More assignments means that one poor grade will not harm your overall average as much. Aside from **three exams (in class)**, you will have **5 document analysis papers**, along with occasional **class quizzes** and **homework assignments**. You will also have a **group project** which will be due at the end of the semester

### **Grade Distribution:**

- 3 Exams (15% ea.) = 45%
- Group Project = 20%
- 5 Doc Analysis Papers (3% ea.) = 15%
- Participation and Attendance (includes Homework and Quizzes) = 20%

**Late Policy:**

I do not allow make up quizzes or late homework, but I will drop the lowest grade in each category. Late Document Analysis Papers will be penalized one letter grade per day until received. I do not allow makeup exams without a documented excuse.

**Grading Range:**

A+ (97 and above), A (93-96), A- (90-92); B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82); C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72); D+ (67-69), D (63-66), D- (60-62); F (less than 60, unacceptable work)

**Blackboard and Communication:**

Check your iSpartan email daily and sign into Blackboard regularly to stay current with the assigned material. Updates/changes to the syllabus (if necessary) will be made only to the copy available on our Blackboard page. If I need to contact you, it will be through your iSpartan email and you can reach me outside of class the same way. I always respond to email within 24 hours, so if you do not hear from me in that time, please resend.

**Student Responsibilities:**

- *Attendance:* Regular attendance is expected and I do take roll daily. I allow 4 unexcused absences, but more than this will negatively affect your grade (one letter grade from this segment of your total grade). If you have obligations or difficulties that will cause you to miss class, please let me know. I am always willing to work with students, but I need to know about your situation as soon as possible. Students who are consistently tardy will lose points so strive to be on time.
- *Participation:* I combine Attendance and Participation in your grading, thus simply attending class is not sufficient to get full credit. I expect students to join in discussion of the assigned reading materials and to respond to and ask questions during class.
- *Classroom Decorum:* This will be a discussion based class and there will inevitably be differences of opinion. We will treat one another with respect and keep our discussions civil. I expect students to pay attention and refrain from engaging in conversation with each other during class.
- *Learning Disabilities and Other Concerns:* If you have a diagnosed learning disability or special needs that will affect how you perform in class or will require consideration in writing assignments or on tests, it is your responsibility to ensure that I receive the proper documentation as soon as possible.
- *Electronic Devices:* Turn off and put away all cell phones and iPods when class begins. Laptops are permitted, but if a student who abuses this privilege by 'wandering' risk being marked absent for the day.
- *Academic Integrity:* In all assignments, students are required to submit their own work. If an occasion arises to use a source to complete the assignment, it is necessary to provide a citation in order to avoid plagiarism. See the link for more on the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy.

**Course Schedule**

Wk 1 Enlightenment and Reformation

- Aug 21 Introduction to Course
- Aug 23 Enlightenment and Revolution

Wk 2 French Revolution

- Aug 28 Read Ch. 18, "The French Revolution"
- Aug 30 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion

Wk 3 Napoleonic Europe

- Sep 4 Read Ch. 19, "The Age of Napoleon and the Triumph of Romanticism"
- Sep 6 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion

Wk 4 Political Changes and Revolution

- Sep 11 Read Ch 20, "The Conservative Order and the Challenges of Reform"
- Sep 13 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion/Exam Review

Wk 5 Industrialization

- Sep 18: **Exam 1**
- Sep 20: Read Ch. 21, "Economic Advance and Social Unrest"

Wk 6 Rise of European Nationalism

- Sep 25 Read Ch. 22, "The Age of Nation-States"
- Sep 27 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion

Wk 7 European Dominance

- Oct 2 Read Ch. 23, "The Building Of European Supremacy: Society and Politics to WWI"
- Oct 4 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion

Wk 8 European Imperialism

- Oct 9 Read Ch. 25, "The Age of Western Imperialism"
- Oct 11 **No Class!**

Wk 9 Europe in WWI

- Oct 16: **Fall Break**
- Oct 18 Read Ch. 26, "Alliances, War, and a Troubled Peace"

Wk 10 Europe Between the Wars

- Oct 23: **Exam II**
- Oct 25 Read Ch. 27, "The Interwar Years: The Challenge of Dictators and Depression"

Wk 11 Europe in WWII

- Oct 30 Read Ch 28, "WWII"
- Nov 1 **No Class/Conference**

Wk 12 Europe in the Cold War

- Nov 6 Read Ch. 29, "The Cold War Era, Decolonization, and the Emergence of a New Europe"
- Nov 8 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion

Wk 13 Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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- Nov 13 Read Ch. 30, "The West at the Dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"
- Nov 15 Documents (Listed on Blackboard) and Current Events Discussion

Wk 14 Presentations

- Nov 20 Projects
- Nov 22: **Thanksgiving!**

Wk 15 Presentations

- Nov 27 Projects and Exam Review
- Nov 29: **Final Exam**