

## **European Revolutions Since 1789**

Instructor: Dr. Susan W. Thomas  
MHRA 2114  
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Office Hours: T/Th 8:30-9:30, 12:30-1:45  
(or by appt.)  
Class Meets T/Th 3:30-4:45, MHRA 1214

**Required Text:** Perry, Marvin, et al., *Western Civilization: Ideas, Politics, and Society*, 10<sup>th</sup> ed.  
(Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2013)

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

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### **Course Description:**

This course will examine developments in Europe over the past two centuries through the analytical lens of revolution. Although the course is designed to begin with the French Revolution of 1789, we will begin the course by examining prior (non-violent) revolutions that changed the cultural and political outlook of Europeans prior to 1789. Not all revolutions entail violence or pitched battle, as we will discover. 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.

### **Course Goals:**

General College Historical Perspective (GHP) SLOs:

- ✓ Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
- ✓ Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

General College Global (GL) SLOs:

- ✓ Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse cultures.
- ✓ Describe interconnections among regions of the world. (Must include substantial focus on at least one culture, nation, or sub-nationality beyond Great Britain and North America).
- ✓ Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

Course SLOs: Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to ...

- ✓ Comprehend that history is not the memorization of dates and facts, but rather the *interpretation* of the past.
- ✓ Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in a wide variety of places and periods.
- ✓ Analyze the key terms, facts, and events in Modern European history and thereby gain an informed historical perspective.
- ✓ Critically appraise varying historical arguments and clearly express their own interpretations.
- ✓ Critically read and distinguish between different types of historical sources and “read between the lines” of differing points of view.

### **Course Components and Grading:**

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**All work for this class (with the exception of quizzes or homework) will be submitted via Canvas through Turn it In.**

Three Exams: **We will NOT have class on exam days.**

Rather than completing exams in class, you will be writing essays in response to questions related to the material covered to that point. The essays must be **1000-1250 words (4-5 pages, typed, double spaced, one inch margins).**

**Exam essays will be due to Canvas by 5:00 pm on the date of the exam. Essays submitted after the deadline will lose one letter grade per day, starting after 5:00 pm on the due date. I will not accept hard copies of the exams.**

Four Document Based Questions (DBQ):

Four times during the semester you will be responding to questions related to assigned documents. Responses will be entered into Canvas as Discussion Board Posts and must be a minimum of 250 words (and I will check the word count). You will have a choice in these assignments as to which documents you want to write about.

Posts due to **Canvas by class time on the due date.**

**I will not accept hard copies of DBQ assignments.**

Quizzes and Homework (10 or more of these):

I generally announce quizzes so you can prepare, but if it becomes evident that many students are not doing the readings and preparing for class, I will opt for pop quizzes as well.

**I do not allow students to make up in-class work but instead drop at least one of the lowest grades for these assignments.**

**If you miss class on the date homework is due, you may not submit it via email. If you forget it, you may not turn it in late. If you miss class on the day I assign homework, contact of fellow student to get the information you need to complete the work so you will have it for the next class.**

Participation and Attendance:

Attendance is expected, not rewarded, and I do take roll. You cannot participate if you are not in class, which means your participation grade will suffer if you are consistently absent.

*Grade Distribution:*

3 Exams (20/20/20% ea.) = 60%

4 Document Based Questions (5% ea.) = 20%

Homework and Quizzes (minimum of 10) = 10%

Participation and Attendance = 10%

*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 and Exam Essays will be penalized one letter grade per day until received. This penalty begins immediately after the due date expires.

*Grading Range:*

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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)

*Student Responsibilities:*

*Attendance:* Regular attendance is expected and I do take roll daily. I allow 3 unexcused absences, but more than this will negatively affect your grade (one letter grade from the Participation portion 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.

*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 class will rely on student discussion of the events we will cover, and there may be some 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.

*Electronic Devices:* Silence and put away all cell phones and iPods when class begins. Laptops and tablets are permitted, but if **students who abuse this privilege by 'wandering' risk being marked absent for the day.**

*Internet:*

Because you must use Canvas to complete the assignments for this course and access occasional readings, you need access to reliable high speed internet service. Inability to get online will not be an acceptable excuse for failing to submit work on time unless it is due to a widespread (such as campus-wide) event.

*Accessibility and Accommodations:*

If you have documented needs that require accommodation in order to succeed in this class, it is your responsibility to provide this information in writing as soon after the semester begins as possible. Need more information? Check out [OARS](#).

*Academic Integrity:*

In all assignments, students are required to submit their own work. If occasion arises to use a source to complete the assignment, you are required to provide a parenthetical citation in order to avoid plagiarism.

Note: It will be a breach of the Academic Integrity Policy for students to turn to sources other than those provided for the course, unless otherwise indicated.

Questions? Check out UNCG's [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

**Course Mechanics:**

This course requires that you consult both the syllabus and Canvas to determine what you need to do/read in preparation for each class. The syllabus will be posted there for reference.

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The syllabus contains the course calendar indicating the specific chapters you are required to read for each class. It also specifies the due dates for all assignments.

Canvas contains all additional readings or video clips that might be assigned for any given class. Check Canvas when you are ready to prepare for class so that you will be able to access any additional required readings.

Coursework is organized in Modules in Canvas, so that you can see at a glance what you need to do and when assignments are due.

### **Schedule of Class Meetings**

**Read materials on designated dates before coming to class.**

**Take notes as you read, ask questions about the events described, be prepared to discuss in class.**

**The syllabus lists ONLY textbook readings. All other documents are located on Canvas.**

**ALWAYS check Canvas when preparing for class to access these readings.**

### **DATES OF NOTE**

DBQ 1: Sept 1

Exam 1: Sept 15 (NO CLASS)

DBQ 2: Sept 24

**Fall Break: Oct 13 AND 15**

Exam 2: Oct 20 (NO CLASS)

DBQ 3: Oct 29

DBQ 4: Nov 12

Final Exam Essay: Nov 24 (NO CLASS)

#### **Week 1:**

**Aug 18: Introduction to Course**

**Aug 20: Defining Europe**

#### **Week 2:**

**Aug 25: Text 17, Scientific Revolution (refer to Canvas for additional readings)**

**Aug 27: Text 18, Age of Enlightenment (refer to Canvas for additional readings)**

#### **Week 3:**

**Sept 1: Text 19, French Revolution (refer to Canvas for additional readings)**

**\*DBQ 1 Due to Canvas by class time Sept 1**

**Sept 3 : French Revolution (refer to Canvas for additional readings)**

#### **Week 4:**

**Sept 8: Text 20, Industrial Revolution (refer to Canvas for additional readings)**

**Sept 10: Industrial Revolution (refer to Canvas for additional readings)**

#### **Week 5:**

**Sept 15: NO CLASS**

**\*Exam Essay 1 due to Canvas by 5:00**

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Sept 17: Text 21 Revolution in Thought and Expression (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

Week 6:

Sept 22: Revolution in Thought and Expression (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Sept 24: Text 22 Revolution and Counterrevolution through 1848 (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

\* DBQ 2 Due to Canvas by class time Sept 24

Week 7:

Sept 29: Text 23, Darwinian Revolution (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Oct 1: Text 23, Revolution in Political Thought (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

Week 8:

Oct 6: Text 24, Nationalism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Oct 8: Text 25, Modernization (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

Week 9: NO CLASSES THIS WEEK!

Oct 13: Fall Break  
Oct 15: Fall Break

Week 10:

Oct 20: NO CLASS

\*Exam Essay 2 due to Canvas by 5:00

Oct 22: Text 26, Imperialism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

Week 11:

Oct 27: Imperialism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Oct 29: Text 28, Totalitarianism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

\*DBQ 3 due to Canvas by class time Oct 29

Week 12:

Nov 3 Text 29, Totalitarianism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Nov 5: Text 31, Totalitarianism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

Week 13:

Nov 10: Text 32, Cold War (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Nov 12: Cold War (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

\*4<sup>th</sup> DBQ due to Canvas by class time Nov 19

Week 14:

Nov 17: Text 33, Globalism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)  
Nov 19: Globalism (refer to Canvas for additional readings)

Week 15:

Nov 24: NO CLASS

\*Final Exam Essay due to Canvas by 5:00 pm