

History 223-01: European Revolutions, 1789-1989

Fall 2023

3 credit hours

Format: online, asynchronous

Instructor Information

Dr. Teresa Walch

E-mail: tmwalch@uncg.edu

Office Hours: via Microsoft Teams on Tuesdays 9:00-10:00am, and by appointment

Teaching Assistant

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Office Hours: via Microsoft Teams on Wednesdays, 3:00-4:00pm



Description

This course will introduce you to the major historical events in Europe from the French Revolution to the present and explores various political, social, cultural, and economic developments during this period. We will attempt to answer a multitude of questions, such as: What is Europe and who is European? How did Europe industrialize and come to dominate the world in the nineteenth century? Why did its hegemony weaken in the twentieth century? Why was Europe so often wracked with revolution, war, and terror during the past two centuries, and what ideologies encouraged these various historical events? How have notions of “Europeanness” evolved in the modern era?

Required Readings

You are not required to purchase any books or textbooks for this course. All required readings and materials will be available on Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Minerva's Academic Curriculum (MAC) SLO: Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Humanities & Fine Arts

This course fulfills the following MAC competency: Critical Thinking and Inquiry (CTI) in the Humanities and Fine Arts. Through these courses, students acquire a working knowledge of the foundational tools for reasoning, including constructing sound arguments, evaluating the quality of evidence, and forming judgments about the evidence, arguments, and conclusions of others in Humanities and Fine Arts disciplines.

By successfully completing this MAC CTI in the Humanities and Fine Arts course, students will learn to:

1. critically analyze claims, arguments, artifacts or information.
2. construct coherent, evidence-based arguments.

In this course, student learning related to the MAC CTI in Humanities and Fine Arts SLOs 1 & 2 will be assessed through: weekly discussion boards, a primary source assignment, a secondary source assignment, a response paper, and midterm & final essays.

The MAC SLOs are supported by the following additional departmental and course-specific SLOs:

History Department SLOs:

- Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in a wide variety of places and periods. [Historical Comprehension]
- Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. [Historical Analysis]

Course Specific SLOs:

The course has several learning outcomes that are important for both the study of history and for your general education at UNCG. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- a. describe the major political, social, cultural, and economic developments in modern Europe.
- b. explain the multiple causes of historical change by articulate plausible arguments of their own, based on evidence from multiple sources (primary, secondary, etc.) in written assignments.

Assignments & Grading

Participation (Weekly Discussions & Quizzes) (MAC SLO 1, Course SLOs a & b) – Your participation grade consists of your responses to the weekly discussion board and your weekly quiz scores (any other additional assignments, surveys, and quizzes will also count toward part of your participation grade).

- **Weekly Discussion Board:** each week, I will post a prompt on the week's discussion board that relates to the weekly readings and materials. You must regularly contribute to the discussion before Sunday @ 11:59pm each week. Detailed instructions for the Weekly Discussions are posted on Canvas. Your active participation in this course via the weekly discussions is vital to your grade as well as to your success in and enjoyment of this course.
- **Weekly Quizzes:** beginning in Week 2, you will also complete a weekly quiz on Canvas after you complete the assigned materials in the weekly module.

Primary Source Assignment (MAC SLO 1) – The purpose of this assignment is to help you apply some of the tools you have acquired after we have discussed how to analyze primary sources. You will analyze two primary sources on your own that have differing perspectives on the same event.

Midterm Essay (MAC SLOs 1 & 2, Course SLOs a & b) – The midterm essay will consist of one essay question that relates to themes & materials from the first half of the semester.

Secondary Source Assignment (MAC SLO 1) – The purpose of this assignment is to help you apply some of the skills you have acquired after we have discussed how to critically analyze secondary sources. In this assignment, you will identify, compare, and contrast the arguments in two secondary sources.

Response Paper (MAC SLO 1 & 2, Course SLOs a & b) – You will watch a movie and write a 4-5-page response paper, answering an essay question I provide. Your paper should have an appropriate introduction and center around a lucid and well-developed thesis. You should then support this thesis throughout the paper with clear reasoning and ample, *specific* pieces of evidence from the movie and other course materials.

Final Essay (MAC SLOs 1 & 2, Course SLOs a & b) – The final essay will consist of one essay question that relates to themes & materials from the entire semester.

Detailed prompts for the assignments & papers will be posted on Canvas.

Your final grade will be assessed as such:

- 25% – *Participation*
- 10% – *Primary Source Assignment*
- 20% – *Midterm Essay*
- 10% – *Secondary Source Assignment*
- 15% – *Response Paper*
- 20% – *Final Essay*

Final Grade Scale:

Letter Grade	% points accumulated
A	≥ 93.0
A-	90.0-92.9
B+	87.0-89.9
B	83.0-86.9
B-	80.0-82.9
C+	77.0-79.9
C	73.0-76.9
C-	70.0-72.9

D	60.0-69.9
F	<60.0

Midterm Grades

In keeping with UNCG policy, I will post a midterm grade for you in UNCGenie by the end of Week 6 of the term (September 22). That grade will not appear on your transcript or in your GPA calculations. Instead, it is intended to help you and your academic advisor understand how you are doing in the course up to that point. If you review your midterm grade and find it to be lower than you hoped, I encourage you to talk to me so we can make a plan together for your success.

Assignment Submission and Format

You will submit all assignments in this course electronically on Canvas, either as a text entry, as a Word document, or other (as indicated on the specific assignment). No assignments will be accepted either by email or on paper. Your assignments and papers will be submitted via Turnitin.

Policy on Late Work

Weekly Discussions – Late posts to the weekly discussion board will not be accepted (after Sunday @ 11:59pm). You may miss or be absent from 2 weekly discussions with no penalty, no explanation needed. For students who do not miss any weekly discussions, I will omit your two lowest-scoring grades from your final grade. Any more than two missed discussions will receive a zero for the assignment.

Other Assignments – The penalty for all other late assignments is 1/3 of a letter grade *for each day an assignment is late* (including weekends). After 10 days late, the maximum grade an assignment can receive is 60%. If you think you will need an extension for any of these assignments, please get in touch with me *ahead of time*.

The final essay must be turned in on time, no exceptions.

Communication

Your TA and I will be in contact with you regularly throughout the semester. I will primarily update you via the “*Announcements*” feature in the course Canvas site. Every time you access the course on Canvas, please check for any new announcements and read them promptly. If I need to contact you about an individual matter, I will send you an individual message on Canvas or send an email to your UNCG email address. Please check your UNCG email daily.

If you have a question about the course or assignments, you have three options:

1. Office Hours – What are “office hours”? By “office hours,” professors mean the time they set aside in their weekly schedule to be in their offices to answer student questions. You may come to ask any questions you have about the course, assignments, etc. Your TA and I will hold office hours this semester via Microsoft Teams. Please see the top of the syllabus for our office hour times. If you wish to meet, and these times do not work for you, please contact us, and we will schedule a different appointment.

2. General Discussion Board – In most cases, the best place to post general questions related to course content, assignments, and materials is the “General Discussion Board” on Canvas. Your question will most likely be relevant for others in the class as well. I encourage you to post your questions there and to answer your classmates’ questions that you see here. This should be the default space for everyone

to go with their questions. Your TA and I will regularly check the discussion board to reply to any unanswered questions and comments.

3. Email – I will respond to emails sent to me Monday-Thursday within 24-48 hours. I will respond to emails received Friday-Sunday the following Monday. If you email me about a matter that is already addressed in the syllabus or on Canvas, I will refer you to those places to find the answer. And if your question is relevant for the whole class, I will ask you to post it on the General Discussion Board.

Technical Support:

I cannot answer or help you resolve any questions regarding technology. Students with technical issues with the course and email should contact 6-TECH for support either by email or phone or chat ([6TECH Help](#)). If you need some additional help and information with Canvas, please refer to this [Canvas Student Guide](#).

Health and Wellness Statement

Health and well-being impact learning and academic success. Throughout your time in the university, you may experience a range of concerns that can cause barriers to your academic success. These might include illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. Student Health Services and The Counseling Center can help with these or other issues you may experience. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus by calling 336-334-5874, visiting the website at <https://shs.uncg.edu/> or visiting the Anna M. Gove Student Health Center at 107 Gray Drive. For undergraduate or graduate students in recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, The Spartan Recovery Program (SRP) offers recovery support services. You can learn more about recovery and recovery support services by visiting <https://shs.uncg.edu/srp> or reaching out to recovery@uncg.edu.

Academic Integrity

All the work you submit in this course must be your own. You are expected to properly cite and acknowledge any material that you quote, paraphrase, or summarize. The major assignments in this class will be submitted via Turnitin.

By submitting an assignment, each student is acknowledging their understanding and commitment to the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work for the course. Refer to the following URL: <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>.

If you have any questions, I encourage you to visit UNCG's webpage on [plagiarism](#). Please also carefully read the UNCG Writing Center's handout on "[Avoiding Plagiarism](#)."

Accommodations

UNCG seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center, 334-5440, oars.uncg.edu.

Religious Holidays

It is expected that instructors will make reasonable accommodations for students who have conflicts due to religious obligations. Please make arrangements with me in advance of any conflict. For more information on UNCG's Religious Obligations policy, visit: [UNCG's Religious Obligations Policy](#).

Stay Connected to the History Department!

If you want to learn more about History, please check out our website and social media pages. You can find out more about the courses we offer, our major and minor, our public history concentration, and graduate studies. You will also stay informed about our departmental news and upcoming events.

Website: <https://his.uncg.edu/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/uncghistory1/>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCmAM-qlz-IVzKR_YmoHq4A

Note on Syllabus Materials & Updates

The listed readings below constitute only *some* of the assigned readings and materials. You will find the complete list of weekly assigned materials (all required readings, lectures, videos, etc.) on Canvas, so please refer to each module as the authoritative list. If needed, there may also be adjustments to the syllabus and calendar throughout the semester. In such cases, I will notify you with an updated syllabus and calendar within a reasonable timeframe.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (August 15-20) – Introduction to Modern Europe

Readings:

- Richard J. Evans, “What is European History? Reflections of a Cosmopolitan Islander,” *European History Quarterly* 40, no. 4 (2010): 593-605.
- Immanuel Kant, “What is Enlightenment?”

Week 2 (August 21-27): The French Revolution

Readings:

- Jean Jacques Rousseau, “The Social Contract”
- Abbé Siéyès, “What is the Third Estate?”
- National Assembly of France, “The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen”
- Olympe de Gouges, “Declaration of the Rights of Woman”
- Maximilien Robespierre, “Justification of the Use of Terror”
- William A. Pelz, “The Rise of the Third Estate: The French People Revolt,” in *A People’s History of Modern Europe* (London: Pluto, 2016), 40-51.

Week 3 (August 28-September 3): Napoleonic Europe & Restoration Europe

Readings:

- Abd Al-Rahman Al-Jabarti, “Chronicle of the French Occupation” (e-reserve)
- Napoleon letter to Toussaint Louverture
- Carlsbad Decrees
- Johann Gottfried von Herder, selections from “Materials for the Philosophy of the History of Mankind”

Week 4 (September 4-10): The Industrial Revolution

Readings:

- Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx, excerpt from *The Communist Manifesto*

Week 5 (September 11-17) – Nationalism & New Imperialism

Readings:

- Giuseppe Mazzini, excerpts from *The Duties of Man*
- Otto von Bismarck, excerpt from “Iron and Blood” speech
- Lin Zexu, A Letter to Queen Victoria
- Rudyard Kipling, “White Man’s Burden”

**** Primary Source Assignment – due by Sunday, September 17 @ 11:59pm.**

Week 6 (September 18-24) – Scientific & Cultural Revolutions

Readings:

- Charles Darwin, excerpts from *On the Origin of Species*
- Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, “The Founding and Manifesto of Futurism”

** Midterm grades posted by September 22.

Week 7 (September 25-October 1) – World War I

Readings:

- please see Canvas

**** Midterm Essay – due by Sunday, October 1 @ 11:59pm.**

Week 8 (October 2-10) – UNCG Fall Break (Oct. 7-10)

No readings or assignments due this week. Please work ahead on the Secondary Source Assignment (due at the end of Week 9, on October 16). Otherwise, enjoy fall break!

** October 6: Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty (WF Grade)

Week 9 (October 11-15) – Interwar Europe

Readings:

- Woodrow Wilson, “Fourteen Points”
- Adolf Hitler on the November Revolution

Secondary Source Assignment – due by Sunday, October 15 @ 11:59pm.

Week 10 (October 16-22) – Nazi Germany & World War II

Readings:

- Adolf Hitler, excerpts from *Mein Kampf*
- Munich Agreement
- Neville Chamberlain, “Peace for Our Time” statement

Week 11 (October 23-29) – The Holocaust

Readings:

- The Wannsee Conference Protocol
- Doris L. Bergen, “Occupation, Imperialism, and Genocide, 1939-1945”

Week 12 (October 30–November 5) – Postwar Europe

Readings:

- Winston S. Churchill, “Iron Curtain Speech”
- Joseph Stalin, “Reply to Churchill”
- Harry S. Truman, The Truman Doctrine
- George Marshall, The Marshall Plan

Week 13 (November 6–12) – Decolonization & the New Left

Readings:

- Vietnamese Declaration of Independence
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Week 14 (November 13–19) – Cold War Europe

Readings:

- Margaret Thatcher, “Consensus – or choice?”
- Solidarity Union, “Twenty-One Demands: A Call for Workers’ Rights and Freedom in a Socialist State”

Response Paper – due by Sunday, November 19 @ 11:59pm.

Week 15 (November 20–29) – Europe at the Turn of the Century

Readings:

- Helmut Kohl, “The Significance of European Integration”
- Mark Mazower, “What Remains: On the European Union”

FINAL ESSAY due by Tuesday, December 5 @ 11:59pm