

HIS 223-03 – Modern Europe
Course Syllabus
Spring 2006

Course Time and Location: MWF 9:00-9:50, Eberhart 161

Instructor: Mrs. Meri Ellen Lynott (line-it)

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Office Location and Hours: McIver 223; MWF 8:00-8:45

Catalog Course Description: This course is a survey of the political, social and cultural history of Europe from the time of the French Revolution to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the political culture and the emergence of the great ideological systems of the West (e.g., liberalism, conservatism, socialism, communism, nationalism, and fascism).

Course Goals:

- To gain general knowledge about the major events and people in modern European history.
- To be able to evaluate the processes of change in the development of European society, culture, and government from 1789 through the modern day.
- To gain an appreciation for the different experiences of various groups of people in Europe as a result of such things as nationality, gender, ethnicity, social class, and religion.
- To develop an understanding of the major forces for historical change and development in Europe, and analyze the effects of those forces on the continent.
- To acquire some of the basic skills of historians such as:
 - The ability to analyze primary source materials, considering such factors as the author's objective, the intended audience, bias, etc.
 - The ability to interpret and analyze different opinions of the same event and to draw your own conclusions based on your own knowledge and the soundness of others' arguments.

Textbooks:

- Optional: • Kagan, Donald, Stephen Ozment, and Frank M. Turner. The Western Heritage, Volume C: Since 1789 (Eighth Edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2004.
- Required: • Mitchell, Joseph R. and Helen Buss Mitchell. Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in Western Civilization. Guilford, CT: Dushkin/McGraw-Hill, 2000.
- Ibsen, Henrik. A Doll's House (Dover Thrift Edition). Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, 1992.
 - Drakulić, Slavenka. Café Europa: Life After Communism. New York: Penguin, 1996.
 - Additional primary source readings as posted on Blackboard.

Course Breakdown:

- **Tests** **40%**
There will be two tests worth 15% each. Each test will cover ~1/3 of the course material and will be a mixture of multiple choice, identifications, and essays. I will announce each test at least one week in advance and I will provide a study guide for each.
- **Final Exam** **20%**
The final will be on May 5 from 8:00-11:00 Am. It will be non-cumulative and will cover only the last 1/3 of the course material. It will be the same format as the two tests.
- **Book Reviews** **15%**
There will be two 2-3 page book reviews worth 10% each. These papers will be reactions to and analyses of A Doll's House and Café Europa.
- **Position Papers** **15%**
There will be two 2-3 page position papers worth 10% each. These papers will be analyses of the various historians' arguments as presented to you in Taking Sides.
- **Participation** **10%**
Your participation grade will be determined based upon your attendance to class. See below for the attendance policy.

Grading Scale (the last date to drop with a grade of W is March 15):

A+	98-100
A	94-97
A-	90-93
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	Below 60

Blackboard: I will regularly be using Blackboard to post readings, lecture outlines, study guides, assignments, announcements, and your grades. If you are not familiar with Blackboard, to access it you need to go to blackboard.uncg.edu and use your Novell username and password to login to the system. Once you are into Blackboard, you will need to select our course (HIS 223-03) from the list of the courses you are taking.

Attendance Policy: Attending class regularly is essential to maximize your learning. I will be testing you on material based upon how I approach the material in class. Therefore, you need to be there if you expect to do well in the class. To give you extra incentive, irregular attendance will be penalized. Each student is allowed three absences without penalty. After that, I will keep a tally of your absences. At the end of the semester, I will calculate the percentage of days that you were in class. That percentage will go toward the attendance portion of your grade. Therefore, it will be in your best interest to attend class regularly, as you will be held accountable at the end of the semester!

Arriving to class on time is also important. Tardy students not only miss important segments of class, but disrupt other students as well. Therefore, repetitive tardiness will be also penalized. Arriving to class late three times will be considered the equivalent of one absence. Therefore, if you are tardy to class nine times, for example, you will be credited with three absences. The absences that you accrue as a result of your tardies will be calculated into your attendance grade.

I realize that school makes up only a part of everyone's life and that almost everyone will have an emergency of some kind during the course of the semester. That is why I allow three absences with no questions asked. Please keep in mind that **I will not distinguish between "excused" and "unexcused" absences!**

Late Work Policy: In the event that you do miss class, you are responsible for making up all work missed and borrowing notes from another student so that you will know what material was covered that day in class. All papers will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. **It is YOUR responsibility to get your assignments from Blackboard!**

Also, even if you are not in class the day a paper is due, I still expect to receive it that day. There are a number of ways you can get your work to me on time. You can email it to me, you can turn the work in early, or you can send your assignment to me by way of a friend or classmate. Not being in class on the day an assignment is due is not an excuse for not turning your work in! If you do turn in a paper late, it will be deducted one full letter grade **PER CLASS PERIOD** that it is late.

Quizzes can only be taken in class on the day that they are scheduled.

There will be NO make-ups allowed on quizzes! That will allow me to quickly get the quizzes back to students who take them on time.

Make sure that you are present on the day of the two major tests. It is definitely in your best interest to be there because, while I will allow you to make up tests, you must do so within 48 hours of the test and you will only receive 50% credit. **Your final exam, however, CANNOT be made up!**