

"Modern Europe, 1750-2007"

This introductory course surveys European history from the mid-18th century through the present. Using intellectual treatises, novels, short stories, and other primary sources, students will examine the major landmarks in the social, intellectual, political, and cultural histories of the diverse peoples of Europe since approximately 1750 – the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, the emergence of the nation-state, industrialization, socialism, imperialism, and the construction and fragmentation of “modern” Europe in the 21st century.

Required Readings

The following books are required for this course and are available for purchase at the UNCG Bookstore in Elliot University Center and Addams Bookstore. Copies of the books will also be placed on reserve in Jackson Library. Note: The editions listed below are those in stock at the bookstores; earlier editions (especially of the textbook) are *perfectly acceptable* substitutes and can often be purchased at substantially cheaper prices via the Internet.

Kishlansky, Geary, and O’Brien. *Civilization in the West, 6th Edition, Volume C: Since 1789*.
Voltaire, *Candide* (Penguin).

Marx, *The Communist Manifesto* (International Publishers).

Camus, *The Plague* (Vintage).

Kovaly, *Under a Cruel Star* (Holmes & Meier).

Other short readings for this course will be available via Electronic Reserve through Jackson Library.

Grading

Grades for this course will be assigned according to the following scheme:

20% -- Midterm 1

20% -- Midterm 2

15% -- Paper

35% -- Final Exam

10% -- Participation (includes attendance, **talking** during class discussions, and written responses to readings)

Exams

There will be 2 midterm exams in this course. **Midterm 1** will be held on **Wednesday, February 14th**. **Midterm 2** will be held on **Wednesday, March 28th**. Each exam will consist of identifications (based upon the Key Word terms listed on each lecture outline and posted on

the course web site) and an essay portion. The **Final Exam** will be held on **Monday, May 7th** from **12:00-3:00 p.m.** in **1215 HHRA**. The exam will consist of a Key Word ID section, a passage ID section (drawn from the assigned documents for this course), and an essay portion. Make-up exams will only be given in extreme circumstances (e.g. serious illness, bereavement), and a note must accompany requests. No "Incomplete" grades will be given.

Paper

There will be one major written assignment in this course, an essay of no less than five (5) pages on a topic to be assigned in advance. A choice of topics will be provided approximately 2-3 weeks prior to the due date, and students will be expected to draw upon the readings from the course in producing their essay. This is NOT a research paper; no outside reading or research beyond that related to the course will be required. The paper will be due on **Tuesday, April 24th at 5 p.m.** Papers will be submitted electronically; details will be forthcoming.

Weather Information

On days when the weather looks "iffy," please be sure to call the UNCG Adverse Weather Line **(336) 334-4000** or look on the UNCG home page (**www.uncg.edu**) for updates. I will also post notices regarding class scheduling on the course Blackboard site. If there is a delayed opening of campus that runs into our normal class time, please come to class **as soon as** the delay is over; our class meetings will run through the end of the regularly scheduled period.

Plagiarism Policy

UNCG takes the Academic Integrity Policy extremely seriously, as do I. Any work submitted that is found to contain plagiarized material will immediately receive a failing grade, and disciplinary action will be taken forthwith in accordance with the University's policies.

Syllabus

January 8: Introduction: "Old Europe"? "New Europe"? "Modern Europe"?!

SECTION 1: EUROPEAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE IN THE 18th CENTURY

January 10: More than Mozart and Powdered Wigs: The 18th Century World View

January 15: Martin Luther King Holiday! No Class!

January 17: "Enlightenment" in Theory: Kant, Rousseau, and Montesquieu

January 22: "The best of all possible worlds"?: Practical Enlightenment and Its Critics

January 24: **Discussion: *Candide***

Reading: Xeroxed chapter from Kishlansky, 4th Edition.
Candide

SECTION 2: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE BIRTH OF MODERNITY

January 29: The French Revolution: Its Origins and Early Stages, 1789-1791
January 31: The Terror, Napoleon, and the End (?) of the French Revolution

February 5: **Discussion: French Revolution Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 20
Sieyes, from "What is the Third Estate?" (1789) (E-Reserve)
"Decrees of August 4, 1789" (ER)
"Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen" (1789) (ER)
de Gouges, "Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Citizen" (1789) (ER)
Robespierre, from "On the Principles of Political Morality" (1794) (ER)

SECTION 3: A DUAL REVOLUTION: INDUSTRIALIZATION

February 7: The Rise of Capitalism and Its Consequences

February 12: **Discussion: Industrial Revolution Documents**
February 14: **Midterm Exam 1**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 21
Smith, from "On the Wealth of Nations" (1776) (ER)
Engels, from "The Condition of the Working Class in England" (1844) (ER)
Ure, from "The Philosophy of Manufacturers" (1835) (ER)
"Letter from Leeds Cloth Merchants" (1791) (ER)
"Leeds Woolen Workers' Petition" (1786) (ER)

SECTION 4: THE AGE OF "ISMS"

February 19: The Age of "Isms": Romanticism, Conservatism, and Nationalism
February 21: Liberal Ideals, Socialist Critiques

February 26: **Discussion: Liberalism and Socialism Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 22 and 23 (pp. 728-730)
The Communist Manifesto
Mill, from "On Liberty" (1859) (ER)

SECTION 5: BUILDING STATES, CREATING NATIONS

February 28: Making Nations and States, 1860-1870: Italy and Germany

SPRING BREAK! NO CLASS! :)

March 12: **Discussion: Nation-State Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 23 (pp. 703-723)
Mill, from "On Nationality" (1859) (ER)
Von Treitschke, from "Politics" (ER)

SECTION 6: BOURGEOIS CIVILIZATION AT HOME AND ABROAD

March 14: "La Belle Epoque" or "Fin-de-Siecle"?: Art and Ideas, 1870-1914

March 19: Europeans and the "New" Imperialism
March 21: **Discussion: Imperialism Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 24 (pp. 755-767) and 25 (pp. 777-795)
Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant" (1934) (ER)
Kipling, "The White Man's Burden" (1899) (ER)
Disraeli, "The Maintenance of Empire" (1872) (ER)
Gladstone, "England's Mission" (1878) (ER)

SECTION 7: THE GREAT WAR AND THE END OF THE LONG 19TH CENTURY

March 26: "Goodbye to all that": Europeans and the First World War
March 28: **Midterm Exam 2**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 26

SECTION 8: THE "DARK VALLEY": EUROPE, 1919-1945

April 2: The Revolution in Russia
April 4: Versailles' Legacies: Politics and Culture in Inter-War Europe

April 9: Europe's Darkest Hours: World War II and the Holocaust
April 11: **Discussion: *The Plague***

April 12: **Extra Credit Opportunity:** "Holocaust Perpetrators Reconsidered: Fifteen Years After *Ordinary Men*," a talk by leading Holocaust scholar Prof. Christopher Browning. 7:30 p.m., 225 Curry Auditorium. (Note: This is a Thursday!)

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 26 (pp. 817-28), 27, and 28
The Plague

SECTION 9: POST-WAR EUROPE, 1945-1968

April 16: Re-Defining Europe: The Cold War and De-Colonization
April 18: Prague and Paris, 1968: Revolutions in a Different Key

April 23: **Discussion: *Under a Cruel Star***

April 24: **Paper Due (Electronic Submissions) by 5 p.m.!** (Note: This is a Tuesday!)

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 29
Under a Cruel Star

SECTION 10: EUROPEANS IN A POST-MODERN WORLD

April 25: 1989: Communism's Collapse and the Re-Making of Europe

April 30: A "United States of Europe"?: The EU in a Post-Modern World
Discussion: "My Son the Fanatic"

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 30
Kureishi, "My Son the Fanatic" (ER)
Optional Film: "Goodbye, Lenin"

Final Exam: **Monday, May 7, 12:00-3:00 p.m. in our usual room**