"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.

Voltaire, Candide (Penguin).
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"?!

**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 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
**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
Discussion: "My Son the Fanatic"

April 30: A "United States of Europe"?: The EU in a Post-Modern World

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