

“Modern Europe, 1750-2009: Writing Intensive Section”

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; other editions are *perfectly acceptable* substitutes and can often be purchased at substantially cheaper prices via the Internet.

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. I will also be distributing Xerox copies of chapters from the supplemental textbook, Kishlansky et al’s *Civilization in the West, 6th Edition, Volume C: Since 1789*, in class.

Grading

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

- 20% -- Midterm 1
- 20% -- Midterm 2
- 20% -- Paper (including the **required** Rough Draft and Instructor Meeting)
- 30% -- 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 **Tuesday, February 24th**. **Midterm 2** will be held on **Thursday, April 2nd**. Each exam will consist of identifications (based upon the Key Word terms listed on each lecture outline and posted on the

Blackboard site) and an essay portion. The **Final Exam** will be held on **Tuesday, May 12th** from **12:00-3:00 p.m.** in **3204 MHRA**. 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

The major writing assignment for this course will be a 5-7 page essay 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 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. Students are **required** to submit rough drafts and then attend an individual meeting with their instructor to discuss them. The rough draft will be due on **Friday, April 24th at 5 p.m.** Final drafts will be due on **Tuesday, May 5th by 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 in accordance with the University’s policies.

Syllabus

January 20: Introduction: “Old Europe”? “New Europe”? “Modern Europe”?!

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

January 22: More than Mozart and Powdered Wigs: The 18th Century World View

January 27: “Enlightenment” in Theory: Kant, Rousseau, and Montesquieu

January 29: “The best of all possible worlds”? Practical Enlightenment and Its Critics

February 3: **Discussion: *Candide***

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 19 (Xerox)
Candide

SECTION 2: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE BIRTH OF MODERNITY

February 5: The French Revolution: Its Origins and Early Stages, 1789-1791

February 10: The Terror, Napoleon, and the End (?) of the French Revolution

February 12: **Discussion: French Revolution Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 20 (Xerox)
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 17: The Rise of Capitalism and Its Consequences

February 19: **Discussion: Industrial Revolution Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 21 (Xerox)
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)

February 24: **Midterm Exam 1**

SECTION 4: THE AGE OF "ISMS"

February 26: The Age of "Isms": Romanticism, Conservatism, and Nationalism

March 3: Liberal Ideals, Socialist Critiques

March 5: **Discussion: Liberalism and Socialism Documents**

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

SPRING BREAK! NO CLASS! :)

SECTION 5: BUILDING STATES, CREATING NATIONS

March 17: A "Nation" or a "State"?: The Rise of Modern Germany, 1848-1871

Discussion: Nation-State Documents

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

SECTION 6: BOURGEOIS CIVILIZATION AT HOME AND ABROAD

March 19: “La Belle Epoque” or “Fin-de-Siecle”? : Art and Ideas, 1870-1914

March 24: Europeans and the “New” Imperialism
March 26: **Discussion: Imperialism Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 23 (pp. 723-728), 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 31: “Goodbye to all that”: Europeans and the First World War
April 2: **Midterm Exam 2**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 26 (Xerox)

SECTION 8: THE “DARK VALLEY”: EUROPE, 1919-1945

April 7: The Revolution in Russia
April 9: Versailles’ Legacies: Politics and Culture in Inter-War Europe

April 14: Europe’s Darkest Hours: World War II and the Holocaust
April 16: **Discussion: *The Plague***

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

SECTION 9: POST-WAR EUROPE, 1945-1968

April 21: The “Cold War” and Its Consequences
April 23: **Discussion: *Under a Cruel Star***

April 24: **Required Rough Draft of Paper Due (Electronic Submissions) by 5 p.m.!**
(Note: This is a Friday!)

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 29 (Xerox)
Under a Cruel Star

SECTION 10: EUROPEANS IN A POST-MODERN WORLD

- April 28: 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"
- May 5: **Revised Drafts of Paper Due (Electronic Submissions) by 5 p.m.**
- Reading:** Kishlansky, Chapter 30 (Xerox)
Kureishi, "My Son the Fanatic" (ER)
Extra-Credit Opportunity: Screening of "Goodbye, Lenin" (2003)
- Final Exam:** **Tuesday, May 12, 12:00-3:00 p.m. in our usual room**