

HIS 706 - Colloquium in European History since 1789

“Mozart, Pascal, Boolean algebra, Shakespeare, parliamentary government, baroque churches, Newton, the emancipation of women, Kant, Balanchine ballets, et al. don't redeem what this particular civilization has wrought upon the world. The white race is the cancer of human history.” – Susan Sontag

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Office: MHRA 2117
Office Hours: Thursday 12.30 – 1.30 pm
Time: Tuesday 3.30-6.20 pm
Place: MHRA 3207

Interpretations of selected historical problems from the French Revolution to the present, with a latter emphasis on female voices.

You will be assigned one reaction paper during the semester (due by Spring Break) and a final research paper of at least 20 pages. Grade breakdown is as follows: 25% Class Participation, 25% Response Paper and 50% Final Paper. Attendance is mandatory, if you do not receive permission in advance you will be docked a grade (meaning going from an A- to a B+) for each class you miss. For each class you should prepare 5 questions to share with everyone, with answers and ideas. In addition each student will be assigned to introduce an author on a given day. These presentations will be part of the students' participation grade. And also finally each class each student is expected to have read at least one additional text by the author for that given day: a text of their choosing, which they should also bring to class.

You are expected to abide by UNCG's honor code.

January 15th

Immanuel Kant's *Perpetual Peace*

January 22nd

Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*

January 29th

Darwin's *On the Origin of the Species*

February 5th

John Stuart Mill's *The Subjection of Women*

February 12th

Rainer Maria Rilke's *Letters to a Young Poet* and *Rilke on Love and Other Difficulties*

February 19th

Mary Wollencroft's *A Short Residence in Sweden*

March 5th

Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*

March 12th

Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex*

March 19th

Claude Levi-Strauss' *Tristes Tropiques*

March 26th

Hannah Arendt's *The Origins of Totalitarianism* and *Eichmann in Jerusalem*

April 2nd

Gabriel Liiceanu's *The Paltinis Diary*

April 9th

Susan Sontag's *Reborn*

April 16th

Slavenka Drakulic's *How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed*

April 23rd

Ayaan Hirsi Ali's *Infidel*, **FINAL PAPERS DUE**

April 30th
NO CLASS

Research Papers are due on the last day of class. No exceptions. I am available throughout the semester to discuss the papers and the development of your research topics during office hours and over email.