Spring 2010  
History 102:  
History of Modern Europe

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Course Description:

History 102 is the second part of a two-semester survey of European history since the fall of Rome. Over the course of the semester, we will examine the most important events, institutions, and developments in Europe from the late 17th through the 20th century. We will engage with such crucial events as the French Revolution and the two World Wars. We will also examine longer-term trends such as the relationship between Europe and the rest of the world, and more elusive concepts such as the Zeitgeist or spirit of the age as it evolves over the course of the modern era. This course is intended as an introduction to a variety of historical methodologies and will combine approaches drawn from cultural, political, social, and intellectual history. As such, our readings will range from philosophical treatises to popular novels, and from scholarly articles to manifestos.

Assignments & Grading

Map Quizes (Best 3 out of 4) 15%  
Attendance and Participation 10%  
Worksheets & Participation 10%  
Historiography Portfolio 25%  
First Paper (5pp.) 20%  
Second Paper (5pp.) 20%

All written work must be turned in to receive credit for this course.

Attendance in class is mandatory. If you need to miss a class due to a medical or other emergency, you must provide adequate documentation (such as a doctor’s note) to avoid the absence penalty. If you come late to class, it will count as a one-half absence.

At four times during the semester, I will distribute a map of Europe. You will need to identify the year or period that this map dates from as well as identifying a few key features of the map. There will also be two terms you will need to identify. These terms will be chosen from a list that will be handed out in advance of the quiz and will be drawn from the textbook. You will get credit for your best three out of four quizzes.
There will be two papers due during this class. The assignment for these papers will be handed out at least two weeks before the due date of the paper. The first paper will cover material from the first half of the course, while the second paper will cover material from the second half.

You will also be creating a historiography portfolio. For this assignment, you will write summaries of the three articles that we read (Thompson, Schneer, or Geyer) for the days we discuss them, and then, at the end of the semester, be expected to write a critique of one of them. We will discuss this assignment more later in the semester.

Finally, there are two “worksheets” due during the semester. These worksheets are designed to prepare for two intensive in-class discussions, one about the issue of rights and limits during the French Revolution and the second on the historiography of the Holocaust. Your grade will be based on both your worksheets and your participation in these discussions. The worksheets (with instructions) will be distributed several days before they are due.

All papers must be double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1” margins. Page limits will be strictly enforced. Unless we have made prior arrangements, papers may not be turned in electronically but must instead be handed in in hard copy.

ALL late papers will be downgraded 1/3 of a grade for every twenty-four hour period that they are late (i.e. a paper due at 9:30am on Tuesday but turned in at 11am on Wednesday will lose 2/3 of a grade). If you miss or are late to class on the day that a paper is due, that paper is automatically counted as 1 day late in additional to any lateness penalty that would otherwise be assessed (i.e. a paper due at 9:30am on Thursday but turned in at 2pm, while class was missed, will lose 2/3 of a grade).

All work for this class is governed by the honor code. You must write and sign the honor code pledge at the end of each assignment. If you have further questions, please go to: http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html.

You will have a total of four “screw-ups” to use over the course of the semester. A “screw-up” can allow you to take a 24 hour extension for a paper or it can be used to take an unexcused absence from class. So, for example, you could take a 48 hour extension on the paper and miss two classes. If you wish for one or several “screw-ups” to apply to a late paper, please indicate that on the first page of the paper when you (finally) turn it in. You may NOT use a screw-up to make-up for lateness for one of the worksheets. Late worksheets will not be accepted.

Readings & Films

The following books are required and are available for purchase at the Oberlin College Bookstore:

Hans Fallada, Every Man Dies Alone (New York: Melville House, 2009)

Additional readings have either been placed on the blackboard site for this class (marked with a *) or are available elsewhere online (web address on syllabus).

**Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

February 9: Introduction: What’s so modern about modern Europe?

February 11: Everyday Life & Absolute Monarchy
Hunt, Chapter 16, sections 1-2, pp. 483-497; Chapter 17, section 2, pp. 529-536

February 16: The Glorious Revolution & Social Contract Theory
Hunt, Chapter 16, section 3, pp. 497-505
John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* (1690, excerpts):
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1690locke-sel.html
English Bill of Rights (1689):
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1689billofrights.html

February 18: The Atlantic World & Slavery
Hunt, Chapter 17, section 1, pp. 520-529
Olaudah Equiano, "The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano Written by Himself" (1789):
http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/equiano1/equiano1.html

February 23: The Enlightenment
Hunt, Chapter 17, section 4 & Chapter 18, sections 1-2, pp. 545-572
Rousseau, *The Social Contract*

February 25: French Revolution
Hunt, Chapter 19, pp. 587-615
**Map Quiz #1**

March 2: French Revolution, cont.
Hunt, *The French Revolution and Human Rights*, selections
**French Revolution Worksheet Due**

March 4: Napoleon & After
Hunt, Chapter 20, sections 1-2, pp. 620-635
Metternich’s Political Confession (1820):
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/pdf/eng/2_A_P_Political_Creed.pdf
March 9: Industrialization
Hunt, Chapter 21, section 1-2, pp. 654-671
**E.P. Thompson Summary Due**

March 11: Nineteenth Century “Isms”: Liberalism & Romanticism

March 16: 1848
Hunt, Chapter 21, section 4, pp. 678-685

March 18: Urbanization
**Map Quiz #2**

March 23: Nineteenth Century “Isms”: Socialism
Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*:
http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/61

March 25: Nineteenth Century “Isms”: Nationalism
Hunt, Chapter 22, sections 1-2, pp. 690-705
**First Paper Due At Start of Class**

**SPRING BREAK**

April 6: Nineteenth Century “Isms”: Imperialism
Hunt, Chapter 23, section 2-3, pp. 733-750; Chapter 24, section 4, pp. 783-790
*Jonathan Schneer, London 1900: The Imperial Metropolis* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001), 93-115
**Schneer Summary Due**

April 8: World War I on the Battlefield
Hunt, Chapter 24, section 5, pp. 790-795 & Chapter 25, section 1, pp. 800-809

April 13: World War I at Home
*Coetzee, World War I in European Society*, selections.

April 15: Revolution, Versailles & The New European Order
Hunt, Chapter 25, section 2-4, 810-827
**Geyer Summary Due**

April 20: The “Roaring Twenties” & The Great Depression
Film: *Der blaue Engel* (1930), Screening April 20, 7-9pm, location tba
Hunt, Chapter 26, section 1, pp. 840-844
**Map Quiz #3**
April 22: Fascism & Nazism
   Hunt, Chapter 26, section 2, pp. 844-852
   Hans Fallada, *Every Man Dies Alone*

April 27: World War II
   Hunt, Chapter 26, sections 4-5, pp. 856-875

April 29: Holocaust

May 4: Historicizing the Holocaust
   Bartov, *The Holocaust*, selections
   **Holocaust Worksheet Due**

May 6: An Iron Curtain Descends?: The 1950s in East & West
   Hunt, Chapter 27, sections 1-2 & 4, pp. 880-897 & 902-911

May 11: The Rebellions of 1968
   Hunt, Chapter 28, sections 2-3, pp. 921-936
   *Ludvik Vaculík, “Two Thousand Words to Workers, Farmers, Scientists, Artists, and Everyone,” From Stalinism to Pluralism, 126-130
   *“Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Interviewed by Jean-Paul Sartre,” The French Student Revolt. The Leaders Speak, 73-83.
   **Second Paper Due At Start of Class**

May 13: 1989 & After
   Hunt, Chapter 29, section 1, pp. 953-961
   **Map Quiz #4**

   **Historiography Portfolio Due, May 19th, 2pm (Section 2) or May 20th, 2pm (Section 1)**