

Spring 2013
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HIST 112
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Or by appointment

(Syllabus subject to change)

European Civilization since 1500

Welcome to the European Civilization! This class is an introduction to the violent, audacious, fearful and fascinating history of the European Civilization since 1500. It traces the making of modern Europe; it shows how the Europeans made their Civilization but it also gives the first insight into how a civilization changes and often against its makers' wishes. By exploring the European Civilization we locate ourselves in time and place and thus help judging our own position and possibilities. Moreover, the history of the European Civilization is an adventure in which we find our basic concepts and values constantly challenged. What is state? What do we mean by race? What is European and what is non-European? Can we compare Hitler to Stalin? Is America a part of the European Civilization?

Objectives. The course has three objectives.

1. We will learn the main facts in European history between 1500-1990: What were the main eras? Who were the main figures? What were the main countries? What are the main political, social, religious, and intellectual institutions and movements of Europe and how did they come about?
2. We will also enter the world of historical thinking: What is the past? How is it different from the present? How do things change in time? How are they connected in and through time? What is the difference between primary and secondary sources? What is the relationship between text and context?
3. Finally, we will probe the basics of historical research: How to analyze and interpret primary sources? How to read secondary sources?

Evaluation

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	27%
Quizzes (6)	18%
Short Essays (6)	12 %

History Labs (5)	8%
Class Participation	10%
Each absence after second	-6%

Midterm Exam. The midterm exam will consist of three sections. The first section tests your understanding of historical thinking and research. The second section will test your reading and understanding of the key concepts and historical names of the assignments by using short identification questions. The final section consists of two short historical essays that tests your understanding of the content and your skills in creating an historical argument. I will give you eight questions to help your preparation. There will be a thorough review for the exam.

The Final Exam. The final exam will consist of two take home essays. The first is a historical essay of an important topic of modern European history. The second essay is a historical analysis of a primary source.

Quizzes. There will be seven quizzes of which six best will count toward your final grade. You should take the quizzes as a tool to improve your reading skills. Each quiz has five terms or names that you have to identify historically by defining the term, providing the appropriate location (allover Europe is not a location), and time period. The terms are almost exclusively from the headings or subheadings of the textbook. By focusing on these central terms and names you learn to concentrate on what is essential in the text. The quizzes are always on the entire chapter, also in the case a chapter is discussed in shorter sections in class.

Essays. For each History Lab session you will write an essay of at least 350 words by exploring the content and historical context (environment in which the text was written) of the text. Bring your essay to class and share it with your group to help group work at History Labs. After each History Lab session I will collect the essays with the group folder. All essays have to be submitted in person in class and be typed. No email submissions are allowed. Each analysis is graded on a scale: A, B and F. For an A all components have to be covered. For a B one or two components can be missing. For an F three or more components are missing. I give a handout including the requested components a class before the History Lab. If you are not attending that class, it is your personal responsibility to get the requested components from me.

History Lab. In History Lab sessions you will work in a group of five or six. You can choose your own group. By using the individual analyses of the group members, the primary sources, and the textbook, the group will work on the assigned primary sources, put them into a historical context, and produce in class an analysis of the text. We will gradually deepen our analysis. The individual performance and contribution of each group member is evaluated by other group members in a confidential evaluation form.

Participation. 10% of your grade is defined by how actively you participate in class. This does not include attendance which is evaluated separately. The main aspect of participation is asking questions. Find links to your other classes from any discipline and open a new perspective to the topic at hand. My classroom approach is Socratic.

Attendance Policy. You are allowed to be absent twice. After the second absence each individual absence will lower your overall grade by 1/4 of a letter grade unless you have a doctor's note or a written explanation from an athletics coach.

Late Policy. All assignments are to be handed in at the end of the class in which they are due.

Late papers will immediately receive a 5% late penalty and 5% will be deducted for each day thereafter.

Expected Workload. The tests and class work have been designed with the expectation that you prepare for each session at least two hours. Additional work is needed for your research paper so that the weekly work load for this course is 6-7 hours *outside of class*.

Electronic Devices Policy. You cannot use in class any electronic devices including, laptops, netbooks, cell phones or electronic games. In the beginning of the semester, we collectively decide the arrangements that allow us to concentrate on class discussion.

Support Policy for Students with Disabilities. Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

Texts

- ! Hunt, Lynn et.al, *The Making of the West. Peoples and Cultures. Volume II: Since 1340.* Boston: Bedford/ St. Martin’s, 2010. ISBN-13: 978-0312554606
- ! Handouts

SCHEDULE

Date	Theme
Jan 15	Introduction.
1340-1600: The Renaissance and the Reformation	
Jan 17	The Renaissance/ Ch. 11. (Hunt’s Textbook).
Jan 22	The Reformation/ Ch. 12. Quiz: Ch 12.
Jan 24	History Lab (1): Martin Luther: “Concerning Christian Liberty.” Due: Short Essay (2 pages)
1600-1700: Beginnings of Modern State, Economy, and Science	
Jan 29	State Building/ Ch. 13. Quiz: Ch 13.
Jan 31	The Use of Human Body in Making Modern State. An Experiment
Feb 5	The Atlantic System/ Ch. 14.
Feb 7	History Lab (2): John Locke: <i>Of Civil Government</i> . Due: Short Essay.
Feb 12	No Reading. Review for the Midterm Exam
Feb 14	Midterm Exam
1700-1800: Enlightenment and Revolution	
Feb 19	Enlightenment: The Ideas/ Ch.15.
Feb 21	Enlightenment: The Ideas in Action/ Ch.15.
Feb 26	The French Revolution and Napoleon/ Ch. 16. Quiz: Ch. 16
Feb 28	History Lab (3): Edmund Burke: <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i> . Due: Short Essay.
1800-1900: Industrialization and Nationalism	

March 12	Industrialization/ Ch. 17. Quiz: Ch. 17.
March 14	New Ideologies/ Ch. 17.
March 19	Restoration and Revolutions/ Ch. 17.
March 21	History Lab (4): Karl Marx: <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i> . Due: Short Essay.
March 26	Making Nation-States: Italy and Germany/ Ch. 18. Quiz: Ch. 18
March 28	The Quest for Empire/ Ch 19.
1900-2000: Wars and Ideologies	
April 2	World War I/ Ch 20.
April 4	The Rise of Totalitarian Regimes: Mussolini and Stalin/ Ch 21.
April 9	Nazi Germany/ Ch 21.
April 11	World War II/ Ch 21. Quiz: Ch 21.
April 16	Cold War/ Ch 22.
April 18	History Lab (5): Simone de Beauvoir: <i>The Second Sex</i> . Due: Short Essay.
April 23	The End of Cold War/ Ch. 23. Quiz: Ch. 23.
April 25	Professor Hildebrandt: The Berlin Wall/ Ch 23.
May 3	Final Exam Due