

Spring 2014
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HIST 112

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Office hours: MW: 3:30-4:30
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(Syllabus subject to change)

HIST 112: European Civilization since 1500

(Revised February 18, 2014)

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? How was Hitler possible? Was he an accident?

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? What were the steps and possibilities that led to the rise of Adolf Hitler?
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%	History Labs (5)	8%
Final Exam	27%	Class Participation	10%
Quizzes (6)	18%	Each absence after second	-6%
Short Essays (6)	12%		

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 (all over 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.

Short 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, Ipads smart phones without my special permission.

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.

Hunt, Lynn et.al, *The Making of the West. Peoples and Cultures. Volume II: Since 1340*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2013.

Handouts

SCHEDULE:

Date	Theme
14-Jan	Introduction.
	1340-1600: The Renaissance and the Reformation
16-Jan	The Reformation/ Ch. 14. (Hunt's Textbook).
21-Jan	Cancelled because of few snow flakes
23-Jan	The Wars of Religion/ Ch. 15. Quiz: Ch. 15.
28-Jan	History Lab (1): Martin Luther: "Concerning Christian Liberty." Due: Short Essay (2 pages)
	1600-1700: Beginnings of Modern State, Economy, and Science
30-Jan	State Building: Louis XIV and Versailles/ Ch. 16. Quiz: Ch. 16.
4-Feb	The Atlantic System/ Ch. 17.
6-Feb	History Lab (2): John Locke: Of Civil Government. Due: Short Essay.
11-Feb	No Reading. Review for the Midterm Exam
13-Feb	Snow flakes
	1700-1800: Enlightenment and Revolution
18-Feb	Midterm Exam
20-Feb	The Enlightenment/ Ch. 18.
25-Feb	The French Revolution/ Ch. 19. Quiz: Ch. 19
27-Feb	History Lab (3): Edmund Burke: Reflections on the Revolution in France. Due: Short Essay.
11-Mar	Charismatic Leader: Napoleon and His Legacy/ Ch. 20.
	1800-1900: Industrialization and Nationalism
13-Mar	Industrialization/ Ch. 21. Quiz: Ch. 21.
18-Mar	Making Nation-States: Italy and Germany/ Ch. 22.
20-Mar	History Lab (4): Karl Marx: Manifesto of the Communist Party. Due: Short Essay.
25-Mar	Second Industrial Revolution and the Rise of Modern Europe/ Ch. 23. Quiz: Ch. 23.
	1900-1945: Making Hitler?
27-Mar	Road to Total War/ Ch. 24.
1-Apr	World War I/ Ch. 25.
3-Apr	The Rise of Totalitarian Regimes: Mussolini and Stalin/ Ch. 25 and 26.
8-Apr	Nazi Germany and World War II/ Ch. 26. Quiz: Ch. 26.
10-Apr	Adolf Hitler/ Ch. 26
15-Apr	The Holocaust/ Browning, Ordinary Men, 1-2, 38-48, 55-77. Due: Short Essay
	After Hitler, 1945-1990
17-Apr	Cold War/ Ch. 27. Quiz: Ch. 27.
22-Apr	History Lab (5): Simone de Beauvoir: The Second Sex. Due: Short Essay.
24-Apr	The End of Cold War/ Ch. 28.