

History 223, Spring 2006
Instructor: Kaarin Michaelsen

TuTh 11:00-12:15 p.m.
334 Curry

“Modern Europe, 1750-2006”

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 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 20th 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.

Kishlansky, Geary, and O’Brien. *Civilization in the West, 6th Edition, Volume C: Since 1789*.
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.

Grading

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

20% -- Midterm 1

20% -- Midterm 2

15% -- Paper

35% -- 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 14th**. **Midterm 2** will be held on **Tuesday, March 28th**. Each exam will consist of identifications (based upon the Key Word terms listed on each lecture outline and posted on the course web site) and an essay portion. The **Final Exam** will be held on **Tuesday, May 9th** from **12:00-3:00 p.m.** in **334 Curry**. 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

There will be one major written assignment in this course, an essay of no less than five (5) pages 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 the 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. The paper will be due on **Monday, April 24 by 4 p.m.** in my box in the History Department’s main office (221 McIver).

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 be posting 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 forthwith in accordance with the University’s policies.

Syllabus

January 10: Introduction: “Old Europe”? “New Europe”? “Modern Europe”?!

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

January 12: More than Mozart and Powdered Wigs: The 18th Century World View

January 17: “Enlightenment” in Theory: Kant, Rousseau, and Montesquieu

January 19: “The best of all possible worlds”? Practical Enlightenment and Its Critics

January 24: **Discussion:** *Candide*

Reading: Xeroxed chapter from Kishlansky, 4th Edition.
Candide

SECTION 2: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE BIRTH OF MODERNITY

January 26: The French Revolution: Its Origins and Early Stages, 1789-1791

January 31: The Terror, Napoleon, and the End (?) of the French Revolution

February 2: **Discussion: French Revolution Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 20
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 7: The Rise of Capitalism and Its Consequences

February 9: **Discussion: Industrial Revolution Documents**

February 14: **Midterm Exam 1**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 21
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)

SECTION 4: THE AGE OF ISMS

February 16: The Age of Isms: Romanticism, Conservatism, and Nationalism

February 21: Liberal Ideals, Socialist Critiques

February 23: **Discussion: Liberalism and Socialism Documents**

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

SECTION 5: BUILDING STATES, CREATING NATIONS

February 28: Making Nations and States, 1860-1870: Italy and Germany

March 2: **Discussion: Nation-State Documents**

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

SPRING BREAK! NO CLASS! :)

SECTION 6: BOURGEOIS CIVILIZATION AT HOME AND ABROAD

March 14: “La Belle Epoque” or “Fin-de-Siecle”?: Art and Ideas, 1870-1914
March 16: Europeans and the “New” Imperialism

March 21: **Discussion: Imperialism Documents**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 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 19TH CENTURY

March 23: “Goodbye to all that”: Europeans and the First World War

March 28: **Midterm Exam 2**

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 26

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

March 30: The Revolution in Russia

April 4: Versailles’ Legacies: Politics and Culture in Inter-War Europe
April 6: World War II and the Holocaust

April 11: **Discussion: *The Plague***

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

SECTION 9: POST-WAR EUROPE, 1945-1968

April 13: Re-Defining Europe: The Cold War and De-Colonization

April 18: Prague and Paris, 1968: Revolutions in a Different Key

April 20: **Discussion: *Under a Cruel Star***

April 24: **Paper Due in 221 McIver by 4 p.m.** (Note: This is a Monday!)

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 29
Under a Cruel Star

SECTION 10: EUROPE IN A POST-MODERN WORLD

April 25: 1989: Communism's Collapse and the Re-Making of Europe
April 27: A United States of Europe?: The EU in a Post-Modern World

Discussion: "My Son the Fanatic"

Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 30
Kureishi, "My Son the Fanatic" (ER)

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 9, 12:00-3:00 p.m. in our usual room