

# HIST 008 – 21: Introduction to Late European History

Summer 2015, Session II, July 6 – August 7.

Class Meetings: Monday – Friday, 3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

Instructor: Meredith Denning

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Office Hours: Monday evening, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm  
Thursday early afternoon, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
and by appointment.

Office: 519D, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor ICC  
(Located in the BMW Center for German and European Studies, on the fifth floor of the Intercultural Center or ICC.)

## Course Description:

This course will provide an introductory survey of European Civilization from the French Revolution to 2000. The lectures will cover the basic economic, environmental, political and social developments of the period, with emphasis on how systems of government evolved and how environmental change affected human activities and vice versa.

The course teaches students critical thinking and analysis within a historical context through the reading and discussion of primary and secondary sources, and through the completion of written assignments and the presentation of original work.

## Required Textbooks

The course texts are available at the Georgetown University bookstore. They are also available online from various retailers such as Abebooks.

The required textbooks are:

*A History of Modern Europe: From the Renaissance to the present.* Volume 2. W. W. Norton and Co. 3rd ed, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-393-93385-7

*The French Revolution and Human Rights: A Brief Documentary History.* MacMillan Education, 1996. ISBN-10: 0-312-10802-8 or ISBN-13: 978-0-312-10802-1

*Voices of Decolonization: A Brief History with Documents.* MacMillan Education, 2015. ISBN-10: 1-4576-1815-X or ISBN-13: 978-1-4576-1815-4

## Course Goals

Engaged students who come to class regularly, participate actively in discussions, and complete all readings and written assignments, will improve their ability to:

1. Appreciate places, peoples, and cultures of various eras and world regions as different from themselves, and to understand perspectives different from their own.
2. Think critically about history, not as a collection of self-evident facts, but as the interpretation, based on evidence, of human experiences and relationships as they change over time.
3. Identify and evaluate primary sources, and use them critically to build historical interpretations.
4. Articulate ideas verbally and support them with evidence.
5. Write critically and thoughtfully: this includes understanding the purpose and practice of proper citation, and the ability to build an argument that integrates evidence and analysis.

## Requirements:

Course requirements include a midterm and a final exam, class attendance and participation, a short paper on a topic of choice, and a short presentation (same topic as paper).

Extensions on assignments are granted only in exceptional cases with proper documentation.

## Attendance:

Students must attend class and do the assigned readings. Because this is an intensive summer course, every day's work is important, and it will be difficult to catch up if classes are missed.

Sign-in sheets will be distributed during the first few minutes of section; it is the student's responsibility to make sure he/she has signed it before discussion ends.

## Honor Code:

All students are required to familiarize themselves with the University Honor Code and abide by it fully. Any kind of plagiarism, or other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Honor Council for due process. Please remember that this includes unreferenced use of Internet sources as well.

I urge all students to complete the Scholarly Research and Academic Integrity Tutorial through Student Access, and look at this web page: <http://bulletin.georgetown.edu/regulations/honor>

## E-mail and Attachments:

Please make sure your account works and is not over quota. It is your responsibility to check the email for messages about class, readings, papers, etc.

I try to answer e-mails within 24 hours (excluding weekends). If a question requires a lengthy response, I will ask you to come to office hours or to speak to me after class.

Emails should be written formally. That is, you should have a greeting (Dear/Hi/ Good morning Ms. Denning), and a salutation that includes your name. I insist on this because using email effectively is an important career skill, and students need to distinguish between formal and informal uses of electronic mail.

Although I do not generally allow written assignments to be e-mailed, there are sometimes extraordinary cases. In those cases where you have sent me an attachment, it is **YOUR** responsibility to make sure I have received it, i.e., that I have responded to you in the affirmative. If I do not respond that I have gotten it, assume I have not. I will not accept the excuse that you e-mailed me something unless you can prove that there was confirmation I received it.

## Grading:

Students will be graded on classroom participation, assignments submitted, and exams taken. Detailed descriptions of each assignment, as well as grading rubrics, will be distributed in class.

These learning tasks will count towards each student's final course grade, according to the following breakdown:

Final Grade: 100%

15% In-Class Participation

- Primary source exercises
- Discussions

5% Map Assignments

25% In-Class Exams

- 12.5% Midterm Exam (Tuesday, July 21, 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm)
- 12.5% Final Exam (Friday, August 7, 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm)

65% Independent Research Project

- 10% Topic and Source List - Due Friday, July 10
- 10% Outline - Due Thursday, July 16
- 10% Rough Draft of Paper - Due Friday, July 24
- 15% Polished Final Paper - Due Friday, July 31
- 10% Presentation – August 4, 5 or 6, date assigned in class on July 14

Students' final grades will appear on their transcripts as letter grades, according to the following system:

A = 95-100

A- = 90-94

B+ = 87-89

B = 83-86

B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79

C = 73-76 (minimum to receive credit)

C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69

D = 63-66 (minimum to pass course)

Final grades will be available one week after the end of the session.

The web page: <http://bulletin.georgetown.edu/regulation/studying> defines Georgetown University's grading policy and explains how letter grades relate to other notations on a student's transcript, including GPA (grade point average) and QPI (Quality Point Index).

## **SCHEDULE: CLASS ACTIVITIES, READINGS AND DUE DATES**

### **Unit 1, 1789 through 1848**

Overall: Rise of class politics, liberalism and conservatism, Europe acquires ghost acreage.

#### Monday, July 6

- Introductions and syllabus
- Map exercise I and II, 'Physical Geography' and 'Europe in 1789'
- Lecture and discussion (French Revolution, human rights, The Enlightenment)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 435-512. [76 pages]*

#### Tuesday, July 7

- Lecture and discussion (Revolutionary wars, Napoleonic era, Rise of classes and nations)
- Writing workshop: choosing sources

*Reading: Anne E. McCants, "Poor Consumers as Global Consumers: The Diffusion of Tea and Coffee Drinking in the Eighteenth Century," Economic History Review 61 (2008): 172-200. [28 pages]*

#### Wednesday, July 8

- Lecture and discussion (Trade, empire, currencies, Industrious Revolution, commodities)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 569-612, [43 pages]*

#### Thursday, July 9

- Lecture and discussion (Congress of Vienna, Revolutions of 1848, new political systems)
- Map exercise III, 'Europe in 1815'

*Reading: Merriman, pp 613-643, [30 pages]*  
*Lynn Hunt, The French Revolution and Human Rights [Pages TBD]*

#### Friday, July 10

**N.B. SUBMIT PAPER TOPIC AND SOURCE LIST IN CLASS, IN HARD COPY**

- Primary source exercise on French Revolution and human rights
- Lecture and discussion (Social reform, Revolutions of 1848, Marx, Burke)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 692-782 [89 pages]*

## **Unit 2 – 1849 through 1910.**

Overall: Industrial Revolution, unifications, modern empires, changing energy regime

### Monday, July 13

- Map exercise IV: 'Europe in 1870'
- Writing workshop: outlines and organization.
- Lecture and discussion ('-isms, from elite politics to mass politics)
- (Marked Topics and Source Lists returned.)

*Reading: J.R. McNeill, Something New Under the Sun, pp 50-83 & pp 267-295 [61 pg]*

### Tuesday, July 14

- Lecture and discussion (Industrial Revolution and its impact, change in energy regime)
- Choose presentation dates

*Reading: Merriman, pp 645-683, 688-692 [42 pages]*

### Wednesday, July 15

- Lecture and discussion (Unifications, nationalism, Crimean and Boer Wars, Ottoman Empire)

*Reading: K. O'Rourke and J. Williamson, Globalization and History. (1999)  
Chapter 3 "Transport Revolutions and Commodity Market Integrations."  
and Chapter 7, "Mass Migrations: Why They Moved." [51 pages]  
Engels and Dickens (Pages TBD)*

### Thursday, July 16

**N.B. SUBMIT OUTLINE IN CLASS, IN HARD COPY**

- Map exercise V: 'Europe in 1900'
- Lecture and discussion (19<sup>th</sup> century colonies and empires, Gold standard and sterling, trade)
- Midterm preparation exercises

*Reading: Merriman on imperialism, pp 819-859 [40 pg]  
Samuel Hays, The Sanitarians (pages TBD)*

### Friday, July 17

- Primary source exercise on Industrial Revolution and social reform
- Lecture and discussion (Changing sciences, public health, ideas about imperialism)
- (Marked Outlines returned)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 861-926 [65 pages]*

### **Unit 3 – 1911 through 1945**

Overall: The World Wars and their consequences, Great Depression

#### **Monday, July 20**

- Map exercise VI: 'Europe in 1919'
- Lecture and discussion (World War I: beginning, middle, end and aftermath)
- Midterm review

#### **Tuesday, July 21: Midterm Exam, 1789-1918**

- Midterm exam, 3:15-4:15 pm
- Writing workshop: Style and citation

*Reading: Merriman, pp 927-954 [37 pg]*

#### **Wednesday, July 22**

- Lecture and discussion (Changing British Empire, German economy, Treaty of Versailles)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 955-989 [34 pg]*

#### **Thursday, July 23**

- Lecture and discussion (Bolshevism, Russian Revolution, Economics of 1920s and 1930s)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 993-1048. [55 pg]*

#### **Friday, July 24**

**N.B. SUBMIT ROUGH DRAFT IN CLASS, IN HARD COPY**

- Lecture and discussion (Fascism, 3rd Reich Germany, beginning and middle of WWII)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 1049-1103 [54 pg]*  
*McNeill, Something New Under the Sun, pp 296-356 [60 pages]*

#### **Monday, July 27**

- Lecture and discussion (End of WWII, technological changes, shift to fossil fuels)
- Map exercise VII: 'Europe in 1950'

*Reading: Merriman, pp 1105-1127 [22 pages]*  
*Berend, An Economic History of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe pp 42-91 [49 pg]*

## **Unit 4, 1945 to 2000**

Overall: Cold War, accelerating environmental change, decolonization, revolutions of 1968, trade and immigration

### Tuesday, July 28

- Lecture and discussion (Reconstruction, Cold War origins, NATO, Keynesian policy)
- Writing Workshop: style notes and polishing
- (Marked Rough Drafts returned)

*Reading: Merriman, 1176-1186 [10 pages].*

*Tony Judt, Postwar, pp 390-398 and pp 405-421 [25 pg]*

### Wednesday, July 29

- Lecture and discussion (Postwar environmental change, revolutions of 1968, Prague Spring)

*Reading: Merriman, pp 1160-1175 [15 pages]*

*Judt, Postwar, pp 278-302 [24 pg]*

### Thursday, July 30

- Lecture and discussion (Decolonization, Post-war French Empire, Algerian War)
- Final exam review

*Reading: Merriman, pp 1147-1160, 1188- 1218. [48 pg]*

### Friday, July 31

**N.B.** SUBMIT POLISHED FINAL PAPER IN CLASS, IN HARD COPY

- Lecture and discussion (Fall of USSR, German re-unification, Disintegration of Yugoslavia)

*Reading: Primary sources for World War I and II [Pages TBD]*

### Monday, August 3 (Guest instructor)

- Primary source exercise on World Wars
- Map exercise VIII, 'Europe in 1989'
- Instructor Evaluation

*Reading: Merriman, pp 1219-1239 [20 pg] and Judt, Postwar, pages TBD*



## **Unit 4, 1945 to 2000, Cont'd**

### Tuesday, August 4

- Lecture and discussion (EU and Euro areas, Immigration and inflows, globalization)
- Presentations, 4:00 – 4:45 pm

*Reading: Shepard, Voices of Decolonization, (Pages TBD)*

### Wednesday, August 5

- Primary source exercise on decolonization
- Presentations, 4:00 – 4:45 pm

### Thursday, August 6

- Presentations, 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm
- Exam review
- (Final Papers returned)

### Friday, August 7: **Final Exam, 1919-2000**

- Exam review, final administrative tasks
- Final Exam, 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm