The Making of Modern Europe, 1500-1815

This course introduces students to the cultural, intellectual, social, political, and economic changes in Europe between 1492 and 1815. We shall explore changes in the understanding of the human person—both body and mind—and of the universe; the repercussions of a global economy for different groups in Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia; the articulation of new forms of political power and economic organization; and the emergence of the modern sense of self.

Requirements:

For this course, students are asked to practice skills important to the craft of history:

Listening:
• no distractions, for you or for those around you: no cellular devices, no surfing the web, no email, no other activities than listening to others, and no earphones. Anyone texting, emailing, surfing, or using their laptops for anything other than notes will not be permitted to use the laptop for the rest of the semester.
• In lecture. Those wishing to learn how to take better notes, please see me.
• In sections: to others, to attend to their points of view, to be able, upon being asked, to give a fair representation of the thinking of others

Reading:
• You will be reading original sources, voices from the past. Listen to them. Attend to each text’s point of view, its concerns, and its silences.
• All readings (▌) must be completed by the discussion section of the week they are assigned.

Writing:
• on each of the week’s reading assignments a 50-word response paper evaluating each as historical evidence:
  ✓ Who is the author and what do we learn about her/him?
  ✓ Why did she/he write this?
  ✓ What does this text teach us about the past?
• map assignments
• a 250-word evaluation of one form of visual evidence: see hyperlinks (❖)
• midterm exam: Thursday, October 21, in class
• final exam: Saturday, December 18, 12:25-2:25 p.m.

Both exams will be based upon lectures, readings, and discussion. Each will ask you to write a thesis, organized chronologically (moving from earlier dates to later), and to draw upon the sources you have been reading and viewing to build your analysis. Both will also ask you to identify persons, places, or things of particular significance.
Books: all readings but one book for the course are packaged with the textbook:

- Brian Levack et al, *The West: Encounters and Transformations*
- Descartes, *Discourse on Method* (Penguin) [B1848 E5 C73 1993]
- Equiano, *Interesting Narrative*

The textbook will also give you online access to other required texts


Please see me, if purchasing books causes financial hardship.

Online readings: for discussion section, please print a copy to bring with you or bring your laptop.

Plagiarism is about how we think about ourselves in relationship to other scholars. It comprises one crime—claiming the ideas of others as our own or intellectual theft—and the failure to treat our own perspectives as valuable to the larger community of scholars. For the University of Wisconsin’s policy, see: [http://students.wisc.edu/saja/misconduct/UWS14.html](http://students.wisc.edu/saja/misconduct/UWS14.html)
Lectures and Readings:

Introduction
September 2  Doing History

📖 The West: Tutorial: How to Analyze Primary Sources

The Human Landscape of Late Medieval Europe
September 7  Villages and Forests
September 9  Courts and Towns

📖 The West, Bookshelf 36: Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527), The Prince
or http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/machiavelli-prince.html
☞ MyHistoryLab images & Map Discovery
   http://historic-cities.huji.ac.il/historic_cities.html

Sixteenth-Century Europe
September 14  Merchants and Navigators
September 16  Conquistadores and Peasants

📖 The West, Chapter 13: Chapter Resources: read documents and look at maps
☞ explore images in MyHistoryLab
   http://www.libs.uga.edu/darchive/hargrett/maps/neworld.html
   http://www.walkingtree.com/

September 21  From Feudal Christianity to Bourgeois Christianity
September 23  Collars and Sleeves: Consumption and Piety

📖 The West, Chapter 14: Chapter Resources: all documents except The German Mass
☞ MyHistoryLab images and map
   http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_assets/SK-C-6?lang=en
   http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_artists/00017083?lang=en

September 28  ☞ “The Mission”
September 30  ☞ “The Mission,” continued

📖 Teresa of Avila (1515-1582), The Life of Teresa of Jesus, Table of Contents,
   Chapters 1-4, 8-11, 17-18, 20, 25, 27-29
☞ http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/baro/hd_baro.htm
   http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Basilica_di_San_Pietro
   http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/vatican/toc.html
   http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/hd/bern/hd_bern.htm
**Seventeenth-Century Europe**

October 5  Nature and Revelation
October 7  Mapping the Heavens and the Earth

📖 *The West*, Chapter 17: Chapter Resources: Documents

☞ MyHistoryLab: Images for Chapter 17

http://es.rice.edu/ES/humsoc/Galileo/

October 12  Monarchs
October 14  From Courts to Capitals

📖 William Shakespeare (1564-1616), *The Tempest*

http://shakespeare.mit.edu/tempest/index.html

☞ http://www.geocities.com/beatlefan83/history/escorial.html

October 19  Wallington’s World
October 21  midterm


pp. 2-5, Chapters 1-5, 10-11, 13-15, 17-18, 21, 24

☞ http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/civil_war_revolution/

October 26  “Mind” & “Body”
October 28  The Instrument of Reason

📖 René Descartes (1596-1650), *Discourse on Method*


http://vesalius.northwestern.edu/index.html

Special Collections: Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564), *De humani corporis fabrica*

November 2  The Thirty Years’ War
November 4  Amsterdam

📖 EEBO: Giovanni Stoppa's “The Religion of the Dutch”: Full Text - EEBO

☞ http://historic-cities.huji.ac.il/netherlands/amsterdam/amsterdam.html

**Eighteenth-Century Europe**

November 9  Law & Violence
November 11  Property & Liberty

📖 *The West*: Bookshelf 49: John Locke (1632-1704), *Treatise on Government*,

Chapters I-X, XV, XVIII

☞ http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/civil_war_revolution/brighter_lights_01.shtml

November 16  Orientalism

November 18  Absolutism

❖ Charles-Louis de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu (1689-1755), Persian Letters
❖ http://www.chateauversailles.fr/en/

Memorial Library Special Collections: volumes of the Encyclopédie

November 23  The Project of Enlightenment

no sections this week

THANKSGIVING

November 30  Mercantilism

December 2  Capitalism and the Organization of Labor

❖ Olaudah Equiano (c.1745-1797), Travels
❖ http://www.euratlas.net/cartogra/Rocque/index.html
❖ http://www.chnm.gmu.edu/revolution/index.html
❖ http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/empire_seapower/

1789-1815

December 7  Public Opinion

December 9  Revolutions

❖ Denis Diderot (1713-1784), Rameau’s Nephew
❖ http://www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/

December 14  Napoleon & the Modern Self

December 18: 12:25-2:25 p.m.: Final