HISTORY 120
EUROPE AND THE MODERN WORLD,
1789 TO THE PRESENT

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DESCRIPTION:
This is a survey of European political, social and cultural history from the French Revolution to the present. Themes emphasized are: the idealistic, revolutionary movements of the late 18th and early 19th centuries; the ascendancy of liberal politics and the liberal way of life with its uniquely modern methods of social control; the crisis of liberalism at the fin-de-siecle, including the impact of new technologies and urban commodity culture as well as challenges to liberal assumptions about human nature and gender norms; the catastrophic experiences of total war and depression in the 20th century; the rise of fascism and communism as alternatives to liberal politics, the decline of Europe in a post-1945 world dominated by superpower conflict and American economic, cultural dominance.

BOOKS TO PURCHASE:
Friedrich Engels, The Condition of the Working Class in England
Joseph Conrad, The Heart of Darkness
Frantz Fanon, Black Skin, White Masks
Freud, Three Essays on Sexuality
Louis Guilloux, Ok, Joe
Karl Marx, The Communist Manifesto
John Stuart Mill, On Liberty
Florence Nightingale, Cassandra
Eric Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front
Mary Shelley, Frankenstein
Art Spiegelman, Maus II

Reader: available for purchase at L&S Copy Center, First Floor, Humanities Building

OPTIONAL TEXT: Lynn Hunt et al, The Making of the West
REQUIRED WORK:
• Attendance and Active participation in Lecture and Section discussion (20%)
• Two 5-7 page papers, due September 30 and November 23, topics to be assigned (first paper 15%, second 20%)
• One in-class midterm exam, October 21 (20%)
• One final exam, December 21 (25%)

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

I. THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS
SEPTEMBER 2
F: Introduction: The Modern Prometheus
Readings:
Sections do not meet; begin reading Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

SEPTEMBER 5-9
M: LABOR DAY – NO CLASS
W: The French Revolution
F: The Revolutionary Nation
Reading:
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

II. LIBERALISM ASCENDANT
SEPTEMBER 12-16
M: The Industrial Revolution
W: Dangerous Classes
F: The Socialist Response
Readings:
Karl Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*

SEPTEMBER 19-23
M: Revolutions of 1848
W: Liberalism as Ideology
F: Public and Private in Liberal Culture
Readings:
John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*, Chapters 1,3,4
Florence Nightingale, *Cassandra*

SEPTEMBER 26-30
M: Nations and Nationalism
W: The Challenge of Science
F: Urbanism and the Birth of Hygiene
Readings:
G. Mazzini, *On the Duties of Man*, excerpt, Reader
Charles Darwin, “The Descent of Man,” excerpt, Reader
Samuel Wilberforce, “On Darwin’s Origins of Species” Reader
FIRST PAPER DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

III. THE FIN-DE-SIÈCLE CRISIS OF LIBERALISM

OCTOBER 3-7
M: The Colonial Project
W: Nationalism and Empire
F: New Technology, New World
Reading: Joseph Conrad, *The Heart of Darkness*

OCTOBER 10-14
M: The Rise of the New City
W: Freud and the Crisis of Liberalism
F: Politics I: New Forces on the Right
Reading: Freud, *Three Essays on Sexuality*

OCTOBER 17-21
M: Politics II: New Forces on the Left
W: Review
F: Midterm Exam
Reading: Prepare for Exam

IV. EUROPE IN TOTAL WAR

OCTOBER 24-28
M: World War I
W: The Russian Revolution
M: In the Wake of War
Reading: Eric Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*

OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 4
M: The Creation of New Faiths
W: Leni Riefenstahl and the Triumph of the Will
F: Memory, Diplomacy and the Coming of the War
Readings:
Benito Mussolini, *The Doctrine of Fascism*, excerpt, Reader
Lenin, “On Revolutionary Violence and Terror” and “A Great Beginning,” Reader

NOVEMBER 7-11
M: The Onset of Total War: Britain and France
W: The Russian Campaign
F: The Holocaust
Reading: Art Spiegelman, *Maus II*
IV. EUROPE IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD

NOVEMBER 14–18
M: The American “Rescue”
W: Recovering from the War
F: The Cold War

Readings:
Louis Guilloux, Ok, Joe
Winston Churchill, “The Iron Curtain Speech, March 5, 1946” Reader
Joseph Stalin: Reply to Churchill, 1946, Reader

NOVEMBER 21–23
M: Americanization and the European Response
W: PAPER DUE NOVEMBER 23—NO CLASS/SECTIONS
F: NO CLASS -- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

V. REVOLUTION REVISITED

NOVEMBER 28–DECEMBER 2
M: Decolonization
W: Existentialism
F: The Revolutions of 1968

Readings:
Frantz Fanon, Black Skin, White Masks, Introduction, Chapters 1, 3, 5, 8
Simone de Beauvoir, “Introduction” to The Second Sex (Reader)

WEEK FIFTEEN, DECEMBER 5–9
M: The Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s
W: The Revolutions of 1989
F: Immigration and the New Nation

Reading:
Vaclav Havel, “The Power of the Powerless” Reader

WEEK SIXTEEN, DECEMBER 12–14
M: Neo-Liberalism in a Global Age
W: Review

FINAL EXAM, DECEMBER 21