HISTORY 202: EUROPEAN LABOUR IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Spring Semester 1992  TuTh 11:00-12:15  2101 Humanities
Professor Zeitlin (5216 Humanities; 5-2523)

Course Description
This course will explore the history of organized labor in Great Britain, France and Germany since 1900. Its central aim will be to compare the industrial and political activities of the labor movement in the three countries, and to account historically for their contrasting trajectories of development. While the main focus will fall on formal organizations such as trade unions and political parties, we will also look closely at the changing relationship of such bodies to their potential constituents on the one hand, and to their adversaries or bargaining partners on the other. Thus particular emphasis will be placed on the role of employers and the state in shaping the options open to labor organizations at different moments, and on the implications of the latter's own strategic choices for their ability to mobilize support from the wider working-class.

Written Requirements
Two eight-ten page papers and a final examination.

Paper I (due at the end of week five): Compare and contrast the development of the labor movement before 1914 in at least two of the three countries.

Paper II (due at the end of week eleven): Compare and contrast the impact on the development of the labor movement in at least two of the three countries of either World War I or the Great Depression.

Reading
The reading for this course will be heavy, and students will need to keep up as we go along to follow the lectures and participate in discussion. All starred items are required reading, and where possible I have indicated the single most important item with a double asterisk (**). Unstarred items are intended as further reading for those who wish to go deeper into particular topics. All starred books and most unstarred books will be held on reserve at the Helen C. White Library.
**Required Texts**


**Recommended Texts**


Week 1: Theoretical and Comparative Perspectives


D. Gallie, Social Inequality and Class Radicalism in France and Britain (Cambridge: CUP, 1983).


S.M. Lipset, "Radicalism or Reformism: The Sources of Working-Class Politics", American Political Science Review 77 (1983):

Week 2: British Labor before 1914


D. Tanner, Political Change and the Labour Party, 1900-1918 (Cambridge: CUP, 1990), esp. pts. I-III.
Week 3: French Labor before 1914


*G. Noiriel, Workers in French Society during the 19th and 20th Centuries (New York: St. Martins, 1990), pp. 73-107.


Week 4: German Labor before 1914


Mommsen and Husung, Development of Trade Unionism in Great Britain and Germany, chs. 6, 11-13, 16, 20, 22.


G. Roth, Social Democrats in Imperial Germany (Totowa, NJ, 1963).


**Week 5: Britain: War and Reconstruction**


*D. Thom*, "Women and Work in Wartime Britain", in *ibid.*, pp. 297-326.


Pelling, *History of British Trade Unions*, pp. 139-58


Tanner, *Political Change and the Labour Party*, pt. IV.


**Week 6: War and Reconstruction: France**


*J.L. Robert*, "Women and Work in France during the First World War", in *ibid.*, pp. 251-66.


Papayanis, Alphonse Merrheim, pts. III-IV.


Week 7: War and Revolution: Germany

**Fletcher, Bernstein to Brandt, pp. 55-95.

*Miller and Pothoff, A History of German Social Democracy, pp. 55-82.


Moses, Trade Unionism in Germany, vol. 1, chs. 9-11; vol. 2, ch. 12.


Week 8: Interwar Britain


*C. Wrigley, "The Trade Unions between the Wars", in Wrigley, History of Industrial Relations, pp. 71-129.


Pelling, History of British Trade Unionism, pp. 158-99.
Wrigley, History of Industrial Relations, chs. 3-6, 9.
Clegg, History of British Trade Unions, chs. 8-12.
Pugh, Making of Modern British Politics, pt. 4.

Week 9: Weimar Germany

*Fletcher, Bernstein to Brandt, pp. 103-67.
*Miller and Potthoff, History of German Social Democracy, chs. 7-8, pp. 82-120.
Moses, Trade Unionism in Germany, vol. 2, chs. 13-17.

Week 10: Interwar France


**Week 11: Labour under Authoritarian Rule**

**Nazi Germany**

**Salter and Stevenson, *The Working Class and Politics in Europe and America*, pp. 106-119.**


**Vichy France**

**Salter and Stevenson, *The Working Class and Politics in Europe and America*, pp. 88-92.**


**Week 12: British Labor and the Second World War**

*M. Gowing, 'The Organisation of Manpower in Britain during the Second World War', Journal of Contemporary History 7 (1972), pp. 147-67.*


**Week 13: Postwar Britain**

*Pelling, History of British Trade Unionism, pp. 200-293.


*Cronin, Labour and Society in Britain, pp. 134-208.


Pimlott and Cook, Trade Unions in British Politics, pt. II.


**Week 14: Postwar France**


*Noiriel, Workers in French Society, pp. 181-244.


Gallie, *Social Inequality and Worker Radicalism in France and Britain*, pts. I-II.

**Week 15: Postwar Germany**

**A.S. Markovits and C.S. Allen, "Trade Unions and the Economic Crisis: The West German Case", in Gourevitch et al., *Unions and Economic Crisis*, pp. 89-188.**


