COURSE NO. | COURSE TITLE | INSTRUCTOR
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572 | Revolution and Social Conflict in Twentieth Century Europe | P. K. Hamalainen

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** "Consent of Instructor Required to register for this course"

This is an undergraduate seminar with no foreign language skills required.

The beginning of the course involves discussions of the organization of the course, an introduction to basic sources and the technical aspects of gathering information and writing a research paper, assignment of topics,* and introduction to utilization of the library resources. Students will be asked to develop outlines on and briefly report on the background reading for their topics. The paper topics shall deal with various aspects of revolutionary situations and forces in twentieth century European societies. Also the role of the revolutionary leaders and, for example, the relationship between contemporary American reporting of and the reality of these revolutions could be viable paper topics. Besides writing research papers of their own, the students will also serve as commentators on each others papers.

*Concerning the assignment of topics students are welcome to choose their own topics if they so wish, as long as the topics fit the general context of the course.

**LECTURES**

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS**

**GRADING SYSTEM**

**REQUIRED READINGS**
This undergraduate seminar requires no foreign language skills. It concentrates on issues of fundamental importance to European history by exploring those forces and events which have dramatically shaped the fate of much of the continent in the twentieth century. The beginning of the course involves a discussion of the organization of the seminar, an introduction to basic sources and technical aspects of gathering information and writing a research paper, introduction to the utilization of library resources and assignment of topics (students are welcome to choose their own topics if they so wish, as long as the topics fit the general context of the course). Early in the course the students will develop outlines on and briefly report on the background reading for their topics. The paper topics shall deal with various aspects of revolutionary situations in a number of twentieth century European societies.

The papers could focus, for example, on some feature or phase of the revolutions, revolutionary outbreaks and civil disorders and civil wars that rocked Europe in particular around the end of the First World War. But the papers need not be limited to that period. They could also explore revolutionary forces and dynamics with a narrower impact. In the following I shall list a few broad topics which can further be refined or combined in a number of ways.

- Russia and the abortive revolution of 1905
- The 1917 March revolution in Russia
- The 1917 July days in Russia
- The Bolshevik revolution in Russia in the fall of 1917
- Civil war in Russia
- The social revolution and civil war in Finland 1917-18
- The 1917-18 revolutionary period in Estonia or in Latvia
- The German revolution in the fall of 1918
- The Spartacist uprising in Germany
- The Bavarian revolution
- The Hungarian social revolution and the Bela Kun regime in 1919
- The Spanish revolution and civil war in the 1930’s
- The revolution in Yugoslavia in the 1940’s
- The Greek civil war
- The Hungarian revolution of 1956
- The Portuguese revolution

Also the role of the revolutionary leaders and, for example, the relationship between the reality of these revolutions and the contemporary American perception of them as expressed through reporting could provide viable paper topics.

Besides writing research papers of their own, students are also expected to comment on each others papers. The class will meet once a week, there are no examinations and the grading is based on the quality of the paper and participation in class discussion.