History 600: The European Union in Historical Perspective

This seminar examines the origins and development of European Unity in the twentieth century. We will focus in particular on the birth of the Common Market in the 1950s, and then trace the expansion of Europe in the political, economic, and cultural realms. What was the purpose of European unity and did it change over time? Did the European Union end up reinforcing national states or, on the contrary, did it strengthen regionalism and cultural pluralism? Was European unity a democratic process or was it a top down enterprise?

Format: Reading and discussion. We will meet to discuss common readings for the first half of the semester. Students are expected to come prepared to seminar. By 9 p.m. on the day preceding seminar, students are required to post two discussion questions based on the reading on the Learn@UW site.

Objectives. In this class you will learn to:

- Conduct in-depth historical research
- Select and interpret primary sources
- Craft an original research topic
- Write a lengthy research paper that demonstrates your ability to evaluate sources critically and provide a convincing historical interpretation of the materials you have used.

Requirements: Four one-page papers due early in the semester, a 1-2 page research statement of purpose, a detailed bibliography, and a paper outline. The central requirement of the course is a 20-25 page research paper on some aspect European Unity since 1945. You should begin thinking about a possible research project as soon as possible -- it will take time for you to refine your ideas. Pick a topic you're interested in (if you're bored with it, you'll write a poor paper), and one on which there are sufficient sources in the UW Libraries. You will also be required to discuss and critique each others’ first drafts and to make a formal oral presentation to the seminar during the last week of classes.

Attendance is required. Please warn me in advance if you will be unable to attend a particular class session. Class participation will be a component of your final grade.
**Library Workshop:** All students are required to attend a History 600 research workshop in Memorial Library (Room 231). The workshops are offered on Monday Feb 3, Wednesday Feb 5, and Thursday Feb. 13 from 6 to 7:30 pm. Please register for one workshop by using the following links:


**Grading:** Class participation 25%, short papers 15%, final paper 60%.

**Books and Reader:** The books listed below are on 3-hour reserve at College Library and available for purchase online or at a bookstore of your choice. In addition a course reader is available for purchase at the Humanities Copy Center.

- Luuk van Middelaar, *The Passage to Europe: How a Continent became a Union* (Yale University Press, 2013). 9780300205336 [This hardback will not be stocked by the bookstore because you can obtain cheaper copies online: look at Abebooks.com or Amazon.com]

**Week 1 (January 22) Introduction**

**Week 2 (January 29) Origins and the Present**


**Week 3 (February 5). The Founding Decades**


**One page paper due in class: Compare and contrast Van Middelaar's and Dinan's interpretations of the Union's early years.**

**Week 4 (February 12). Europe and the Nation State**

Alan Milward, *The European Rescue of the Nation State* (Berkeley, 1992), 1-45, 318-44.


**One-page paper due in class: did Europe rescue the nation state or did it dismantle it?**

**Week 5** (February 19).  **Critiques of the European Project**


**One-page paper due in class: Why, according to Judt, is Europe a Grand Illusion? Is his argument compelling?**

**Research question due in class**

**Week 6** (February 26).  **Is Europe Real? What Binds it Together?**


**One-page paper due in class: According to van Middelaar, how did the Continent become a Union?**

**Week 7** (March 5).  **Library Session with Julianne Haahr** (European History Bibliographer).  **Meet in Room 231 Memorial Library at 11.**

*** By Monday March 3 at noon: post on Learn@UW a three sentence description of your research project along with a title ***

Don’t take a vacation this week! Work on your research project.

**Week 8** (March 12),  **Eastern European Enlargement and the Turkish Candidacy**


Lauren M. McLaren, “Explaining Opposition to Turkish Membership in the EU,” European Union Politics 8 (2007): 251-78.

Ruth Mandel, “Fifty years of Migration, Fifty Years of Waiting: Turkey, Germany and the European Union,” German Politics and Society 107 (Summer 2013): 66-78.


1-page summary of your research project due Friday March 14 at noon (post on Learn@UW and put a hard copy in my box): What is the question you are trying to answer? What is the problem you are trying to solve? How does your proposed research fit into the existing literature?

Week 9. Spring Break

Week 10 (March 26). The Research Process

Discussion of sample research papers.

Richard Marius and Melvin Page, A Short Guide to Writing about History (New York: Pearson Longman, 2005), 52-74, 144-61

Be prepared to give a short (5 minute) presentation on your research project.

2 page bibliography of primary and secondary sources due (post on Learn@UW and hand in a hard copy)

Week 11 (April 2). No class. Work on your research projects

*** Paper outline due *** I will be available from 11 to noon in my office for individual meetings with students

Week 12 (April 9). No class. Work on your research project

I will be in my office from 11 to 1
Week 13 (April 16).  No Class. Work on your research projects.

I will be in my office from 11 to 1

Week 14 (April 23).

***Rough draft due Wednesday April 23, 2 pm***. Rough drafts should be as complete as possible (including footnotes, a bibliography, an introduction and a conclusion). The more you present, the more you will profit from the comments of your fellow students. Place a printed copy in my box and send me an electronic version. You should also send an electronic version to the other members of your peer review group.

Week 15 (April 29).  In class oral presentations

Tuesday April 28 and Wednesday April 29: Discussion of rough drafts in small groups of 3.

Week 16 (May 7). In class oral presentations

***Final paper due Monday May 12 at noon***