

## HISTORY 891-POSTWAR EUROPE

Fall 2013

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**Format:** This reading seminar will introduce graduate students to the history of Postwar Europe—East and West. We will explore the imprint of the Second World War, the Holocaust, and the extension of Soviet power on the countries of Europe. We will look at European reconfigurations against the backdrop of the Cold War, focusing on "the end of empire" in Western Europe, the creation of the Soviet Bloc in Eastern Europe, and the creation of the European Union. We will also look at the transmission of ideas, culture, and people across borders, as well as at the politics of religion, immigration, reproduction, and environmentalism. We will end with an evaluation of the revolutions of 1989—and the new political, social, and cultural transfigurations that emerged in their wake.

**Readings and preparation:** All books are on reserve at College Library.

Each week (by 6 pm on the evening before class) all students should post two broad "discussion questions" to the Discussion Board on the course pages of the Learn@UW website. The following morning (by 9 am) all students should respond on-line to another student's posted question.

Each week, the designated "discussion leaders" will prepare a short (5-10 minute) introduction to the week's readings and a list of questions and issues for discussion. As part of the introduction, the discussion leaders should present an overview of the week's topic, situating it in the broader literature. (We recommend that this overview serve as the foundation for the course's required historiographical essay.)

**Papers:** Each student will write three 6-7-page papers during the semester (see due date below). You may write these papers in the order you prefer. Those of you with sufficient reading knowledge of a foreign language should base one of your papers on foreign language sources.

1. Historiographical Essay: Write a historiographical essay on one of the week's themes—giving careful attention to how a given topic has been treated by scholars writing in different time periods (i.e. in the 1960s versus in the 1990s) or writing from different countries with different scholarly traditions (i.e. from France versus from the U.S.). This paper is due the week we discuss the topic in class.
2. Contextualized "Source Analysis": Choose one or two primary sources on one of the week's themes. Analyze the sources in the context of the week's assigned readings. What

do the sources add to our understanding of the topic? This paper is due the week *after* we discuss the topic in class.

3. *New York Review of Books*-Style Book Review: Choose two or three relatively new books on one of the week's themes. Write a *New York Review of Books*-style essay—reviewing the books and also using them to reflect on larger issues. This paper is due the week we discuss the topic in class.

In addition to Tony Judt's *Postwar* (week 4) you may wish to consult some other general histories of the postwar period:

Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century* (New York, 2000), second half.

William I. Hitchcock, *The Struggle for Europe: the Turbulent History of a Divided Continent, 1945-2002* (New York, 2003)

Dan Stone, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Postwar European History* (Oxford, 2012)

Hartmut Kaelble, *A Social History of Europe, 1945-2000* (New York, 2013)

## INTRODUCTION

### Week One (9/6): Introduction

## PART I: WARTIME AND THE POSTWAR MOMENT

### Week Two (9/13): Bloodlands

Timothy Snyder, *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin* (Basic Books, 2010), 1-20, 119-154, 277-414.

Marc Mazower, "Timothy Snyder's Bloodlands;" Dan Diner, "Topography of Interpretation: Reviewing Timothy Snyder's *Bloodlands*;" Jörg Baberowski, "Once and for all" The Encounter between Stalinism and Nazism. Critical Remarks on Timothy Snyder's *Bloodlands*;" Thomas Kühne, "Great Men and Large Numbers: Undertheorising a History of Mass Killing," *Contemporary European History* 21 (2012): 117-148.

### Week Three (9/20): Liberation and Occupation

Norman Naimark, *The Russians in Germany: A History of the Soviet Zone of Occupation* (Belknap, 1995), 1-8, 69-140. (ACLS Humanities E-Book accessible through library website)

Atina Grossmann, "A Question of Silence: The Rape of German Women by Occupation Soldiers," *October* 72 (Spring 1995): 43-63.

Mary Louise Roberts, *What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American GI in World War II France* (Chicago, 2013), 1-55, 85-110, 133-261.

#### **Week Four (9/27): The Postwar Moment**

Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945* (Penguin, 2006), 1-237, 749-831.

Anne Applebaum, *Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe* (Doubleday, 2012), 3-115, 192-301.

### **PART II: EUROPEAN RECONFIGURATIONS**

#### **Week Five (10/04): Youth and Culture**

Uta G. Poiger, *Jazz, Rock, and Rebel: Cold War Politics and American Culture in a Divided Germany* (California, 2000), 1-106, 168-228.

Richard Jobs, *Riding the New Wave: Youth and the Rejuvenation of France after the Second World War* (Stanford, 2007), 1-137, 232-284.

Julianne Furst, *Stalin's Last Generation: Soviet Post-War Youth and the Emergence of Mature Socialism* (Oxford, 2010), 1-136, 200-341.

(Optional: Applebaum, *Iron Curtain*, 148-173.)

#### **Week Six (10/11): Ethnic Cleaning and Displacement**

##### **First paper due**

Tara Zahra, *The Lost Children: Reconstructing Europe's Families after World War II* (Harvard, 2011), 1-23, 88-117, 146-197, 222-245.

R.M. Douglas, *Orderly and Humane: The Expulsion of the Germans after the Second World War* (Yale University Press, 2012), 1-129, 158-193, 254-301, 326-374.

Pamela Ballinger, "Impossible Returns, Enduring Legacies: Recent Historiography of Displacement and the Reconstruction of Europe after World War II," *Contemporary European History* 22 (2013): 127-138.

(Optional: Applebaum, *Iron Curtain*, 116-147.)

#### **Week Seven (10/18): The Politics of Empire**

Caroline Elkins, *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya* (New York: Henry Holt, 2005), 1-61, 121-191, 275-310, 354-357.

Susan Carruthers, "Being Beastly to the Mau Mau," *Twentieth Century British History* 16, no. 4 (2005): 489-496.

Todd Shepard, *The Invention of Decolonization. The Algerian War and the Remaking of France* (Cornell, 2006), 1-100, 139-168, 182-204, 229-247, 248-272.

Charles Gati, *Failed Illusions: Moscow, Washington, Budapest, and the 1956 Revolt* (Stanford, 2006), 1-67, 141-203.

Jordanna Bailkin, *The Afterlife of Empire* (Berkeley, 2012), 1-22, 95-131, 164-201, 235-241.

### **Week Eight (10/25): Legacies and Transformations**

Sergio Luzzatto, *The Body of Il Duce: Mussolini's Corpse and the Fortunes of Italy* (New York, 2005), 1-12, 53-116, 171-230.

Miriam Dobson, *Khrushchev's Cold Summer: Gulag Returnees, Crime, and the Fate of Reform After Stalin* (Cornell, 2009), 1-214.

Sudhir Hazareesingh, *In the Shadow of the General: Modern France and the Myth of De Gaulle* (Oxford, 2012), xi-xiv, 3-119, 144-182.

### **Week Nine (11/1) Thinking about Victims after the Holocaust**

Simone de Beauvoir, "An Eye for an Eye," in Simone de Beauvoir, *Philosophical Writings* (Urbana, 2004), 244-260.

Jan Gross, *Fear: Anti-Semitism in Poland after Auschwitz* (Random House, 2007).

Carolyn Dean, *Aversion and Erasure: The Fate of the Victim after the Holocaust* (Cornell, 2010).

Pieter Lagrou, "Europe as a Place for Common Memories? Some Thoughts on Victimhood, Identity and Emancipation from the Past," in Muriel Blaive, Christian Gerbel and Thomas Lindenberger eds., *Clashes in European Memory: The Case of Communist Repression and the Holocaust* (Innsbruck: StudienVerlag, 2011), 281-288.

### **Week Ten (11/8). The Origins of the European Union**

William Wallace, "Rescue or Retreat? The Nation State in Western Europe, 1945-1993," *Political Studies* 42 (1994): 57-76.

Wilfried Loth, "Explaining European Integration: The Contribution from Historians," *Journal of European Integration History* 14, no.1 (2008): 9-26.

Wolfram Kaiser, *Christian Democracy and the Origins of European Union* (Cambridge UP, 2007), 1-11, 163-190, 191-252 [skim to get the point], 253-325.

Alan Milward, *The European Rescue of the Nation-State* (Berkeley, 1992), 1-45, 318-344.

Ann-Christina Knudsen, *Farmers on Welfare: The Making of Europe's Common Agricultural Policy* (Cornell, 2009), 1-19, 23-89, 266-317.

### **PART III: THE 1960s AND BEYOND**

#### **Week Eleven (11/15): The Politics of Religion, Immigration, and Difference**

##### **Second Paper due**

Kathleen Paul, *Whitewashing Britain: Race and Citizenship in the Postwar Era* (Cornell, 1997), xi-xvii, 1-24, 90-169.

Michael A. Sells, *The Bridge Betrayed: Religion and Genocide in Bosnia* (California, 1998), 1-155.

John R. Bowen, *Why the French Don't Like Headscarves: Islam, the State and Public Space* (Princeton, 2008), 1-33, 65-181, 208-249.

Rita Chin, "Guest Worker Migration and the Unexpected Return of Race," in Rita Chin et al, *After the Nazi Racial State: Difference and Democracy in Germany and Europe* (Ann Arbor, 2009), 80-101.

Laurent Dubois, *Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the Future of France* (California, 2010), preface, 47-176, 214-266.

#### **Week Twelve (11/22): 1989**

Victor Sebestyen, *Revolution 1989: The Fall of the Soviet Empire* (Vintage, 2009), 28-78, 109-143, 190-221, 287-300, 350-379.

Stephen Kotkin, *Uncivil Society: 1989 and the Implosion of the Communist Establishment* (Modern Library, 2009).

Timothy Garton Ash, "Revolution: The Springtime of Two Nations," June 15, 1989; "Revolution in Hungary and Poland," *New York Review of Books*, August 17, 1989; "1989!" *New York Review of Books*, November 5, 2009.

Tony Judt, *Reappraisals: Reflections on the Forgotten Twentieth Century* (Penguin, 2008), 250-267 (“Romania between History and Europe”).

**Week Thirteen (11/29): Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Week Fourteen (12/6): Environmental Histories**

Michael Bess, *The Light Green Society. Ecology and Technological Modernity in France, 1960-2000* (Chicago, 2003), 3-56, 76-140, 161-233, 256-283, 291-295.

Chris Peason, *Mobilizing Nature: The Environmental History of War and Militarization in Modern France* (Manchester UP, 2012), 1-15, 207-272.

Katherine Verdery, *The Vanishing Hectare: Property and Value in Postsocialist Transylvania* (Cornell, 2003), preface, 1-76, 116-157, 346-364.

**Week Fifteen (12/13): Conclusions**

**Final Paper due**