The History of Western Civilization II

Svanur Pétursson
svanur.petursson@gmail.com
21:510:202:02
Office: Conklin Hall 337
Office Hours: Mondays 2:30-3:30pm and by appointment
Mondays/Thursdays 1:00-2:20
Engelhard Hall 209
Spring 2018

Overview
This course is a broad survey introduction to the history of Europe from 1660 to the present day. Throughout the semester, we will be concerned with learning about the basic events and concepts that have shaped the modern history of the West. At the same time, we will seek to understand how historians develop these events and concepts into an interpretation of history – in short, how historians write a history from a series of facts. Two questions dominate this course. How have Europeans balanced individual liberties and the desire for social unity? Second, how have modern social and economic transformations affected this balance? To do this, we will use two texts: a standard textbook, and a collection of source documents. Both texts are equally important, and students will be expected to have read and understood the material in both.

Course Requirements:
There will be two primary source quizzes, a midterm exam, and a final exam. Both the midterm exam and the final exam are in-class exams but students will receive a comprehensive guide to prepare for those exams. Class time will be a mix of lectures and class discussion of primary sources. The participation grade will be based on participation and attentiveness in class throughout the semester. Having perfect attendance is not a guarantee of a good participation grade.

Through class discussion, students will interact with the materials, the instructor, and their peers. In the process, they will practice both their public speaking skills, and learn how to engage critically with the arguments and evidence of the texts. In the class discussions, students will develop their analytical skills by identifying the course readings’ main theses, supporting arguments, evidence, assumptions, and rhetorical strategies.

Grading:
Participation: 10%
Primary Source Quiz 1: 15%
Primary Source Quiz 2: 15%
Midterm Exam 25%
Final Exam: 35%

Grade scale is as follows:
A: 90 points and higher
B+: 87-89.99
B: 80-86.99
C+: 77-79.99
C: 70-76.99
D: 60-69.99
F: 59.99 and lower
Attendance policy:
Attendance is required. If you have more than four unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by a third of a grade (from B+ to B, for example). If you have more than more than six unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by one full grade (B+ to C+, for example). Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the class.

If you plan to be excused for any religious holidays during the semester, please talk to me before the end of January so I can mark it in the roster in advance.

Excused absences from exams will only be granted for students who can document medical or family emergency. Students who feel a personal emergency is sufficiently grave to warrant an excused absence must speak with me BEFORE the exam is to take place. Students who are unclear about the course’s requirements should speak to me early in the semester.

Disabilities:
Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’ disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form. For more information please contact the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219, by phone at 973-353-5375 or by email at odsnewark@newark.rutgers.edu.

Policy on Academic Integrity (Cheating and Plagiarism):
Rutgers University treats cheating and plagiarism as serious offenses. The standard minimum penalties for students who cheat or plagiarize include failure of the course, disciplinary probation, and a formal warning that further cheating will be grounds for expulsion from the University. All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge. To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination / assignment.”

Required Texts:

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

**Week 1**  
January 18th: Introduction

**Week 2**  
January 22nd: The Old Regime: Corporate Society  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 492-496  
Sources, p. 1-14

January 25th: Absolutism  
*Making of the West*, pp. 515-532  
Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (Sources, 63)  
Peter I, *Decrees and Statutes* (Sources, 82)

**Week 3**  
January 29th: Europe and the World in the 18th Century  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 551-576  
Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano...* (Sources, 75)

February 1st: The Enlightenment  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 587-610  
Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin and Foundations of Inequality...* (Sources, 95)  
Frederick II, *Political Testimony* (Sources, 110)

**Week 4**  
February 5th: The French Revolution  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 619-638

February 8th: Napoleon and the Revolutionary Legacy  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 638-647, 651-672.  
Abbé Sieyès, *What is the Third Estate?* (Sources, 112)  
Maximilien Robespierre, *Report on the Principles of Political Morality* (Sources, 120)

**Week 5**  
February 12th: Conservatism, Liberalism, Nationalism  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 672-681, 703-709  
Prince Klemens von Metternich, *Results of the Congress at Laybach* (Sources, 137)  
*Reviews of Beethoven’s Works* (Sources, 148)

February 15th: The Industrial Revolution, the Working Class, and the “Social Question”  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 685-702  
*Factory Rules in Berlin* (Sources, 151)  
*Testimony Gathered by Ashley’s Mines Commission* (Sources, 157)  
Friedrich Engels, *Draft of a Communist Confession of Faith* (Sources, 161)

**Week 6**  
February 19th: The Revolutions of 1848  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 709-717  
*Address by the Hungarian Parliament and Demands of the Hungarian People* (Sources, 166)

February 22nd: The Rise of the Nation-State  
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 721-745  
Camillo de Cavour, *Letter to King Victor Emmanuel* (Sources, 174)  
Rudolf von Ihering, *Two Letters* (Sources, 176)
Week 7
February 26th: 19th Century European Society: Mass Politics and the Middle Class
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 745-748, 759-760, 768-793
Sarah Stickney Ellis, Characteristics of the Women of England (Sources, 154)
Primary Source Quiz 1 DUE

March 1st: Science and Society
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 748-755, 797-810
   Herbert Spencer, Progress: Its Law and Cause (Sources, 178)
   Charles Darwin, The Descent of Man (Sources, 182)

Week 8
March 5th: Colonialism/New Imperialism
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 761-768; 817-831
   Jules Ferry, Speech Before the French National Assembly (Sources, 186)
   Ndansi Kumalo, His Story (Sources, 190)
   Ernest Edwin Williams, Made in Germany (Sources, 193)

March 8th: MIDTERM EXAM

Week 9
Spring Break – HAVE FUN!

Week 10
March 19th: Politics (and Culture) in a New Key
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 810-817
   Sigmund Freud, The Interpretation of Dreams (Sources, 207)
   Émile Zola, J’accuse! (Sources, 210)

March 22nd: World War I
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 835-845
   von Treitschke, Place of Warfare in the State; Massis/Tarde, The Young People of Today (Sources, 221)
   Fritz Franke and Siegfried Sassoon, Two Soldiers’ Views (Sources, 226)
   L. Doriat, Women on the Home Front (Sources, 229)

Week 11
March 26th: The Russian Revolution
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 845-851
   Peter Kropótkin, Memoirs of a Revolutionist (Sources, 171)
   Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, The State and Revolution (Sources, 231)

March 29th: The Crisis of Democracy and the Rise of Fascism
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 851-859
   Benito Mussolini, The Doctrine of Fascism (Sources, 235)

Week 12
April 2nd: Inter-War Society: Restoring Order
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 860-869

April 5th: No Class – Instructor at a Conference
Week 13
April 9<sup>th</sup>: The Rise of the Totalitarian Movements
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 873-889
Adolf Hitler, Mein Kampf (Sources, 240)
Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Propaganda Pamphlet (Sources, 243)

April 12<sup>th</sup>: War, Genocide, and the Division of Europe
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 890-909
Neville Chamberlain, Speech on the Munich Crisis (Sources, 249)
Sam Bankhalter and Hinda Kibort, Memoirs of the Holocaust (Sources, 252)

Week 14
April 16<sup>th</sup>: Rebuilding the West
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 913-930
National Security Council, Paper Number 68 (Sources, 267)
Primary Source Quiz 2 DUE

April 19<sup>th</sup>: Rebuilding the East
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 936-945
*The Formation of the Communist Information Bureau (Cominform)* (Sources, 263)

Week 15
April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Decolonization
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 930-936, 999-1005, 1008-1013
Ho Chi Minh, Declaration of Independence of the Republic of Vietnam (Sources, 270)

April 26<sup>th</sup>: 1960s and 1970s Cultural and Technological Changes; Challenges to the Cold War Blocs
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 949-981
Josef Smrkovský, What Lies Ahead (Sources, 278)
*Student Voices of Protest* (Sources, 282)

Week 16
April 30<sup>th</sup>: 1989 and the Emergence of European Unity?
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 985-999, 1006-1008, 1013-1016
Glasnost and the Soviet Press (Sources, 291)

**FINAL EXAM:** TBD.